The Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) helps communities improve their quality of life and economic vitality through the development of locally-driven housing and revitalization strategies. With the ongoing support of our Founding Sponsor, the Georgia Power Company, GICH has facilitated progress toward housing stability in 65 communities in its first 13 years.

**GICH BY THE NUMBERS**

Across all current and former GICH communities in 2017, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs invested:

- **$11.49M** in Low Income Housing Tax Credit financing for the development of affordable rental housing
- **$7.74M** in Community Development Block Grant funds supporting local housing and community development initiatives
- **$4.28M** in Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) grants for rehabilitation and construction of owner-occupied homes
- **$2.58M** in Georgia Dream down payment assistance funding for first-time homebuyers

**2017 GICH TEAMS**

**FRESHMEN**
- Bartow County
- Commerce
- Dublin
- Fairburn
- Union City
- Warrenton

**SOPHOMORES**
- Athens-Clarke County
- Evans County
- Millen
- Monroe
- Rockmart

**JUNIORS**
- Cedartown
- Liberty County
- Madison
- Pine Mountain
- Trion

The competitive advantage afforded by participation in GICH has led to a total investment of $324,551,551 across 65 Georgia communities since 2005.

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2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FRESHMAN: BARTOW COUNTY

Bartow County’s participation in GICH has helped secure funding for a Low Income Housing Tax Credit development, and the team has removed 47 dilapidated houses in the past year. The team has also worked to update mobile home ordinances and helped the county hire a Redevelopment Coordinator.

“While it is taking longer to see structural changes, we know investing in the people is the long-term fix as well as just the right thing to do. We are redeveloping people at the same time we are working to redevelop the area.”

MATT WARREN

SOPHOMORE: CITY OF MONROE

The Monroe GICH team has hosted a local housing expo which attracted more than 200 attendees, strengthened local code enforcement policies, and has plans moving forward to update its local Urban Redevelopment Plan with housing as a cornerstone.

“For many years, housing was generally ignored, but now we are working together to define what housing is needed most in our community and to come up with practical ways to address distressed properties. GICH has provided the avenue to bring together those interested in problem solving for the future.”

SADIE KRAWCZYK

JUNIOR: CITY OF CEDARTOWN

While participating in GICH, the Cedartown Team has passed vacant property and blight ordinances, created an official code enforcement office position, and made strides in completing a $20 million rehabilitation project.

“The Cedartown GICH Team is a great group that represents many facets of our community. We brought in bankers, realtors, investors, nonprofits, business owners, city employees, and citizens. With this knowledge base, along with the GICH program, we have a group that is well versed in housing needs and we look forward to what we can accomplish in the coming years.”

JORDAN HUBBARD

GICH PARTNERS

Financial Planning, Housing & Consumer Economics
College of Family and Consumer Sciences
Housing and Demographics Research Center
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Georgia Power

Georgia Municipal Association

Public Service & Outreach
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

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