







# DASH for LaGrange, Inc.

**Evolution of Thought** 

2001

Eliminate
Substandard
Housing

2002-2003

Creation of Homeownership Opportunities

#### Holistic Neighborhood Revitalization:

Eliminate substandard housing

Create socio-economic diversity

Increase homeownership rate

Engage residents in active leadership

# Original Vision

## Sustainability

Halt the decay and restore the vitality of LaGrange's existing neighborhoods:

Stabilize aggregate real estate values

Retain current residents

Restore sense of community

Adopt architectural standards and minimum building material specifications

# Community Influence

- Enforcement of the state housing code
- City grants Redevelopment Authority status
- Exposed, politically, the issue of non-compliant housing in the city
- Redeveloper of choice
- Paint the Town 2005 2009:

84 houses painted 20,200 volunteer hours = \$202,000 value DASH investment – \$86,650

# Desired Community Characteristics

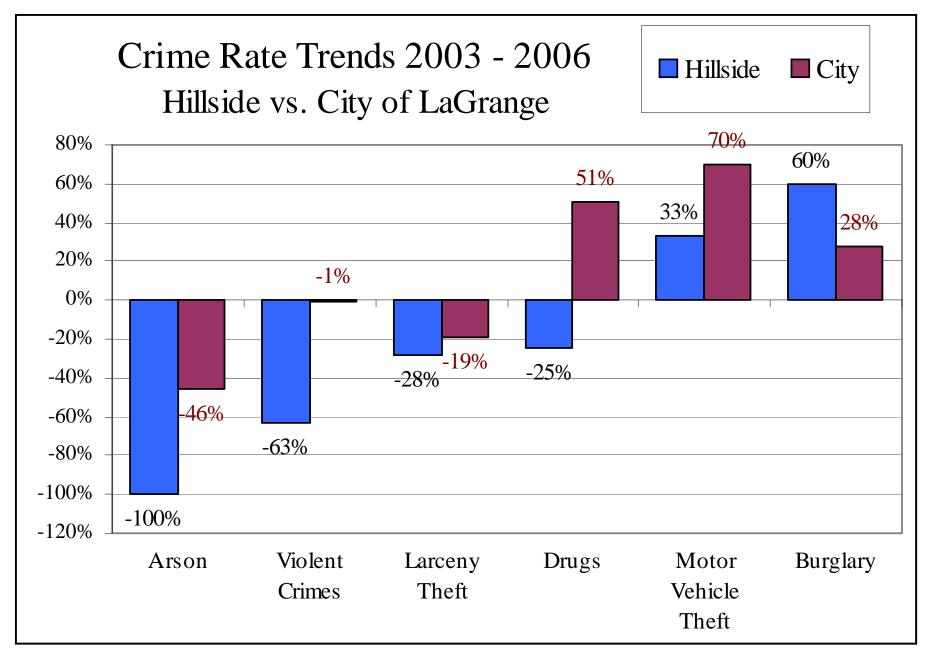
- Resident leadership
- Partially subsidized
- Socio-economic diversity
- Multiple product offerings
- Commercial vitality
- Sustainable

# Hillside Neighborhood

- First home sale March 2004
- Master Plan completed March 2005
   City grants Redevelopment Authority status
- 78 houses sold through December 2009
- Price point: \$77,500 \$194,900 (average \$104,901)
- Housing units rebuilds, new construction, senior cottages, multi-family







\* LaGrange Police Department statistics 2003-2006

# Hillside Neighborhood

- 37% reduction in substandard houses in original target area – Lincoln, Jefferson and Lee Streets
- 28% reduction in substandard houses in entire Hillside neighborhood
- Tax values\*:

2004 - \$15 million

2005 - \$18.4 million

2006 - \$21.2 million

2007 - \$24.2 million

## 609 SOUTH LEE ST.







## 520 SOUTH LEE ST.













## Current Homeowner Profile

• 45 – average age DASH homebuyer

Race: 67% – Caucasian
 32% – African American
 1% – Hispanic

- 43% presence of children in household
- 59% first-time homebuyers
- 38% required down payment assistance

# Homeownership Center

- 1,044 clients served
- 62,203 hours spent counseling/educating
- Services provided:

   financial fitness classes
   credit counseling
   foreclosure prevention
   pre-purchase counseling
- Services are free or minimal charge

# Creating a Neighborhood

City-wide Program Assistance:
 Homeownership services
 Housing rehab loans
 Downpayment assistance
 Latino outreach services

Neighborhood Watch

# Creating a Neighborhood

#### Hillside Activities:

Curb markets
After-school programs
Children's summer camp
Event socials:

Spring Tour of Homes
Pot luck dinners
Neighborhood clean-up
Holliday events











## Wilburn Apartments - CDBG

- \$500,000 CDBG acquisition grant (DCA)
- \$500,000 Renovation expenses (DASH)
   Bank financing
- 12 two-bedroom apartments (three buildings)
   8 apartments completed and leased
   4 apartments to be completed January 2008
- Tenants must have income below 80% of AMI
- Project must serve this market for at least 20 years (CDBG grant requirement)
- DASH earnings will be minimal until loan payoff





# Dunson School

Resident Scenario	28 One Bedroom Units	
Annual Income 30% of income	\$9,072 \$2,722	Social Security HUD max annual housing expense
Monthly rent & utilities		\$227
HUD operating subsidy Total monthly rent		\$123 \$350





## Laurel Ridge

#### **Low Income Housing Tax Credits**

- •70 two-, three- and four-bedroom houses
- Rents tailored to families with 30%, 50% and 60% AMI
- Total cost: \$10 million
  - \$8 million tax credit equity
  - \$2 million 20 year loan
- Developer Gateway Companies
- DASH revenue/benefits:

\$240,000 - property sales (Callaway Foundation)

\$550,000 - developer fees

DASH owns all property at end of rental period







## Community Partners – Cash Contributions

• Callaway Foundation, Inc.	\$ 5,704,219
NeighborWorks America	\$ 2,081,700
City of LaGrange	\$ 1,981,471
• DCA	\$ 532,183
• EPA Grant	\$ 200,000
• Contributions	\$ 129,649
• Interface	\$ 50,075
Troup County	\$ 42,000
• Gateway	\$ 25,000
<ul> <li>Paint the Town</li> </ul>	\$ 8,370
Bank of America	\$ 5,000
Juvenile Court	\$ 300
• TOTAL	\$10,759,967

## Community Partners – In-Kind Contributions

- LaGrange College
- SunTrust Bank
- Interface Flooring
- City of LaGrange
- Troup County Government
- West Georgia Medical Center
- Neighborhood Housing Services of America
- Troup County Tax Commission
- LaGrange Police Department
- Troup County School System
- West Georgia Technical College
- Troup County Senior Center

## Lessons Learned

- Architectural preservation
- Scattered site construction
- Affordability vs. Quality
- Commercial activities
- Cost/Price escalation

# **Current State** Sales - LaGrange • Credit environment Not at "Tipping Point" Diversify Lines of Business

## Intrinsic Value Created

- Homeowner creation
- Crime reduction
- Architectural preservation
- Property tax escalation
   Minimum new infrastructure required
- Restoring in-town neighborhoods
- Value of saving Hillside