
HHA CEO, Senghor Manns, Added To National Search Committee

by Patricia Wells, MPA, CME

Dear NAHRO member,

I am writing to update you on the status of our search for a new NAHRO CEO, which began in June of this year, when former CEO Adrienne Todman was appointed as the Deputy Secretary of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As many of you know, this is a challenging time in a volatile job market. Despite the best efforts of our initial search committee appointed by Past President Sunny Shaw, that search did not result with the hire of a CEO to lead NAHRO into the future. I am sincerely so grateful for our search committee's hard work and heartfelt dedication throughout this challenging process, on top of their already demanding jobs. I want to extend a special thank you to Co-Chairs Clif Martin and Carl Richie for leading that endeavor with the honor and positive spirit that embody NAHRO.

Now that the 2021-2023 NAHRO leadership team is in place, we are moving forward with two important changes:

- NAHRO has secured the services of a new executive search firm – Marcum's Nonprofit and Social Sector Group – a DC-based firm with deep experience in both association management, executive searches, and affordable housing and community development organizations. They are experienced, skilled, and deeply committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. I'm confident in their ability to find us the right candidate to serve as NAHRO CEO.
- NAHRO will restart the CEO search with a new Search Committee. Again, I thank the previous Search Committee for their perseverance and for all the time and effort they put into this challenging process. In consultation with Senior Vice President George Guy, I have appointed a new Search Committee, comprised of 12 dynamic members representing each of the eight regions. They represent varied voices and diversity in the NAHRO membership and bring excitement and commitment to this process. They are:
 - NERC: Steve Merritt, NAHRO Past President (Mass.)
 - **MARC: Senghor A. Manns, Harrisburg Housing Authority (Pa.);**
 - Marsha Parham-Green, Baltimore County Office of Housing (Md.)

Continued

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Dear NAHRO member,

- NCRC: George Guy, Housing Authority of the City of Ft. Wayne, (Ind.); Alan Zais, Northern Illinois Regional Affordable Community Housing (Ill.)
- SERC: Ailrick D. Young, Housing Authority of the City of Laurel (Miss.)
- SWRC: Carl S. Richie, Jr., Housing Authority of the City of Austin; Mark Thiele, Houston Housing Authority (Texas)
- PSWRC: Elizabeth Morales, City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Dept. (Ariz.)
- PNWRC: Sunny Shaw, Twin Falls and Jerome Housing Authorities (Idaho)
- MPRC: Julie Brewen, Housing Catalyst, Ft. Collins (Colo.)

With a new Search Committee's focus, perspectives and energy, the insights learned from our prior search, and with the guidance and support of the Marcum Nonprofit and Social Sector Group, we intend to bring a finalist for the NAHRO CEO position to the NAHRO Board of Governors no later than the 2022 Washington Conference, which is scheduled for March 28-30, 2022. In the meantime, we are extremely grateful for the continued service of Mike Gerber as Interim NAHRO CEO.

As before, I hope you will all consider yourselves honorary members of NAHRO's Search Committee. Do you know someone who you think would be a great fit for the job? Interested in applying yourself? If so, please contact Karen Schuler at karen.schuler@marcumllp.com to submit a name or learn more about the application process.

While none of us had wanted the search to go on for as long as it has, we remain committed to finding a leader who has the experience, conscientiousness, and determination to ensure that NAHRO continues not only to thrive, but also to grow and expand to meet our changing needs. As stewards of one of the largest, oldest, and most effective affordable housing and community development organizations in the nation, we cannot settle for anything less.

Thank you for your continued support of NAHRO. I look forward to providing you with an update in the next few months.

Sincerely,

Patricia Wells, MPA, CME

2021-2023 NAHRO President