

About Joanne M. Oplustil

CAMBA's President and Chief Executive Officer

A native of the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, Ms. Joanne Oplustil received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Brooklyn College, followed by two Master's Degrees: one in Economics, and a second degree in Health Care Policy and Administration. Ms. Oplustil is no stranger to the needs and issues of the community served by CAMBA/CAMBA Housing Ventures (CHV), the organization she heads as President/CEO.

At present, as chief executive of an over \$150 million, 1,800+ -staff multi-service agency, Ms. Oplustil is responsible for all aspects of the agency's management, operational, planning, and development activities, including more than 160 separate Economic Development, Education & Youth Development, Family Support Services, Health Services, Housing Services, and Legal Services programs serving more than 45,000 children and adults, immigrants and the homeless.

In her tenure as President/CEO, she has raised over \$1 billion for support services for CAMBA/CHV. CAMBA created an affiliated affordable housing development corporation in 2005 called CAMBA Housing Ventures, Inc. (CHV). The mission of CHV is to develop sustainable and energy efficient buildings that provide safe and supportive, affordable housing for low-income and formerly homeless families and individuals. CHV envisions vital neighborhoods where affordable housing plays a critical role in the long-term economic and social success of lower-income individuals and families.

CHV set a goal in 2005 to have in the pipeline and/or partner on to create 1,000 units of affordable housing by 2015 and has nearly doubled this goal as of 2015 (2,057 units, \$617 million in public/private investment). CHV has completed or partnered to complete construction and/or the workout/preservation of 820 units in New York City,

representing \$242 million in public and private investment. CHV currently has 1,133 units in construction in New York City representing \$350 million in public and private investment, including a Mitchell-Lama rehabilitation/preservation. In addition, there are approximately 104 units in the predevelopment phase for new construction and rehab/preservation, representing over \$25 million in public and private investment. Both CAMBA/CHV and Ms. Oplustil have been recognized for outstanding achievement in housing and community development.

Ms. Oplustil spent eight years in Tanzania (1970-1978), initially as a teacher in the Peramiho Girls' Secondary School. In 1973, Ms. Oplustil assumed the voluntary position of Director of Educational Development at the Katumba and Ulyankulu Refugee Camps, conducting research and analysis on the needs of 20,000 children. In response she established 110 kindergarten and nursery schools for 60,000 refugee children. Ms. Oplustil designed the educational materials and books in Swahili, emphasizing African themes.

Upon her return to Brooklyn in 1979, Ms. Oplustil joined CAMBA when it was a small (\$50,000 annual budget) local block development association. Ms. Oplustil built it into one of the largest and most successful agencies in the city, with funding from more than 45 different federal, state, and local government entities, for more than 160 service contracts, in addition to support from leading foundation and private donors.

In addition to her professional position, Ms. Oplustil serves on the boards of Supportive Housing Network of New York, CAMBA Legal Services, Inc. and Brooklyn Dreams Charter School and sits on numerous advisory boards.