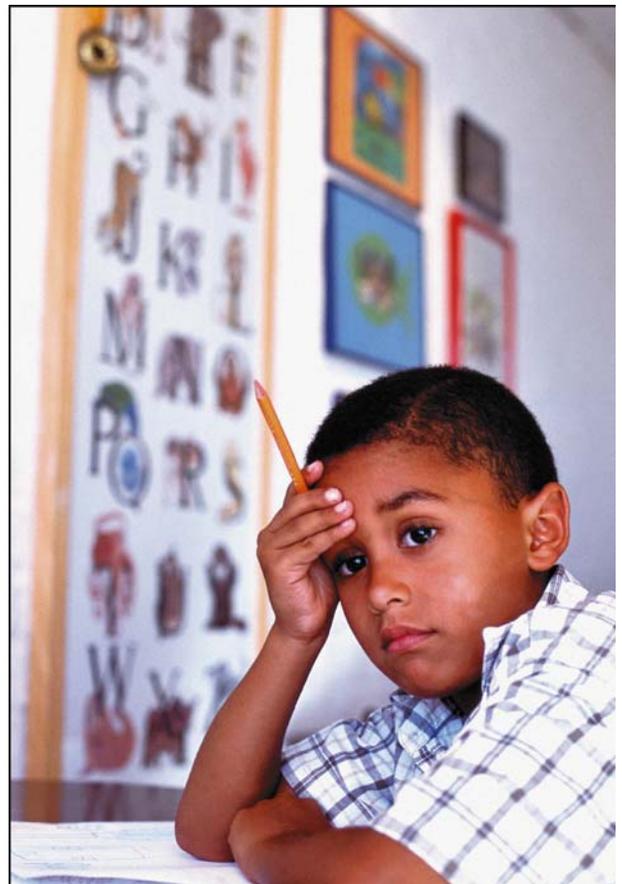


The Face of the Homeless

*It's Not What
You Think*

State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless

Annual Report
January 1, 2007





The Face of Homelessness ...It May Not Be What You Think

A 2007 study published by the National Alliance to End Homelessness* estimates that in January 2005, 744,313 people experienced homelessness in the United States.

- 41% (303,551) were persons living in families.
- A total of 98,452 homeless families were counted.
- In total, 205,099 children were counted in those families.
- In 1996 the family count was estimated to be 35% of the homeless population at any point in time; in 2005 estimates show an increase of 6%.

Every year 600,000 families with 1.35 million children are estimated to experience homelessness in the United States, making up about 50 percent of the homeless population over the course of a year. The existing and most conclusive research identifies the lack of affordable housing as the primary cause of homelessness in the United States.

Families exiting homelessness with a housing subsidy are 21 times more likely to remain stably housed compared to families exiting a shelter without a subsidy. Without a housing subsidy a family has to make \$16.31 an hour (\$33,942.80 annually) to afford housing at the national fair market rent.

Risk factors or predictors of homelessness that suggest that some families affected by the affordable housing crisis are more likely to become homeless than others, and families that become homeless tend to share certain characteristics: they have extremely low incomes, tend to have young children and be headed by a younger parent, lack strong social networks, and often have poor housing histories or move frequently. It seems that homeless families are a subgroup of poor families that, for either economic or a personal crisis, have lost their housing and cannot get back into the housing market.

Five promising strategies showing progress to ending family homelessness are:

- Prevention
- Housing First
- Providing Housing Assistance
- Targeting Services
- Data and Planning



* National Alliance to End Homelessness. January 2007. Homelessness Counts: Research Reports on Homelessness.

Introduction from the Chairman

In 2007, it is important that we make significant progress in our effort to collect and analyze data on homelessness, to use this data to identify program needs, and continue to emphasize strong and creative partnerships in order to achieve good long-term outcomes for clients.

Utilizing data from the state-wide Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and new counts of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons throughout the state, we hope to have better estimates of homelessness within the next 12 months. We have also taken the effort a step further by forming a new partnership with Kennesaw State University (KSU). Working with this information, KSU has been tasked to develop a method for obtaining future data from carefully selected localities. This way the data can be extrapolated to produce statistically reliable data for the whole state.

Why this data effort? Better data will enable us to produce more meaningful strategic plans; ones that are appropriately conceived to provide the correct scale and balance of resources and expertise to meet each local need. Clearly, better strategic plans (or business plans) will more strongly motivate public and private funders.

Over time, better strategic plans will also prove to present and future collaborative partners what we already know instinctively – that stable housing within a family's ability to pay (generally 30% or less of household income), together with holistic supportive services appropriate to each family's needs, will turn hopelessness into hope and produce desirable long-term outcomes ...

- children will perform better in schools,
- parents with appropriate supports, and absent the need for a 2nd job, will become better parents; fewer children will enter protective custody,
- fewer persons will enter or return to jails and prisons,
- families and children, separated by homelessness, will be re-united, and
- fewer persons trapped in poverty because of disabilities will experience the trauma of homelessness for lack of resources.

Speaking for all of the members of the State Housing Trust Fund Commission, I would like to invite your input at any time, because if we are to adequately address the complex phenomenon that we call homelessness, every Georgian must help.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Huntley, Jr.

Chairman, State Housing Trust Fund Commission



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The State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless is administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs /
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Mission Statement



The mission of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless is to support the efforts of organizations that provide housing and essential services for individuals and families striving to end their state of homelessness. These groups include:



Nonprofits



Faith-Based Organizations



Community Homeless Provider Networks, and



Public Programs

The mission of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless will be accomplished by:



Providing Resources For The Groups Listed Above



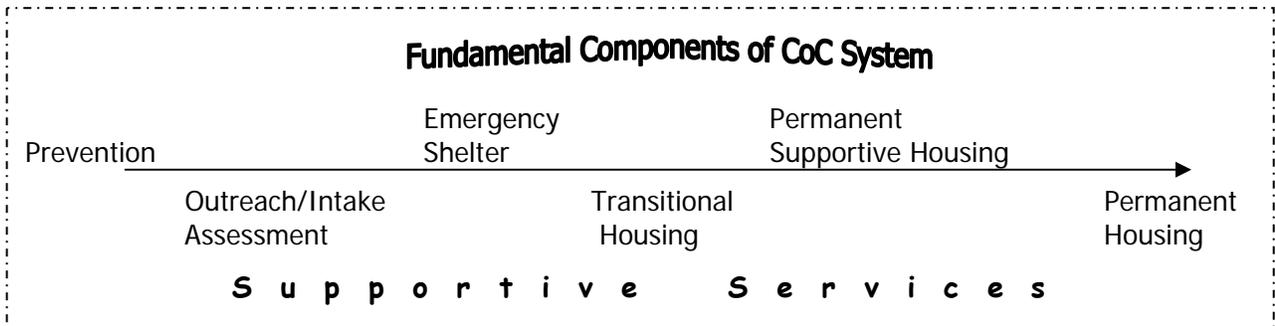
Supporting Opportunities That Promote Self-Sufficiency, and



Forming Partnerships With Organizations That Embrace The Goal Of Ending Homelessness In Georgia



Continuum of Care



The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) develops an annual *Continuum of Care Plan for the 'Balance of State'*. This document serves as the state's blueprint for providing a series of comprehensive and progressive resources to homeless individuals and families such that they become self-sufficient and permanently housed. The plan outlines specific projects and activities that the DCA and the Trust Fund will undertake in the coming year. In addition to being used as a planning tool, the Continuum of Care document is also a means for accessing federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Each year since 1998, the State and its many community partners have developed a plan that to date has generated over \$45.9 million dollars for transitional housing, mental health programs, day facilities, child-care and a host of other programs. What follows is a description of initiatives operating during the period July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006.

Prevention

The first line of defense against homelessness is the prevention program. In State Fiscal Year (SFY06), \$419,200 was awarded to twenty-six organizations to help them stabilize families that experienced a temporary economic setback. Prevention funds are used to pay security deposits, past due rental and/or mortgage payments, and utility bills. Once a family provides proof of financial need, the grantee makes a direct payment to the landlord, mortgage company, builder, or utility company. In addition to making these payments, many grantees coordinate consumer credit counseling courses and other services to help families increase their employability, learn financial management skills, and minimize the possibility of future episodes of financial distress. Data on persons served through Homeless Prevention Programs around the State has been separated from the data on homeless persons served through the Supportive Services Programs for the first time this year. Through these prevention programs, a daily average of 212 individuals &/or persons in families received homeless prevention assistance. During this reporting period, agencies throughout the State reported providing homeless prevention assistance to 53,092 eligible persons (programs are funded through the State as well as through other leveraged resources secured by grantee agencies). The majority of persons who received this type of assistance were persons in families (87%).



Emergency Shelters

Emergency shelters and outreach to unsheltered populations are the points of entry for thousands of persons that have become homeless. Families and individuals living in these emergency facilities receive food, shelter and essential services designed to stabilize them for a period of thirty to sixty days. On some occasions, a family may stay in a shelter for six months. Shelters are frequently distinguished by large open dormitory style rooms furnished with one to several hundred blankets, cots or beds. Emergency shelter staff guide clients through the maze of social services available to them, including social security, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), employment training, and other resources designed to return them to permanent housing.

Transitional Housing

The next phase in the Continuum of Care is transitional housing. These facilities are frequently co-located with emergency shelters or may exist as apartments or houses scattered throughout a city. Families and individuals in transitional housing typically have private to semi-private living quarters. The daily regimen in these facilities is more relaxed than in shelters, but greater responsibilities are placed on the families to adhere to a plan for self-sufficiency. Participants typically stay in transitional housing for up to twenty-four months. In SFY06, the Trust Fund assisted 98 grantees in providing 5,235 bed spaces in emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities with an average of 4,323 clients receiving housing per day. Forty-one percent (41%) of the persons housed by funded shelter/transitional programs this year were persons in families, and fifty-nine percent (59%) of the persons housed were individuals.

There was a reduction in the number of housing programs for victims of domestic violence that applied for funds to support shelter/transitional housing programs (by 9 agencies), and a women's shelter in the City of Atlanta closed down. This resulted in a 177 bed loss, and these 10 programs had provided housing to 3,747 homeless persons during the previous reporting year. The reduction of the domestic violence was in large part due to a reluctance to participate in the Homeless Management Information System initiative. There was also a fluctuation of 7,112 fewer persons being housed in 7 of the agencies between what they reported for this year compared to what they had reported in the previous year. Some of the fluctuation in the last seven agencies may be due to better data to reduce duplication errors.

Supportive Services

In addition to housing, the Trust Fund awards money to organizations that provide services designed to address issues that may have contributed to the individual's or the family's homelessness. The range of services includes housing counseling, childcare, education, employment training, financial counseling, legal aid, mental health counseling, primary health care, and substance abuse therapy. In SFY06, the Trust Fund assisted 63 grantees in providing supportive services to an average of 3,633 clients per day.

Homeless Management Information System

In the 2002 Balance of State Continuum of Care, DCA received an initial award of funds from HUD for a comprehensive, state-wide Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) initiative. The purpose of HMIS, as mandated by Congress, is to generate an unduplicated count of each Continuum of Care's homeless population. As data is accumulated, a much



HMIS continued

more comprehensive picture of the homeless population's needs and demographics will be generated, and we will be able to see how those needs and demographics change over time. This data will allow agencies to better allocate resources and serve their communities in their mission, and the State's, to end homelessness. Through this HUD grant, DCA has provided funding to eligible agencies to assist with hardware procurement, internet connection fees, and supportive software to make this project successful. During SFY2006, \$49,257 was expended by 37 different organizations through DCA's HMIS grant, making it possible for many agencies to become active with HMIS or increase their level of participation. Significant progress has been made in the last 12 months, both in the number of agencies and the quality of data input, in the statewide implementation of the Pathways Community Network's HMIS. Pathways lists 216 member agencies in Georgia, which represents a net increase of 30 agencies over last year's statewide membership. Forty-nine of these agencies (23%) do not receive direct funding from HUD or DCA. Seventeen of these agencies work predominantly or exclusively with a protected class clientele (clients are HIV positive, fleeing domestic violence, etc.). Each of Georgia's continuums has a substantial number of homeless service providers using the HMIS system and more are expected to join over the next 12 months. There is representation from many sectors of the homeless service/shelter system – information and referral, emergency shelters, transitional housing, HOPWA providers, domestic violence shelters, and service-only agencies.

The first annual HMIS Conference was held in Columbus on March 14 and 15, 2006. The conference drew about 120 participants, exceeding all expectations for the first meeting of this type. The two-day agenda focused on agency spotlights, strategic planning, privacy and confidentiality training, as well as sessions on HUD funding and Pathways development plans. Dr. Andrew Carswell was the luncheon speaker. Conference evaluations were uniformly positive, praising the opportunity to learn more about the Pathways system. Participants also had an opportunity to network and learn from each other while Continua of Care and Pathways representatives gained important insights into agency needs.



Acquisition & Rehabilitation

Each year the Trust Fund helps local governments and nonprofit organizations acquire land and buildings, or to make substantial repairs to facilities used to house or provide services to homeless persons. As there is a growing need for emergency shelter space, the Trust Fund makes the largest portion of its development budget available to organizations seeking to develop additional space for shelter beds. During SFY06, the State expended \$435,983 in funds for acquisition and rehabilitation projects through this program.

Hope House
Atlanta



Supportive Housing



Some homeless individuals may never become completely independent of charitable assistance from the public and private sector because of the complex nature of their homelessness. These individuals suffer from a range of medical issues that include physical disabilities, mental illnesses, and/or chemical addictions and may require long-term social and psychological support. To keep such persons housed and treated, a comprehensive support mechanism is often needed.

Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA)

HOPWA is a federally funded program that has been in operation since 1994. Borne out of Congress' desire to address the housing crisis associated with the AIDS epidemic, the program serves individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. Because this disease often leaves individuals and families financially devastated due to accumulating medical bills and lost wages due to sickness, HOPWA makes rental assistance and supportive services available to eligible persons. For persons impacted by HIV/AIDS, this assistance is a very important component of the Continuum of Care. In SFY06, the Trust Fund administered \$1,455,871 in HOPWA funds to ten organizations in non-metropolitan areas of Georgia to serve persons affected by HIV/AIDS. During the program year, 1,073 individuals &/or persons in families were provided needed housing assistance and an additional 866 persons with HIV/AIDS were provided supportive services. Trust Fund staff efforts continue to focus on assisting designated sponsors with the expansion or enhancement of their organizational capacity and/or current programs.

Shelter Plus Care (S+C)

The Shelter Plus Care program is designed to provide housing and supportive services on a long-term basis for homeless persons with disabilities and their families. Persons served by this program primarily have disabilities associated with serious mental illness, chronic problems with alcohol and/or drugs, and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) or related diseases. Since Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1995, DCA has received \$29.2 million dollars in S+C commitments to assist 42 sponsors. Beginning in FFY1996, approximately \$5.7 million was received to assist two sponsors with project-based rental assistance on rehabilitated units for a 10-year period and to assist two sponsors with five-year commitments for project-based rental assistance without rehabilitation. Grants awarded to DCA for sponsor-based rental assistance have been: FFY1999 for \$3.7 million, FFY2000 for \$3.3 million, FFY2001 for \$1.3 million, FFY2002 for \$2.5 million, FFY2003 for \$2.8 million, FFY 2004 for \$5.8 million, and the most recent award for 7 new projects in FFY2005 for \$4.1 million. In total, 55 S+C projects have been awarded. In all, 1,095 individuals who are homeless and have a disability are targeted to receive shelter and supportive services within 882 housing units over five or ten year periods. An additional 366 family members will also benefit raising the total estimated benefit to 1,461 persons per year.



Permanent Supportive Housing Program

The Permanent Supportive Housing Program's (PSHP) purpose is the production of affordable rental housing with accompanying supportive services for special needs tenants. The program offers 100% capital financing, combining the resources of the Federal HOME Investment Partnership program and the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless. In addition, project based rental assistance (Section 8) is available from the Department of Community Affairs for 100% of the PSHP units occupied by the special needs tenants if the units are located within DCA's Section 8 service area. Special needs tenants include individuals that must be either homeless or threatened with becoming homeless and have a mental or developmental disability or are recovering from substance abuse issues. The following is a list of projects, their populations served, and the construction status of all projects funded under this program since June 2005.

Project Name	Location	Population Served	Status
Millennium Center	Cuthbert	Families with substance abuse	Completed
Hearthstone Landing	Canton	Families experiencing domestic abuse	Completed
Grove Park	Macon	Individuals with mental/developmental disabilities	Completed
Pines Family Campus	Valdosta	Families with substance abuse	Completed
Maxwell House	Augusta	Families with mental/developmental disabilities	Completed

“CHRONICALLY HOMELESS” DEFINED

*A chronic homeless person is defined as an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more **OR** has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.*

To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter during that time (year). An episode is a separate, distinct and sustained stay on the streets and/or in an emergency homeless shelter.

A disabling condition is defined as “a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions. A disabling condition limits an individual's ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living. A chronically homeless person must be unaccompanied and disabled during each episode.

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2007 Continuum of Care





Initiatives

Home Access Program

During SFY06, the Georgia General Assembly increased the appropriation to the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless by \$300,000 to implement the Home Access Program. This new resource will fund accessibility improvements at the owner-occupied homes of an individual with a disability, enabling the individual to remain in their established setting that is connected to existing supports. Program implementation was set to begin in October 2006.

Re-Entry Partnership Housing Program

The Re-Entry Partnership Housing Program (RPH) involves a unique collaboration by multiple state agencies. Funding for this program was made available to the State Board of Pardons and Paroles (lead agency) through a grant from the Federal Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. The Georgia Department of Corrections is a critical lead partner and the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless (HTF) is the administrative agent for this program. The HTF is administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Re-Entry Partnership Housing (RPH) is a means to provide housing to convicted felons who remain in prison after the Parole Board has authorized their release due solely to having no residential options. RPH partners must provide (directly or through written agreement with third parties) stable housing and food (room and board) to released offenders. Grantees are certified at the discretion of the RPH staff of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Georgia Department of Corrections. The goal of the RPH program is to provide short term financial assistance to help stabilize an individual's re-entry process to enhance his or her ability to remain crime free.

- The first parolee was placed in mid-April 2006, and at the end of SFY 2006, forty (40) released offenders were being served by five (5) agencies/individuals located in the metropolitan Atlanta area, Winder, and Savannah. Representation of the selected organizations included; faith-based community-based nonprofits, other community-based nonprofits, for-profit organizations, and individuals.

POVERTY DATA ON CHILDREN IN GEORGIA

21% (483,800) of Georgia's Children Live in Poverty – a 17% increase since 2000

35% of children live in a family where no parent has full-time, year-round employment

35% of children live in single-parent families.

In 2004, 706,471 children in school (38.2%) were eligible for free or reduced price meals.



Source: Family Connection Partnership: Georgia 2005 KIDS COUNT,



Agency Collaboration



Grove Park Village

In-Fill Housing, Inc. Macon Housing Authority and River Edge Behavioral Health Center

Grove Park Village is a new forty-unit multi-family development located at 1505 Clinton Road in Macon, Georgia. It was funded through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Permanent Supportive Housing Program.

The project was the culmination of a three-year effort and partnership by and between several local entities and DCA. Owned by Grove Park Village, Inc. and developed by In-Fill Housing, Inc., both entities are 501(c)(4) non-profit corporations created by the Macon Housing Authority, which now serves as the property manager for Grove Park Village. The River Edge Behavioral Health Center (River Edge), middle Georgia's mental health services agency, provides on-site supportive services to the special needs population. DCA provided financing from HOME funds and State Housing Trust Fund in the form of a 0% interest construction loan and permanent financing of \$3,245,133. Macon Housing Authority provided more than \$325,000 in interim financing while the project was in its pre-development stage.

This partnership between the Macon Housing Authority and River Edge was created to address the needs of homeless persons (or those now in a recognized homeless assistance program) who have a mental health and/or a substance abuse diagnosis. The concept for Grove Park Village had its roots in Macon's Shelter Plus Care program. The Shelter Plus Care model had proven to be very successful since the late 1990's. In this program, the Macon Housing Authority combined its housing assistance with River Edge's supportive services for homeless persons.

It was this successful experience that led the housing authority to start working on a Grove Park Village model in 2001. This "new model" improved dramatically on the Shelter Plus Care program in several ways. First, many of the Shelter Plus Care dwelling units only met the very minimal Section 8 Housing Quality Standards. Although this housing was "decent, safe and sanitary," the housing met only the minimum HUD guidelines and rarely offered few, if any, amenities for the residents. The newly constructed housing at Grove Park Village has been built to a much higher standard, and now actually serves as an important incentive to many of the clients in River Edge's case management system. Second, the local Shelter Plus Care program participants are generally dispersed throughout the Macon and Bibb County area. With the high level of services that many of these participants require, a services delivery and support system that reaches a large number of participants at the same time and in the same place is a significant program enhancement.



Collaboration & Communication

The Trust Fund makes important decisions about managing homeless assistance funds by consulting with parties with special interests and expertise in homeless issues. Today, several communication tools exist to support the exchange of information among homeless providers, staff, homeless persons and Commissioners of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless.

CoC/HMIS Planning Group

There are seven (7) Continuums of Care (CoC) that collaborate to implement a single Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) in Georgia. On the first Thursday of each month, representatives of the seven “CoC Lead Organizations” meet with representatives from Pathways Community Network (the HMIS provider) and other interested organizations (the GA Coalition to End Homelessness, HUD entitlement communities, etc.) to work toward two goals: (1) the best possible HMIS implementation for our state; and (2) the success of every Continuum in Georgia. Topics include HUD HMIS requirements for the CoC and the status of each CoC in meeting those requirements, needed HMIS enhancements and the status of ongoing enhancements, reporting, research, and other topics of mutual interest. This planning group is co-led by DCA HTF and Pathways staff.

State Homeless Advisory Council

To facilitate a proactive dialog about preventing and eliminating homelessness and strategies to more effectively develop and implement CoC programs, the Trust Fund regularly convenes meetings of the *State Homeless Advisory Council*. The council is composed of lead organizations from Continuums of Care, the homeless service provider community, local homeless coalitions, local governments, nonprofit organizations, ecumenical community and many others interested in addressing issues of homelessness.

State Homeless Interagency Coordination Council

Established by Executive Order by Governor Perdue and co-chaired by DCA Commissioner Mike Beatty and DHR Commissioner B.J. Walker, the Homeless Action Plan (The State’s Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Ten Years) developed by the Council was endorsed by the Governor on November 29, 2004, and significant work is underway. This collaborative initiative is focused on ending chronic homelessness; policies that will eliminate discharging clients back into homeless situations; improving state agency coordination; improving access to SSI with a consideration given to presumptive eligibility; evaluation of fiscal effectiveness; effective homeless prevention policies; and coordination strategies that will best achieve the Council’s and the Governor’s goals for ending chronic homelessness in Georgia by 2012. The Council has now convened a *Policy Academy on Families and Children*, and will soon convene another *Academy on SSI Benefits*.



Mainstream Planning Efforts

In recognizing that the planning and strategizing necessary to address homelessness cannot be confined to 'homeless-only' planning processes, DCA actively participates in mainstream planning efforts throughout the State. To address the goal of ending chronic homelessness and in procuring mainstream resources for homeless services, DCA staff has membership on the *Mental Health Planning Advisory Council*. This entity is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the State's mental health delivery process, including the provision of mental health services for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

DCA participates in the meetings of the *Georgia State Association of Not-For-Profit Developers (GSTAND)* and of the *Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) Housing Coalition*. DCA staff also regularly work with and are members of the *Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities*, which completed a five year strategic plan which includes a housing emphasis to enable individuals with developmental disabilities to live independently within their community

A significant new development within the past year is DCA's participation in two of Governor Perdue's "New Georgia" Task Forces – the *Prison Re-Entry Policy Team* and the *Community Care for Behavioral Health an Developmental Disabilities Policy Team*.

Metro Atlanta United Way's (Regional) Commission on Homelessness

DCA continues to collaborate with the *Mayor's (Atlanta) Homeless Commission* in an effort to address needs in the larger metro region. Twenty-five (25) of the counties in the 28-county Atlanta MSA are within the Balance of State CoC plan. The Balance of State CoC counties of Clayton, Douglas and Rockdale have joined in this regional effort. Extending from this effort is the Metro Atlanta United Way's *Supportive Housing Council*. This group is specifically working to establish new resources for housing chronic homeless persons in the metro Atlanta area.

Regional Planning Partnerships

DCA regularly attends local homeless coalition and CoC planning meetings throughout the State. Examples include the Chatham-Savannah Authority for the Homeless; the Valdosta, Columbus, Macon, Athens, and Augusta Homeless Coalitions; and others. In addition, DCA participates with entitlement jurisdictions as they do their HUD consolidated planning around "homelessness." A significant effort this past year included attendance at a meeting of Dalton providers to address emerging issues of homelessness within its Hispanic/Latino population.

SHELTERED / UNSHELTERED HOMELESS FAMILIES IN GEORGIA

In 2005, Georgia's 7 Continuums of Care reported an estimated 27,161 homeless persons (15,471 sheltered / 11,690 unsheltered)

Of the total number, there were 4,667 homeless families (with children) (2,797 sheltered/ 1,870 unsheltered)

Of the total number, there were 15,213 homeless persons in families (with children) (8,922 sheltered/ 6,291 unsheltered)



Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness. January 2007. Homelessness Counts: Research Reports on Homelessness (Based on Georgia's 7 Continuums of Care in 2005)

Training



Providers of homeless assistance benefit from ongoing training to stay abreast of innovative social work strategies as well as resources for funding, staff and volunteers -- that's why the Trust Fund committed some \$31,139 for a broad range of training opportunities in SFY06.

Best Practices Technical Assistance Program

Sixteen organizations in Georgia participate in the Best Practices Technical Assistance Program as trainers. This innovative project is devised to have local organizations with expertise in one or more areas of homeless facilities and services provide peer training to other homeless service providers. The objective of this program is to ensure that homeless service providers have access to tools and resources that will enable them to provide high quality services to persons in need of assistance. Training under this program occurs year round in all regions of the state.

Regional Homeless Resource Fairs

The Regional Homeless Resource Fairs are designed to facilitate communication between providers and effectively coordinate services offered to homeless families. Homeless Services providers and others interested in homeless issues attend these events to exchange ideas, discuss new projects, and propose new ways of serving homeless people. The fairs also feature national and local speakers as well as trainers from the Best Practices Technical Assistance Program. Fair participants have opportunities to attend workshops on a variety of topics such as tips for start-up organizations, policies and procedures for operating homeless facilities, and standards of care. Using State HTF dollars, DCA is able to fund and support local sponsors of regional homeless resource fairs in all of Georgia's 12 regions. These fairs were held in seven of the State's regions last year.

Staff Directed Technical Assistance Program and Grantee Monitoring

Trust Fund staff provide ongoing training to grantees and persons who are interested in starting new homeless projects. Each week on average, one or more members of the staff visit several facilities around the state and during those visits, one-on-one technical assistance support is offered. Another important function of Trust Fund staff is the monitoring of each Grantee's participation in the various programs to ensure compliance with program regulations. Monitoring visit reviews include such areas as financial record systems, program benefits, and other program rules. The State also provides written certifications to HUD regarding compliance of each project with appropriate environmental regulations, and all ESGP and Shelter Plus Care grantees must conform to the HUD rule for verifying homelessness. For the past four years, all Trust Fund grantees have been required to submit formal policies addressing their methods of documenting homelessness. After identifying where their homeless populations are coming from (streets, shelters, institutions, etc.), agencies must show that protocols for documentation ensuring proper eligibility are in place. Grantees receiving HOPWA and/or Shelter Plus Care funding will receive an on-site monitoring visit each contract year. Grantees receiving ESGP funding will receive on-site monitoring visits once every three years or more often as deemed necessary by Trust Fund staff based on application, reimbursements, desk audits, or reporting submissions.



Accomplishments

- \$13.5 million dollars was awarded for over 230 programs that provide shelter, transitional housing, permanent housing, or services for homeless individuals and families.
- Under the ESG Program, housing was provided to a daily average of 4,323 clients and supportive services were provided to a daily average of 3,633 clients.
- Under the Homeless Prevention Program, an average of 212 persons were provided this assistance daily and 53,092 persons received this assistance during the operating year.
- \$10.1 million dollars was awarded to 43 programs under the 2006 Continuum Of Care Plan for the 'Balance Of The State'.
- \$2,761,929 in Shelter Plus Care program funds supported 747 housing units, which provided housing assistance to 873 homeless persons with a disability.
- \$1,432,048 was administered to 10 HOPWA organizations to serve persons affected by HIV/AIDS.
- During the program year, 583 households were provided needed housing assistance, 866 persons with HIV/AIDS were provided supportive services only, and an additional 1,273 individuals received housing information services under the HOPWA Program.
- Seven Regional Resource Fairs were held in Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, Carrollton, Columbus, Macon, and Valdosta.
- \$6.3 million dollars was awarded under the 2006 Continuum Of Care for the 'Balance Of State' for 4 New / 10 Renewal Shelter Plus Care Projects in coordination with the Georgia Department of Human Resources and an additional \$2.3 million was awarded to DCA's 5 Shelter Plus Care (1 New / 4 Renewal) Projects submitted through the Continuums of Care of the City of Atlanta, Athens-Clarke County, Columbus-Muscogee/Russell County, and Savannah/Chatham County.



Beneficiary Data

During State Fiscal Year 2006, the Housing Trust Fund collected the following client data from ESGP Grantees. This data is a requirement of the Integrated Disbursement Information System (IDIS) from which Federal ESGP dollars are dispersed.

Of the **33,085** clients who received housing (emergency or transitional), the number below have the following characteristics...

Characteristic	Number	Percentage
Victim of Domestic Violence	8,832	26.7%
Runaway/Throwaway Youth	172	.5%
Chronically Mentally Ill	2,509	7.6%
Developmentally Disabled	187	.6%
HIV/AIDS	1,528	4.6%
Alcohol Dependent	9,118	27.6%
Drug Dependent	9,669	29.2%
Elderly (≥ 60 years old)	916	2.8%
Veterans	1,597	4.8%
Physically Disabled	1,007	3%
Victim of Hurricane Katrina	89	<1%
Other (Reoccurring homelessness, chronically homeless, medical issues)	318	1%

Since many homeless clients have dual issues, the total will not equal 100%.

Of the **117,277*** clients who received supportive services, the number below have the following characteristics*...

Characteristic	Number	Percentage
Victim of Domestic Violence	10,995	9.4%
Runaway/Throwaway Youth	5,756	4.9%
Chronically Mentally Ill	17,203	14.7%
Developmentally Disabled	11,998	10.2%
HIV/AIDS	9,225	7.9%
Alcohol Dependent	16,020	13.7%
Drug Dependent	15,919	13.6%
Elderly (≥ 60 years old)	5,664	4.8%
Veterans	2,891	2.5%
Physically Disabled	2,442	2.1%
Victim of Hurricane Katrina	94	<1%
Other (Reoccurring homelessness, chronically homeless, recovering from addiction, mentally disabled)	891	.8%

Since many homeless clients have dual issues, the total will not equal 100%.

*Demographics on clients that received homeless prevention assistance are not included in this number. Due to the nature of the service, many of the nonprofit agencies that provided homeless prevention did not collect this information.



Finances

Allocation of Funds

From July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006, \$13.4 million dollars was allocated by the Office of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless to support homeless assistance programs operated by nonprofit organizations, including faith based organizations, and local governments throughout Georgia. Monies for these programs come from federal and state agencies as well as repayments and interests from prior loan projects.

During this period, the Trust Fund received \$3.7 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for

two programs -- Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA). It also received a special \$4.8 million award (excluding state administration) under HUD's Continuum of Care Program to administer five new Shelter Plus Care projects for fragile clients. The Trust Fund received an additional \$3 million allocation from the Georgia General Assembly to match the HUD ESG award and to support a series of other homeless assistance projects.

The chart below illustrates how these dollars were distributed to projects in SFY06.

Final FY 2006 State Housing Trust Fund Allocations		
Program Name	Amount Obligated	%
Emergency Shelter Grant	3,922,800	29%
Matching Funds	553,800	4%
Nonprofit Technical Assistance	90,420	1%
Shelter Plus Care	6,084,498	45%
Re-Entry Partnership Housing	144,600	1%
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	1,631,000	12%
Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	99,412	1%
Administration (Includes 5-YR SPC Awards)	932,082	7%
Total Obligation	\$13,458,612	100%

Source of Funding For Major Programs	
State-HTF	Federal-HUD
Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	
Continuum of Care Coordination Regional Resource Fairs Homeless Prevention Essential Services Match for Permanent Supportive Housing Supportive Facilities	Shelter Plus Care (S+C) Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Program

FY 2006 Grantees

<u>Organization</u>	<u>County</u>
Achor Center, Inc.	Fulton
Action Ministries, Inc. (Central Office)	Multi-Co
Action Ministries, Inc. (d/b/a Atlanta Ministries)	Fulton
Action Ministries, Inc. (d/b/a Augusta Ministries)	Richmond
Action Ministries, Inc. (d/b/a Rome Ministries)	Fulton
Advantage Behavioral Health Systems	Clarke
Agape Recovery Outreach, Inc.	DeKalb
AIDS Alliance of Northwest Georgia, Inc.	Bartow
AIDS Athens, Inc. (f/k/a AIDS Coalition of Northeast Georgia)	Clarke
Albany, City of	Dougherty
Albany Outreach Center, Inc.	Dougherty
Alternate Life Paths Programs, Inc.	Fulton
Amethyst Project, Inc.	Bulloch
Area Committee To Improve Opportunities Now, Inc.	Clarke
Athens Area Homeless Shelter	Clarke
Athens Nurses Clinic, Inc.	Clarke
Atlanta Children's Shelter, Inc.	Fulton
Atlanta Community Food Bank, Inc.	Fulton
Atlanta Enterprise Center, Inc.	Fulton
Atlanta Training Opportunities and Ultimate Careers for Homeless	Fulton
Atlanta Union Mission Corporation	Fulton
Augusta Task Force for the Homeless, Inc.	Richmond
Buckhead Christian Ministry	Fulton
C. A. R. E. Services of Pickens County, Inc.	Pickens
Calvary Refuge, Inc.	Clayton
Camden Community Crisis Center, Inc.	Camden
Carroll County Emergency Shelter, Inc.	Carroll
Center for Family Resources, Inc.	Cobb
Central City AIDS Network, Inc.	Bibb
Central Presbyterian Church Outreach & Advocacy Center	Fulton
Cessel Taylor, Sr.	Spalding
Chatham-Savannah Authority for the Homeless	Chatham

FY 2006 Grantees

<u>Organization</u>	<u>County</u>
Cherokee Family Violence Center, Inc.	Cherokee
Citizens Against Violence, Inc.	Bulloch
Clayton County Family Care, Inc.	Clayton
Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, Inc. (f/k/a Lake Claire Community Apts.)	Fulton
Coastal Area Support Team, Inc.	Glynn
Cobb-Douglas Community Service Board	Cobb & Douglas
Colquitt County Serenity House	Colquitt
Columbus Alliance for Battered Women, Inc.	Muscogee
Columbus Regional Healthcare System, Inc.	Muscogee
Community Advanced Practice Nurses, Inc.	Fulton
Community Concerns, Inc.	Fulton
Community Connection of Northeast Georgia, Inc.	Clarke
Community Service Board of Middle Georgia	Laurens
Comprehensive AIDS Resource Encounter, Inc.	Wayne
Concerted Services, Inc.	Ware
Congregation Shearith Israel	Fulton
Coordinated Health Services, Inc.	Richmond
Covenant Community, Inc.	Fulton
Crossroads Community Ministries, Inc.	Fulton
CSRA Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc.	Richmond
Dalton – Whitfield County Nonprofit Development Corporation	Whitfield
Decatur Cooperative Ministry, Inc.	DeKalb
DeKalb County Community Services Board	DeKalb
DeKalb Metro Housing Counseling Center, Inc.	DeKalb
Delores M.K. Pierce (a/k/a Marilee's Transitional Home)	Glynn
Douglas County Shelter, Inc.	Douglas
Druid Hills Presbyterian Church	Fulton
Economic Opportunity for Savannah-Chatham County Area, Inc.	Chatham
Extension, Inc (The)	Cobb
Faith Community Development Services, Inc.	Spalding
Faith Community Outreach Center, Inc.	Dougherty

FY 2006 Grantees

<u>Organization</u>	<u>County</u>
Families First, Inc.	Fulton
Family Crisis Center of Walker, Dade, Catoosa & Chattooga Counties, Inc.	Walker
Food Bank of Northeast Georgia, Inc.	Clarke
Fulfilling God's Assignments, Inc. (d/b/a The Light Homeless Shelter)	Barrow
Fulton County Board of Commissioners	Fulton
Furniture Bank of Metro Atlanta, Inc.	Fulton
Gateway Community Service Board	McIntosh
Gateway House, Inc.	Hall
Genesis Shelter, Inc.	Fulton
Georgia Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc.	Cobb
Georgia Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, Inc.	Fulton
Georgia Legal Services Program, Inc. (Augusta)	Richmond
Georgia Mountains Community Service Board	Hall
Georgia Pines Community MHMRSA Services	Thomas
Georgia Rehabilitation Outreach, Inc.	Fulton
Gift Transitional Home, Inc.	Fulton
Glynn Community Crisis Center	Glynn
Golden Harvest Food Bank, Inc.	Richmond
Golden Rule, Inc.	Taylor
Greenbriar Children's Center, Inc.	Chatham
GRN Community Service Board	Gwinnett
Gwinnett Housing Resource Partnership, Inc. (d/b/a IMPACT Group)	Gwinnett
H.O.P.E. Through Divine Intervention	Fulton
Habersham Homeless Ministries Inc., (f/k/a Refuge Ministries)	Habersham
Halcyon Home For Battered Women, Inc.	Thomas
Healing Place of Athens, Inc., (The)	Clarke
Heritage Foundation	Thomas
HH & A's LLC	Dougherty
Highland Rivers Community Service Board	Floyd
Hinesville, City of	Liberty
HODAC, Inc.	Bartow

FY 2006 Grantees

<u>Organization</u>	<u>County</u>
Homeless Resource Network, Inc.	Muscogee
Homeless Shelter Action Committee, Inc.	Bartow
Hope House, Inc.	Richmond
Hope House of Savannah, Inc.	Chatham
Hope Shelter, Inc., (The)	Fulton
Hospitality House for Women, Inc.	Floyd
House of Grace Inc.	Cook
House of T.I.M.E., Inc.	Muscogee
Housing Initiative of North Fulton, Inc.	Fulton
Inner City Night Shelter, Inc.	Chatham
Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens, Inc.	Clarke
Interfaith Hospitality Network of Coastal Georgia	Chatham
Interfaith Outreach Home, Inc.	DeKalb
Jerusalem House, Inc.	Fulton
Jewish Family & Career Services, Inc.	Fulton
Jones, Charles	Bibb
Liberty House of Albany, Inc.	Dougherty
Loaves and Fishes Ministry of Macon, Inc.	Bibb
Lowndes Associated Ministries to People (LAMP), Inc.	Lowndes
Lowndes County Board of Health (a/k/a South Health District 8-1)	Lowndes
Macon Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.	Bibb
Maranatha Outreach, Inc.	Baldwin
McIntosh Trail Community Service Board	Spalding
Metro Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless, Inc.	Fulton
Middle Flint Behavioral Health Care	Sumter
Midtown Assistance Center, Inc.	Fulton
Ministries United for Service and Training, Inc.	Cobb
Mother and Child Ministries, Inc.	Bibb
Mulberry Street United Methodist Church	Bibb
N.O.A.'s Ark, Inc.	Lumpkin
New Horizons Community Service Board	Muscogee

FY 2006 Grantees

<u>Organization</u>	<u>County</u>
New Life Church of Vidalia, Inc.	Toombs
Nicholas House, Inc.	Fulton
North Georgia Mountain Crisis Network, Inc.	Fannin
Northeast Georgia Council on Domestic Violence, Inc.	Hart
Northwest Georgia Family Crisis Center, Inc.	Whitfield
Oakhurst Recovery Program, Inc.	DeKalb
Oconee Community Service Board	Baldwin
Open Door Community House, Inc.	Muscogee
Our House, Inc.	DeKalb
Park Place Outreach, Inc. (f/k/a Marshlands Foundation)	Chatham
Partnership Against Domestic Violence, Inc.	Fulton
Pathways Community Network, Inc.	Fulton
Peace Place, Inc.	Barrow
Pineland Area Community Service Board	Bulloch
Pines Family Campus, Inc.	Lowndes
Progressive Hope House, Inc.	Fulton
Progressive Redevelopment, Inc.	Fulton
Project Community Connections, Inc.	Fulton
Project Interconnections, Inc.	Fulton
Quest 35, Inc.	Fulton
Rainbow Village, Inc.	Gwinnett
River Edge Community Service Board	Bibb
Rockdale County Emergency Relief Fund, Inc.	Rockdale
S.H.A.R.E. House, Inc.	Douglas
Safe Haven Transitional, Inc.	DeKalb
Safe Homes of Augusta, Inc.	Richmond
Saint Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Inc.	Fulton
Salvation Army, A Georgia Corporation (Augusta)	Richmond
Salvation Army, A Georgia Corporation (Columbus)	Muscogee
Salvation Army, A Georgia Corporation (Savannah)	Chatham
Salvation Army, A Georgia Corporation (Thomasville)	Thomas

FY 2006 Grantees

<u><i>Organization</i></u>	<u><i>County</i></u>
Salvation Army, A Georgia Corporation (Warner Robins)	Houston
Salvation Army, (Atlanta), d/b/a Metro Atlanta Family Emergency Services	Fulton
Salvation Army (Atlanta), d/b/a Metro Atlanta Red Shield Services	Fulton
Samaritan House of Atlanta, Inc.	Fulton
Satilla Community Service Board	Ware
Savannah Area Family Emergency Shelter, Inc.	Chatham
Second Chance Outreach Center, Inc.	Coffee
Serenity Rose Recovery Center for Women, Inc.	Lowndes
Shepherd's Rest Ministries, Inc.	Paulding
Social Apostolate of Savannah	Chatham
South Georgia Coalition to End Homelessness	Lowndes
South Georgia Community Service Board	Lowndes
Southside Medical Center	Fulton
Southwest Georgia RDC	Mitchell
St. Jude's Recovery Center, Inc.	Fulton
St. Vincent de Paul Society, Inc.	Fulton
Stand, Inc.	DeKalb
Strong Day Recovery Residence	Clarke
Sullivan Center, Inc., (The)	Fulton
Transition House, Inc.	Fulton
Travelers Aid of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc.	Fulton
Tri-County Protective Agency, Inc.	Liberty
Trinity Community Ministries	Fulton
Union Mission, Inc. (Savannah)	Chatham
United Ministries of Savannah, Inc.	Chatham
United Way of Metro Atlanta	Fulton
Urban Residential Development Corporation, Inc.	Fulton
Women of Excellence, Inc.	Henry
Washington, Courtney and Vernell	Fulton
Wesley Community Centers of Savannah	Chatham

FY 2006 Grantees

<u>Organization</u>	<u>County</u>
Women In Need of God's Shelter, Inc.	Laurens
Young Adult Guidance Center, Inc.	Fulton
Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta, Inc.	Fulton
Young Women's Christian Association of Northwest Georgia, Inc.	Cobb
Zion Keepers, Inc.	Fulton

Audit Report



For a copy of the Audit Report, please contact the Georgia Department of Community Affairs,
State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless at 404.679.4940.



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