

# Carmen Romero

President and CEO



Carmen Romero is APAH's President and CEO.

Ms. Romero oversaw the creation of APAH's current strategic plan for 2023 to 2027, and is responsible for its implementation. As APAH celebrates its 35th anniversary in 2024, she is supervising APAH's strategic rebranding initiative, highlighting APAH's evolution into a regional affordable housing developer and provider of resident services. She has prioritized organizational capacity building to match real estate portfolio growth.

Under Ms. Romero's leadership, APAH has received numerous awards for its innovative contributions to affordable housing, in addition to the best-in-class credential for its resident services program, The Certified Organization for Resident Engagement and Services (CORES). Today, APAH's portfolio consists of 23 affordable apartment communities in four jurisdictions across the region totaling 2,800+ units, with more than 5,200 individuals and families who call an APAH apartment home.

Recent real estate milestones include the grand openings of Ilda's Overlook Senior Residences, APAH's second project to deliver in Fairfax County, and Unity Homes at Ballston in Arlington County, a mixed-use development created through a partnership with Central United Methodist Church. APAH also closed on three high-impact projects in 2022: 500+ units at The Exchange at Spring Hill Station in Tysons Corner, Riggs Crossing Senior Residences in Washington, D.C., and Marbella in Arlington. Additionally, APAH was awarded the RFP for Crystal House in Arlington, which will consist of at least 655 affordable units.

In 2021 during her first year as CEO, Ms. Romero supervised two milestone projects: the award-winning Lucille & Bruce Terwilliger Place, born out of an innovative partnership with American Legion Post 139, and a joint venture with E&G Group to develop APAH's first project in Loudoun County, Loudoun View Senior Residences. Both projects delivered in 2022.

Before she became CEO, Ms. Romero led APAH's Real Estate Development team for a decade. Under her management, APAH created and preserved more than 1,800 new affordable housing units in Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Montgomery counties.



## Prior Experience

Prior to joining APAH in 2011, Ms. Romero was a Director of Real Estate Development and public private partnerships at Clark Construction. She began her career at Marriott International.

## Education

*MBA in Finance, Wharton School of Business  
BS in Foreign Service, Georgetown University*

## Affiliations and Recognitions

*2025 Leadership Greater Washington*

*Board of Directors, Housing Partnership Network*

*Board of Directors, Tysons Community Alliance*

*Enterprise Community Leadership Council*

*Virginia Housing's Minority Business Advisory Council and  
Rental Housing Advisory Council*

*2024 Urban Land Institute Changemaker  
Award*

*2023 BisNow's DMV Women Leading  
Real Estate Innovator of the Year*

