



# Commonwealth Real Estate Securities Fund

Commentary | Performance as of December 2017

**OBJECTIVE:** The Fund's investment objective is to provide long-term capital appreciation and current income. It invests primarily in equity, debt and convertible securities of companies in real estate industries, which may include real estate investment trusts (REITs), publicly traded real estate development companies, real estate management companies, building supply companies, and other publicly-traded companies involved in real estate.

**FOCUS:** Investing beyond typical bricks and mortar, including real estate development companies, real estate management companies, building supply companies, timber companies, real property holding, and other companies involved in real estate related activities, the Real Estate Securities Fund invests virtually all of its assets in real estate and real estate related securities worldwide.

## FUND FACTS

Ticker	CNREX
Inception Date	1/5/2004
Front Load %	None
Deferred Load %	None
Redemption Fee if sold within 14 days	2%
CUSIP	203042403
Minimum Initial Investment	200
Morningstar Style Box	Mid Cap Blend

## FUND PERFORMANCE As of 12/31/17

	Fund	MSCI US REIT <sup>3</sup>
3 months	4.37	1.4
YTD	14.60	5.06
1 year	14.60	5.06
5 years	8.50	9.34
10 years	4.17	7.44
Inception	4.92	9.19

Performance data represents past performance and assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Visit [commonwealthfunds.com](http://commonwealthfunds.com) or call us at 888.345.1898 for performance data current to the most recent month-end. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Diversification does not guarantee a profit nor guarantee against a loss.

**FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH DISCIPLINE:** Robert Scharar has managed the Commonwealth Funds since its inception in 1991, and he is supported by FCA Corp's broader research team. The Fund's management studies a company's products and its market place, management, and integral finances, often requiring direct talks with the management of the company.

**BOTTOM-UP STOCK SELECTION:** Management seeks to invest in real companies and real products with understandable fundamental financials, and considers stocks and bonds across all sectors and market capitalizations.

**LONG-TERM VIEW:** The Fund seeks to build shareholder wealth by owning high quality companies over long periods of time.

**MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE:** Selected investments are the result of an extensive team effort led by Robert Scharar, with over 40 years of international investment experience.

**RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF HOLDINGS:** Within a well-constructed diversified portfolio, companies believed to be deserving of the portfolio manager's confidence are emphasized.

**LOW TURNOVER:** The Fund management's long-term investment commitments historically result in low turnover of the Fund's portfolio.

**NO LOAD FUND & LOW INITIAL INVESTMENT MINIMUMS:** The minimum initial investment is \$200 and there is no minimum for subsequent investments.

TOP SECTORS <sup>1</sup>		PORTFOLIO STATISTICS	
REITS - Diversified	17.4	Net Assets	\$12.02 million
REITS - Office Property	6.8	Number of Holdings	71
Hotels & Motels	6.7	Portfolio Turnover	13%
REITS - Hotels	5.8	Gross Expense Ratio	2.95%
Building Products - Cement/Aggregates	5.6		
Cash	4.9	COUNTRY ALLOCATIONS <sup>2</sup>	
Building & Construction - Miscellaneous	4.4	United States	78.6
REITS - Storage	4.0	United Kingdom	4.4
REITS - Warehouse/Industrial	4.0	Mexico	3.1
Building - Residential/Commercial	3.9	Ireland	3.1
		Other	10.8
		ASSET ALLOCATION <sup>2</sup>	
		Stocks	95.2
		Cash & Other	4.9
		Derivatives	-0.1

Holdings and portfolio allocation as of report date, <sup>1</sup>Sector/ Industry calculated as a percentage of total equity investments; <sup>2</sup>Top 10 Holdings and Country and Asset Allocation calculated as a percentage of total investments. <sup>3</sup>The MSCI US REIT Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index comprised of equity REITs that are included in the MSCI US Investable Market 2500 Index, with the exception of specialty equity REITs that do not generate a majority of their revenue and income from real estate rental and leasing operations. Index returns, expressed in U.S. Dollars, assume reinvestment of dividends, and unlike Fund returns do not reflect fees or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in these indices.

You should consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. For a prospectus, that contains this and other information about the Fund, call 888-345-1898 or visit our website at [www.commonwealthfunds.com](http://www.commonwealthfunds.com). Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.



# Commonwealth Real Estate Securities Fund

Commentary | Performance as of December 2017

## TOP 10 HOLDINGS<sup>2</sup>

32.4% of total net assets

Federated Government Obligations MM Fund	United States	5.9
Extra Space Storage	United States	3.7
James Hardie Ind Plc - ADR	Ireland	3.7
American Tower-A	United States	3.0
Lennox International, Inc.	United States	3.0
Equinix, Inc.	United States	2.8
SBA Communications Corp.	United States	2.7
Boston Properties	United States	2.7
Regions Financial Corp.	United States	2.6
Wp Carey, Inc.	United States	2.6

## RISK MEASURES (for trailing five years)

Alpha	0.23	Standard Deviation	11.62
Beta	0.60	Sharpe Ratio	0.73
R2	0.82		

**ALPHA** is a measure of the portfolio's risk-adjusted performance. When compared to the portfolio's beta, a positive alpha indicates better than expected performance; a negative alpha indicates a worse than expected performance.

**BETA** is a measure of the volatility of the portfolio relative to the overall market. A beta of under 1.00 indicates lower risk than the market; a beta greater than 1.0 indicates higher risk than the market.

**R2** represents the percentage of the portfolio's movements that can be explained by the general movements of the market. Index portfolios will tend to have R2 values close to 1.00.

**STANDARD DEVIATION** is an indicator of the Fund's total return volatility, based on the last 60 monthly returns. The larger the standard deviation, the greater the Fund's volatility.

**SHARPE RATIO** uses standard deviation to measure a fund's risk-adjusted returns. The higher a fund's Sharpe Ratio, the better the fund's returns have been relative to the risk it has taken.

## THE COMMONWEALTH FAMILY OF FUNDS

Commonwealth Funds offers five global and country-specific funds:

- Africa Fund
- Australia/New Zealand Fund
- Global Fund
- Japan Fund
- Real Estate Securities Fund

### ROBERT SCHARAR

President of Commonwealth Funds  
Head Portfolio Manager

Mr. Scharar is primarily responsible for the management of the portfolios for the Australia/New Zealand Fund, the Africa Fund, the Japan Fund, the Global Fund and the Real Estate Securities Fund. Additionally, Mr. Scharar is President and Director of FCA Corp and has primarily worked in this capacity since 1975.

Mr. Scharar received his AA degree from Polk Community College in 1968 and his BS in Accounting from the University of Florida in 1970. He received his MBA and JD from Northeastern University in 1971 and 1974, respectively. Mr. Scharar also received his LLM in Taxation from Boston University Law School in 1979. Mr. Scharar is a member of the Florida and Massachusetts Bars, and is a Certified Public Accountant.

### WESLEY YUHNKE

Chief Investment Officer

Mr. Yuhnke is currently serving as the Chief Investment Officer of FCA Corp and as an Assistant Portfolio Manager for Commonwealth's Australia/New Zealand, Africa, Japan, Global and Real Estate Securities Funds. He joined FCA Corp in May 2002 and was appointed Assistant Portfolio Manager in August 2002.

Prior to joining FCA Corp, Mr. Yuhnke received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from Stephen F. Austin State University. He earned his Masters of Business Administration from Texas Tech University.

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) may be subject changes in real estate values or economic downturns which can have significant negative effect on issuers in the real estate industry. International investing may involve additional risks, such as social and political instability, market illiquidity, currency fluctuations, high volatility and limited regulation. Investments in emerging markets involve even greater risks. Small cap stocks are more susceptible to market volatility than larger cap stocks. Exposure to companies engaged in the natural resource and commodities markets may increase volatility. The size of the Fund's asset base may cause higher expenses which will detract from the fund's performance.

The return of principal in a bond investment is not guaranteed. Mutual funds have the same issuer, interest rate, inflation and credit risks that are associated with underlying bonds owned by the fund. Derivatives are more volatile than other investments due to liquidity risks, default risk and imperfect correlation risks and could lose more than the principal amount invested. The Fund may invest in open-end funds, closed-end funds, and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") which will increase funds expenses.

Portfolio holdings will change due to ongoing management of the Fund. Reference to specific securities or sectors should not be construed as recommendations by the Fund, the Advisor or the Distributor.

Commonwealth International Series Trust, c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC, 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, OH 45246. The Funds are distributed by Unified Financial Securities, LLC. FCA Corp, Investment Advisor, 791 Town & Country Boulevard, Suite 250, Houston, TX 77024-3925.