

Mark Sissman

Mark Sissman is the President of Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc., an important new intermediary organized by financial and philanthropic institutions to improve neighborhoods by increasing home values and investments in Baltimore communities. Healthy Neighborhoods provides market driven strategies and capital to increase home values, markets neighborhoods and forges social connections necessary to sustain thriving communities. Healthy Neighborhoods has had a significant positive measurable impact on Baltimore's middle neighborhoods. It has organized a private loan pool of \$38 million to support its work.

From October 2001 to April 2004 Sissman was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hippodrome Foundation, the local development partner for the redevelopment of the abandoned Hippodrome Theater, a \$70 million 2,250 seat world class performing arts center. The redeveloped Hippodrome is the linchpin for more than \$750 million of construction on Baltimore's WestSide. Under Sissman's leadership more than \$31 million of private capital was raised, including investments from the theater operator Clear Channel Entertainment, historical and new markets tax credit investors, traditional debt and contributors. Sissman has overseen construction with the Maryland Stadium Authority, partnered with Baltimore City and private sector developers to improve community conditions and created educational and outreach programs for the Hippodrome. The Hippodrome opened in February 2004 and will host more than 270 performances and 400,000 patrons.

Mark Sissman served the Enterprise Foundation for fourteen years as President of the Enterprise Social Investment Corporation and Vice Chair for Strategic Initiatives. Under his leadership, ESIC was the nation's foremost syndicator of the Low Income Housing Tax Credits. ESIC raised nearly \$3 billion in equity and directly developed more than 2,000 units of housing. An ESIC subsidiary, Enterprise Mortgage Investments, Inc., is a Fannie Mae DUS lender.

In January 1999, he joined Bank of America as Senior Vice President to organize the Bank of America Catalyst Fund, a bold new equity initiative to support the rebuilding of America's cities. During his three-year tenure he led a team of 40 persons which crafted important partnerships with housing authorities, urban developers and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Prior to assuming the presidency of ESIC, Mr. Sissman was the Deputy Housing Commissioner for the City of Baltimore between 1979 and 1984.

Mr. Sissman is an attorney and for four years served as Chairman of the Maryland Credit Assurance Review Committee. He has lectured at the Johns Hopkins University Graduate School of Planning, served on the Advisory Board of the Housing Development Reporter, the Board of the Empower Baltimore Management Corporation, and the Board of the National Low Income Housing Coalition. In Maryland, he served on the Board of the House of Ruth, a shelter for battered women, and has served as the Vice-Chairman of the Maryland Housing Policy Commission.

Sissman was President of the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning and served on the board of the Downtown Housing Council. He serves the Baltimore Community Foundation on its Community Development Committee and as a board member of its Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc. subsidiary.