

## ROY LOWENSTEIN

Roy has been a housing consultant, developer, and an attorney for 46 years. He has devoted nearly all his career to the development of affordable housing in Ohio, with a concentration in central Ohio. Roy began his career developing housing for developmentally disabled individuals in Columbus and moved on to developing services for the homeless and then to a consulting role in the development of housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Beginning in 1993, Roy began a 30-year involvement with the housing tax credit program, which is the largest federal affordable housing initiative for families and seniors. Using this resource, he was employed by the Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing, Homeport, Buckeye Community Hope Foundation, and the Woda Group, before setting up his own consulting firm, Lowenstein Development, LLC in 2015.

Roy's expertise is related to his knowledge and experience with real estate development, budgeting, supportive services, and securing funding from federal, state, and local sources. This skill set has translated into a total of about 230 projects for these varied populations, with more than 8,000 housing units. My work has been tremendously gratifying, not just because of the brick-and-mortar results, but because of the thousands of low-income people who have benefited.

Roy's education includes a B.A. from Oberlin College and a J.D. from Ohio State University. Although Roy has never practiced law full-time, he has used this training and expertise his entire career in matters of real estate, zoning, contracts, fair housing, and government programs, as well as providing miscellaneous legal advice to individuals and businesses.

He has participated on many non-profit Boards, including the Ohio and National Coalitions for the Homeless, COHHIO (the lead Ohio advocate on housing and homelessness issues), the Ohio Housing Council and for 15 years served on boards supervising the loan funds for both the National Housing Trust and Institute for Community Economics in Washington D.C.

Since 2020, Roy has served as a Commissioner with the Near East Area Commission. In 2022, I became both Treasurer and Zoning Committee Chair. One of the reasons for joining NEAC is that it provides me an opportunity to give back to the community some of what I have learned as a practitioner about appropriate real estate development, especially housing. I feel I have a wealth of experience to draw on to help find a proper balance between the need for more housing (especially affordable), the need to offer a fair and consistent process for developers, and the need to protect our neighborhoods from inappropriate development proposals.