



MIKE BALAKRISHNAN

Founder, President

Mike Balakrishnan is founder and President of Celmark Development Group (www.celmark.com), a prominent commercial real estate developer based in Columbus, Ohio. After graduation from Ohio University with a Masters in Structural Engineering, Balakrishnan began his career more than 45 years ago as chief project manager at Banning and Pickett, a pioneering office developer in Central Ohio. He later joined the Joseph Skilken Organization, a Columbus-based commercial real estate company. In his 20-year tenure there, he developed and managed a large portfolio of office buildings, shopping centers and apartments in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Florida.

In 2000, Mike launched his own company, Celmark Development Group, a full service real estate development and construction firm focusing on child day care centers, medical facilities, student housing and multifamily properties in Columbus, OH and Austin, TX.

Mike has considerable experience in the adaptive reuse of properties that have outlived their useful life. Over the years he has had great success in bringing a new kind of urbanism to abandoned properties, through creative alterations and additions that are sympathetic to the building's original design and its rich character. The idea is to breathe new market driven purpose to old buildings and in the process bring vitality and new life to streets and neighborhoods. His body of work in this field also includes properties on the National Register and National Historic Landmark Properties.