



**DOORKNOCKER AWARDS
HONORABLE MENTION
MIDDLESEX COUNTY CONSORTIUM, NJ**

AWARD CATEGORY: Special Needs

PARTICIPATING JURISDICTION: Middlesex County Consortium

PROJECT/PROGRAM NAME: Imani Park Transitional Housing

HUD REGION/FIELD OFFICE: Region II; Newark Field Office

HOME UNITS/TOTAL UNITS: 16 HOME units / 16 total units

HOME FUNDS/TOTAL FUNDS: \$779,550 HOME funds / \$2,681,500 total funds

PARTNERS:

- Middlesex Interfaith Partners with the Homeless (MIPH)
- New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency
- New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
- Middlesex County HOME Program
- Federal Home Loan Bank

FUNDING SOURCES:

• HOME	\$ 779,550
• HUD Supportive Housing	\$ 400,000
• NJ Housing Mortgage Finance Agency	\$ 411,950
• NJ Dept. Community Affairs Shelter Support	\$ 430,000
• NJ Dept Community Affairs Balancing Housing	\$ 400,000
• Federal Home Loan Bank of New York	\$ 160,000
• United Way of Central New Jersey	\$ 100,000

BRIEF NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

This project demonstrates how collaboration can overcome obstacles and create affordable housing. Federal, state and private financing worked together to construct 16 transitional housing units for individuals living with HIV/AIDS and for families that have a family member living with HIV/AIDS. The project is located on nine acres of federal surplus land in a park-like setting far enough away from the downtown to have a small

community feel while still offering access to downtown. Imani Park was constructed with one-, two- and three- bedroom units as well as a community room, laundry facility and classrooms. Edison Township, the township in which the land is located, planned to use this surplus land to build recreational facilities. After much negotiation, a decision was made to develop special needs housing on the site. Because of concerns about local opposition to the project, the Army Corps of Engineers supervised construction, approved payment and certificate of occupancy issued before the title was transferred from federal ownership. Imani Park, the second transitional housing project in Middlesex County, is now open for business.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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