

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



Helping Your Community Meet Its Housing Needs

Since the program's founding in 2004, GICH has facilitated progress toward housing stability in 84 communities throughout Georgia. Communities selected to participate in the three-year program receive technical assistance from state practitioners and academic experts, as well as a competitive advantage in applications for state community development and affordable housing funding. Upon graduation from the three-year program, GICH communities are encouraged to continue to work toward local housing goals and utilize the GICH network of state agencies, academic experts, and other GICH teams which have addressed often similar housing issues. GICH provides a platform for teams to develop creative solutions to complex local challenges through collaboration with local, regional, and state leaders. In 2021, the freshman, sophomore, and junior classes of GICH continued efforts to revitalize neighborhoods, create new affordable housing options, and provide financial and homebuyer education to their residents.



GICH BY THE NUMBERS

Leaders in GICH communities learn how they can utilize many of the housing and community development financing tools that DCA offers to local governments and other organizations. Additionally, GICH communities receive a competitive advantage in the application processes for several of these tools. As a result, GICH communities are able to implement their community housing plans with various grants and tax credits while building their local capacity.

In 2021, across all current and former GICH communities, DCA invested:

Low Income Housing Tax Credit financing for the development of affordable rental housing

\$6.8M

Community Development Block Grant funds supporting local housing and community development initiatives

\$24.3M

Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) grants for rehabilitation and construction of owner-occupied homes

\$5.2M

Since 2004, DCA has invested \$477,730,562 across the 84 Georgia communities that have participated in GICH.

\$477M

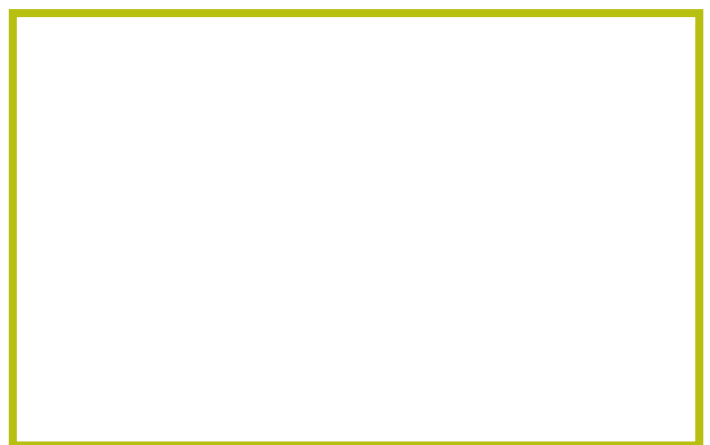
GICH PARTNERS

The Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) helps communities improve quality of life and economic vitality through the development of locally-based housing and revitalization strategies. GICH is a collaboration between the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; the University of Georgia’s Housing and Demographics Research Center, a unit of the Department of Financial Planning, Housing, and Consumer Economics in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences; University of Georgia’s Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach; and the Georgia Municipal Association. GICH’s founding partner, Georgia Power, and its ongoing retreat sponsor, Wells Fargo, continue to support the initiative’s ability to reach diverse communities across Georgia. GICH is also funded through the Rural Community Development Initiative (RDCI), a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Grant program.

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- Rob Gordon**
Director, Carl Vinson Institute of Government UGA
- Bill Thornton**
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Sessions from the February 2020 retreat in Tifton





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Georgia Department of
Community Affairs



Georgia Power



Financial Planning, Housing & Consumer Economics
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