

Bio of Aaron Gornstein

Aaron Gornstein has been the Executive Director of Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA) since 1990. CHAPA is a private, non-profit research and advocacy organization working on affordable housing and community development issues in Massachusetts.

Over the past several years, CHAPA has spearheaded the passage of major state legislation, conducted important studies, organized a New England wide coalition of affordable housing and community development organizations, and launched a diverse homeownership collaborative. CHAPA conducts approximately 40 trainings each year for more than 5,000 practitioners in the housing field.

Prior to becoming Executive Director of CHAPA, Aaron was a neighborhood planner for the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts and the director of housing for the Tri-City Community Action Program, a community agency in Malden, Massachusetts. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin--Madison and his graduate degree from Tufts University's Department of Urban and Environmental Policy.

In 2003, he was named a James A. Johnson Fellow by the Fannie Mae Foundation, which is given annually to six community development practitioners across the country. Over the past four years, Aaron has received housing advocacy awards from National Low Income Housing Coalition, Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation, Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development, Homebuilders Association of Massachusetts, National Housing and Rehabilitation Association, Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, and Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action.

He serves on several boards and advisory commissions: Mayor Menino's housing advisory commission; City of Boston's advisory committee for the Homelessness Prevention Clearinghouse; Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership; Governor-Elect Deval Patrick's Transition Team on Housing; Bank of America's National Community Advisory Council; and the editorial advisory board for *Banker and Tradesman*.