

Mary Burke Rivers is the Executive Director of Over-the-Rhine Community Housing. She has served in that position for over 30 years. Over-the-Rhine Community Housing (OTRCH) develops housing and community primarily in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood of Cincinnati. OTRCH has developed over 700 units of housing and manages over 600 units with additional units in development.

OTRCH won numerous awards over the years for its development work, including winning the 2015 Excellence in Affordable Housing Development award from Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing for 1500 Elm St.; the 2016 Project of the Year from the Community Development Corporation Association of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky for Beasley Place, and in 2018 received the William J Graves Ohio Housing Excellence Award.

Mary serves on the boards of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, The Finance Fund, and Affordable Housing Advocates. In 2007 Mary was named one of six “Women of OTR”. In 2010 Mary received the buddy gray award from the Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless for a lifetime of achievement on behalf of the low income and homeless community. In 2016 she received the Ned D. Neuhausel Award from the Ohio CDC Association in recognition for her work in providing affordable housing for vulnerable people and being a strong advocate on their behalf. In 2018 Mary was named one of 15 Women of the Year by the Cincinnati Enquirer and the Greater Cincinnati Foundation.

Mary is a graduate of Leadership Cincinnati, Class 34.

Mary lives in Paddock Hills with her husband Leonard and their son Will.