

## **Gregory P. Russ**

*Appointed November 2016 by the MPHA Board of Commissioners to become MPHA's Executive Director/CEO in February 2017*

Gregory Russ is a national leader in public and affordable housing who brings over three decades of progressive industry experience. Greg is the current Executive Director of the Cambridge (Massachusetts) Housing Authority. His prior experience includes leadership roles in public housing programs in Chicago and Philadelphia. Greg has also worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Detroit and Washington D.C. He has served as president of the Public Housing Authority Directors Association (PHADA) and is a current board member of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA).



Greg's tenure as a housing professional reflects his dedication and commitment to this work. He recognizes that the programs and services offered by MPHA reach the poorest and most vulnerable families in our community. Greg has a record of bringing capital investment and other resources to the public housing programs he has led. He understands that housing provides a platform to invest in the families served by these programs, and believes that children and adults living in public housing or supported by a voucher should have access to opportunities that enhance economic advancement and educational success. His efforts in Cambridge have focused on creating twin financial structures that bring improvement dollars to the public housing portfolio and create opportunities to support and expand resident service programs.

As a national expert, Greg has played a leadership role in conversations about the future of public housing. He is known for his willingness to explore the latest tools for preserving and modernizing public housing, and his work in the Moving to Work (MTW) Demonstration is highly recognized. Greg continues to be involved in developing MTW standards and shaping its future direction. Greg's work has also included initiating unique public and private partnerships, including a major study with Stanford economist Raj Chetty and public housing practitioners from around the country. This study will conduct a first-of-its-kind, joint effort to explore the impact on poverty from housing families in opportunity areas utilizing mobility programs.

Greg is viewed by his peers, board, and staff as an inclusive, engaged, and innovative leader. As Executive Director of the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA), he manages day-to-day operations under the direction of a five-member board. Like MPHA, the CHA is an MTW agency. It has an annual budget of over \$110 million, a staff of 190, operates 2,641 units of state and federally funded public housing units, and administers more than 4,000 Section 8 vouchers. Greg has overseen all operations and been responsible for the overall financial condition of the CHA. He sits on the non-profit boards that sponsor and/or own the CHA affiliate and Rental Assistance Demonstration properties.

Greg and his family are excited to be active and engaged residents of the Minneapolis community.

