

# JCHAI Highlights

## February 2025

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### Kicking Off *Experience JCHAI*

On December 9th, we hosted our first *Experience JCHAI* event at the John and Jacqueline E. Swartz Education Center to provide an opportunity for community members to **experience for themselves the magic of JCHAI**.

**Thank you to our generous event sponsors, Christie Yamron and David Rovinsky, for making this special evening possible!**

Guests learned firsthand about JCHAI, experiencing our innovative programs and hearing directly from our members about what life at JCHAI is all about.

The evening featured select member experiences, including:

- *Cooking with Keri*, featuring **monthly guest instructor Keri White** and special guest Keith Rudolf
- Robotics program in partnership with **Lower Merion High School's FIRST Robotics Team**, DAWGMA
- Our newly-launched **Career Success Training Cafe**
- **Community-integrated independent living** hosted by members in their own apartments

Attendees enjoyed mingling with our leadership team and Board of Directors over cocktails and dinner prepared by the talented **Chef Keith Rudolf, Former Team Chef for the Philadelphia Phillies.**

JCHAI members collaborated in the planning and preparation of cocktail-hour hors d'oeuvres, working with JCHAI guest instructor Keri White to create dishes to complement Chef Keith's dinner menu.



Are YOU interested in creating another *Experience JCHAI* event? Reach out to Tilly Forlack at [tforlack@jchai.org](mailto:tforlack@jchai.org) for more details.

Contact us to learn more! >>

## Celebrating 10 Years of Community-Integrated Housing at Radwyn

This year, JCHAI is proud to commemorate 30 years of Supported Apartment Innovation, as well as 10 years of partnership with [Radwyn Apartments](#), a professionally-managed [Kaiserman](#) community in Bryn Mawr, PA.

**As we celebrate 10 years since JCHAI members first moved into their own apartments at Radwyn, we reflect back on the many ways in which our local community has been enriched by this partnership.**

Radwyn is a true home to so many in our community — young professionals, families, first-time renters, international folks, lifelong residents, and more!

As one of our early Community Integrated Housing Partners, Radwyn's welcoming, inclusive presence has provided JCHAI with the opportunity to build upon and expand our innovative approach to supported independent living for our members.

***"At Radwyn, our diverse community enables residents at every stage of life to create meaningful connections and enjoy a quiet, comfortable place to call home.***

*— Marisa Harris, Assistant Community Manager*

Through our partnership with Radwyn, JCHAI members integrate seamlessly in their local community and determine for themselves the lives they wish to lead, with JCHAI's support by their side whenever they need it.

When we ask Radwyn staff about their JCHAI experience, we hear positive stories about building community, great neighbors, and the shared excitement when a new JCHAI member moves into their first apartment.

***"Our partnership with JCHAI isn't just good business sense, but also helps us fulfill our vision of creating an inclusive community where everyone feels like they belong."***

*— Britta Bosch, Senior Community Manager*



## Member Leadership in Action

**Here at JCHAI, our member advocates have countless opportunities to serve as leaders and peer mentors within their community.**

One area through which our members can showcase their multifaceted skills is event planning and hosting. Successfully hosting an event — from a larger gathering, to a small event in one's own apartment — requires a variety of different skills, including:

- Planning and list-making
- Anticipating needs and problem-solving
- Menu planning and food preparation
- Communication and networking

Weekly Member Happy Hours at JCHAI's Education Center are more than a chance to socialize — they are also a great way for our members to build skills, make real-world connections, practice professional networking, and serve as peer mentors.

While typically, JCHAI staff plan these gatherings, **this time it was our members' turn to take the lead!**

Huge thanks to Cara and Lauren for hosting their JCHAI peers at a recent Member Happy Hour and preparing a delicious dinner for all to enjoy, including chips and guacamole, salad, four kinds of stromboli, and cookies for dessert.



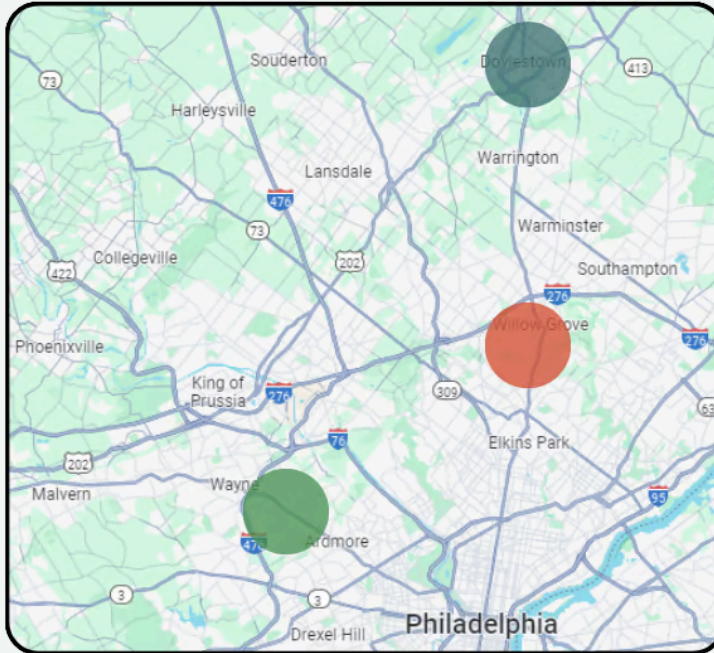
**Building Community Across  
Greater Philadelphia**

JCHAI was founded by families with a simple vision – to ensure all of their children could live full, independent lives. Today, our warm, welcoming community helps JCHAI members achieve their personal goals at every stage of life, no matter where they live across the Greater Philadelphia region.

JCHAI's community hub model helps expand our innovative programs and services to reach a wider range of individuals and families.

**Stay tuned for highlights from each of our community hubs in upcoming newsletters!**

## JCHAI's Geographic Footprint



**D-Hub  
(Doylestown)**

**BuxMont Hub  
(Willow Grove)**

**Main Line Hub  
(Bryn Mawr)**

## Get Involved!

Do you know anyone who may be interested in learning more about JCHAI programs and services in the Greater Philadelphia area? We have two exciting events coming up — **learn more and register below!**

JCHAI'S Virtual Spring Open House

Doylestown Community Hub Info Session

**Did you know that you can show your support for [JCHAI's 2025 Annual Celebration fundraiser](#) by making a donation to our auction fund?**

JCHAI member advocates crafted exciting, themed auction package ideas that will be sure to get the bidding wars going at our event on May 15th!

Support our Auction Fund!

**By making a donation of any amount, you're providing us with the resources to compile the following member-curated auction packages:**

Tailgate Party Package >>

Garden Essentials Package >>

College Gift Card Package >>

## About JCHAI

*Celebrating 30 Years of  
Supported Apartment Innovation*

JCHAI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonsectarian organization in the Greater Philadelphia region that inspires and empowers individuals with developmental differences or disabilities to imagine and fulfill their life aspirations and be valued contributors in the community.

Thank you all who have already supported JCHAI's 2025 Annual Celebration! >>

We rely on funds raised by generous donors like you to support the vibrant array of programs and services benefiting our 300+ members, helping them reach their personal goals and achieve their life aspirations.

Make a donation today! >>



**Check out JCHAI's #NonprofitProfile**

to see the great work we do in our community. We want to make sure you have the progress updates you need to confidently support our work with trust and confidence.

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**Candid.**

Sent to: christopher.k.flaherty@gmail.com

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