

Bio for nominations for NCRC NAHRO

Gary Valentine

NCRC Position you are running for on the ballot: Vice President
Commissioners

Agency and job title: Greenville Housing Commission, Greenville, Michigan. I was a commissioner for a year (NAHRO certified) then elected as the agency Vice President.

Years with current agency: I joined the Housing Commission in 2012 after my retirement from serving my community for 30 + years as a Sergeant with Greenville Department of Public Safety.

Years in housing industry:

Prior to joining the Housing Commission in 2012 I had very limited housing experience. Since joining the commission, I have been active in learning the business of housing. I have had the pleasure of some great mentoring by a couple of our seasoned commissioners, Executive Director and several other mentors in Michigan housing.

I have attended the Washington DC NARHO Legislative conference for the past 4 years. Further, I have attended several of the NARHO National Conference & Exhibition. At each of these events I have taken advantage of the great learning opportunities that are possible so that I can bring that information back to my commission to help further the goal of providing Fair and Affordable housing for our families.

I have previously taught Workplace Violence for Housing Commissions at the state conference level and at the North Central Regional Conference.

What are some of your responsibilities at your agency? I am the Greenville Housing Commission Vice President and the Vice President of the Greenville Development Corporation. Primary duties are overseeing the Executive Director and developing/approving policy for the operation of the commission in accordance HUD rules and regulations. Ensuring our commission is meeting the needs of our families

Why are you running for a position on the NCRC Board? I am running for office to stay active, stay involved. I believe that by expanding my involvement, I can only learn and grow more and that by this growth we are able to meet the needs of our families.



I want to be a voice for our fellow commissioners, listen to them and their ideas and be their voice and a voice for our families.

I am from a small agency and I believe our small agencies need some regulatory relieve and want to add my voice to this effort.

In housing, we recently had a large scare with the government shutdown. This had dire consequences for our agencies in funding and if it would have continued it would have had a devastating effect on the families we serve.

This was a good wake-up call. We need to look at thinking outside the norms within our agencies, keeping in mind that what works for one agency or community may or may not work for another, but we must keep the conversation going, sharing ideas. For smaller agencies, collaboration with other agencies to leverage our resources. We need that commissioner voice in NCRC.

Before I retired from law enforcement, I had seen the worse of the worse including deplorable housing conditions from "Slum Lords". Some of these families did not need a hand out but instead just needed a hand up. The majority are good families that just need that boost. Since 2000, I became actively involve thru work in Safety and Security of our schools and have been a leader in that field. In 2012 I was encouraged to start my own business keeping our schools safe. When the opportunity came to join the Greenville Housing Commission, I thought it would be a good fit with what I was doing. My feeling was that by being a part of the Housing Commission and doing the best that I could to ensure our agency was providing safe, clean and affordable housing to our families, that would be one less stressor for kids in schools. When we have safe kids at home, I believe, they are less likely to get in trouble at school, keeping our schools safer.