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## **Augusta Housing Authority Welcomes New Executive Director Norman Maze**

**AUGUSTA, Maine** (July 10, 2023) – The [Augusta Housing Authority](#) (AHA) today announced Norman Maze, Jr. as the agency’s new Executive Director, effective August 7. A longstanding member of Maine’s professional real estate management and affordable housing development community, Maze joins AHA from Shalom House in Portland and succeeds former AHA Executive Director Amanda Olson, who stepped down in March 2023 after ten successful years with AHA for a new position with a local housing developer.

Maze has had a long career in affordable housing development and management, including statewide rental assistance program administration, as the former Deputy Director/Housing Director of Shalom House in Portland, serving that agency and its clients since 1997. There, Maze oversaw plant maintenance, capital improvements, leasing, program administration, IT, and development for the organization’s portfolio of commercial and affordable housing projects.

Key accomplishments over the course of his career include: the administration of \$11 million in federal rental subsidies annually to nearly 1,000 Maine households homeless prior to being housed and \$7 million in state rental subsidies annually to another nearly 1,000 Maine households with family members who live with a serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI); and most recently, the development of a 22-unit affordable housing project in Portland (2022) serving adults with a SPMI, many of whom are coming from homelessness.

As Executive Director, Maze will lead the Augusta Housing Authority in carrying out its mission “to find and maintain and provide decent, safe, and affordable housing opportunities” under the direction of the Board of Commissioners, and serve as its primary agent to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the public.

“Since the Augusta Housing Authority’s mission expanded in 2014 beyond housing vouchers to include the development of new affordable housing, our organization has been very successful in diversifying our programs and funding to create more affordable housing opportunities in Maine’s Capital Region,” said Brent Hall, Chair of the Augusta Housing Service Corporation Board of Directors, AHA’s development affiliate. “Norm brings decades of affordable housing development experience and relationships that will be invaluable to furthering this mission.”

“What’s more, Norm has extensive nonprofit experience from his many years with Shalom House, where he led the organization’s housing subsidy programs and worked to provide stable, quality affordable housing for individuals living with severe mental illness,” added Nathan Cotnoir, Chair of the Augusta Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

Maze earned a Master of Public Policy degree from the Muskie School of Public Service and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography/Anthropology from the University of Southern Maine. He holds professional certification in Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) Compliance and Eligibility/Certification and is certified as a HUD Housing Choice Voucher Program (HVC) Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Inspector and a HUD Section 8 Multifamily Housing Certified Occupancy Specialist (COS).

For decades, Maze has remained active as both a member and as a volunteer board director with many local housing and services-related organizations, including: member of the Maine Real Estate Managers Association since 2004; member of the Maine Affordable Housing Coalition since 2007; past tri-chair and current board member of the Maine Continuum of Care since 2013; past president and current vice president of the St. John Valley Neighborhood Association in Portland since 2008; current Vice Chair of the Cumberland Housing Authority Board since 2011; and current Treasurer of Amistad, Inc. since 2019.

## **About Augusta Housing Authority**

*Established in 1979, the Augusta Housing Authority was created to assist low, very low, and extremely-low income families with finding and maintaining decent, safe, and affordable housing opportunities; to promote family self sufficiency; and to create and maintain partnerships with its customers and with community agencies in order to accomplish its goals and to operate a fiscally sound program. FMI: [www.augustahousing.org](http://www.augustahousing.org)*

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*Norman Maze, Jr.*