

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey  
Inducts New Board of Trustees at Annual Dinner, Honors Long-Time Employees;  
Attendees Enjoy Performance by JCHC Senior Chorus  
*Residents from JCHC Senior Living Communities Entertain with  
Show Tunes, American Standards, Yiddish Songs***

WEST ORANGE, N.J., July 12, 2013 – The Board of Trustees of the [Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey](#) (JCHC) hosted its Annual Dinner in June at Crystal Plaza Caterers in Livingston. In attendance were the organization's board members, senior staff members, sponsors and officers from the tenant associations of all four senior living communities that the JCHC manages: Village Apartments of the Jewish Federation in South Orange, the South Orange B'nai B'rith Federation House, Jewish Federation Plaza in West Orange, and The Lester Senior Housing Community in Whippany.

The lively event included the installation of new board officers and board members, and speeches by Jay Murnick, the current board president and Harold Colton-Max, CEO of the JCHC. Employees who were marking milestone years of five, 10, and 20 years of employment with the JCHC were honored and entertainment was provided by the JCHC Senior Chorus, which performs every year at the annual event. The occasion also served as the kickoff to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Village Apartments, which will mark its silver anniversary in September. In tribute to Village Apartments' upcoming milestone, the tables bore the names of South Orange streets in place of table numbers, and the centerpieces were colorful windmills made of LEGO® blocks that residents and guests put together the prior week during an intergenerational activity.

### Singing for Their Supper

The JCHC Senior Chorus is directed by music teacher Ronnie Weinstein of Short Hills, who has volunteered her time since starting the choir nearly 20 years ago. This year's choir members are residents of The Lester Senior Housing Community and Jewish

Federation Plaza; they met with Weinstein bi-weekly for eight months leading up to the annual dinner. During that time the singers worked on songs that ranged from American standards to show tunes to Yiddish songs, all within this year's theme, "Advice from a Musical Perspective." The Senior Chorus was accompanied by guitarist Barry Ottenstein, who also volunteered his time at rehearsals and the performance.

The choir performs in three-part harmony and features several singers in solos and duets. Of their hard work and dedication Weinstein said, "Every year we pick a theme that informs our song selection. The members look forward to performing all year and attendees love it just as much. It's definitely the high point of the evening and we hope that next year, more residents from the other communities will get involved."

CEO Colton-Max agrees. "It truly is the hit of the annual dinner," he said. "Having the residents perform, as well as having the officers of each tenant association attend the event, brings to life the true meaning of JCHC's mission—to provide vibrant community living that enhances and enriches the lives of seniors."

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**PHOTO CAPTION #1:** Harold Colton-Max (center), CEO of the Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey, with Jay Murnick, president of the JCHC Board of Trustees, and Jodi Murnick.



**PHOTO CAPTION #2:** The JCHC Senior Chorus entertained attendees at the organization's Board of Trustees Annual Dinner. The singers have performed at every annual gala and receive standing ovations for their performances.



**PHOTO CAPTION #3:** In honor of the upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Village Apartments of the Jewish Federation in South Orange, tables were marked with South Orange street names and were decorated by LEGO windmills constructed by residents and friends at an intergenerational program several days before the gala.



**About the Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey**

Founded in 1982, the Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey (JCHC) developed and manages more than 460 apartments in four buildings for older adults in Morris and Essex counties in northern New Jersey. The non-profit organization offers seniors a range of options in terms of services, amenities, location, and cost, all within a traditional Jewish environment. The JCHC provides housing, programs, and services for the independent elderly as well as those who need assisted living. For more information, go to [www.jchcorp.org](http://www.jchcorp.org).