



# Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, Missouri

---

201 Switzler Street, Columbia, MO 65203

Office: 573.443.2556 ♦ TTY Relay 800.735.2966 ♦ Fax: 573.449-3165 ♦ [www.ColumbiaHA.com](http://www.ColumbiaHA.com)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Media Contact:

Bob Hutton, Board Chair  
Board of Commissioners  
Columbia Housing Authority  
(573) 289-1778  
[bchutton66@gmail.com](mailto:bchutton66@gmail.com)

## Randy Cole named new CEO of the Columbia Housing Authority

Columbia, MO – March 29, 2021: The Columbia Housing Authority Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce the appointment of Randy Cole as the new CEO of the Columbia Housing Authority (CHA). Mr. Cole will start his position on May 3, 2021.

Mr. Cole comes to the CHA after serving as the Housing Programs Manager for the City of Columbia since September 2011. In that position, Mr. Cole demonstrated his skills and experience in managing HUD housing programs including administering the city's federal CDBG and HOME partnership funds with over \$2 million in funding, developing affordable housing by establishing the Columbia Community Land Trust, staffing the Columbia Housing and Community Development Commission, and facilitating community programs focused on affordable housing and fair housing initiatives. Mr. Cole also led the county-wide COVID-19 economic recovery and response efforts affecting small businesses and low-to-moderate-income household including over \$2.1 million in stimulus funding.

"We are so pleased that Randy has accepted our offer," said Bob Hutton, Chair of the Board of Commissioners. "We conducted an extensive search and found the perfect candidate in Columbia ready to hit the ground running. This is very fortuitous for CHA and the residents of public housing."

Mr. Cole earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the MU Truman School of Public Affairs in 2005 and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from MU in 2003. He was recognized by the Columbia Business Times in the "20 under 40" class of 2019 and received the Missourian Progress Award for Civic Engagement in 2020.

As the CEO of the CHA, Mr. Cole will assume overall responsibility for the administrative and professional work involved in planning, directing, and coordinating the CHA's affordable housing programs and related supportive services. His duties will involve planning, organizing, and directing the operation of the CHA's multiple affordable housing assistance programs and serving in an advisory capacity and Secretary to the Board of Commissioners of the CHA.

In accepting the position, Mr. Cole says "I am grateful for the opportunity provided to me by the CHA Board of Commissioners to serve in this role. I am excited to step into a strong organization with a talented team of staff. I look forward to continuing strong partnerships with the City of Columbia and other local partners to further affordable housing in our community."

"Speaking for the Board, I submit that our expectations for Randy are high," Hutton also stated. "His reputation as one of the City's best employees is well known, and we look forward to him continuing, and even improving, the exemplary work done by CHA. This is an exciting time for us."

---

Established in 1956, the Columbia Housing Authority (CHA) owns and operates 751 units of affordable housing while also administering 1,180 housing vouchers through the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Through these programs, the CHA provides rent subsidies to low-income families, seniors, and persons with disabilities.

With over 1,900 units of assisted housing options, the CHA represents approximately 9% of Columbia's rental market. The CHA's mission is to provide safe, healthy, and affordable housing opportunities to low-income individuals and families. In carrying out this mission, the CHA seeks partnerships and collaborative efforts with local organizations and other governmental agencies that provide services to improve the quality of life for CHA residents.

- End -