Metro Atlanta’s Battle with Homelessness

Tuesday, March 6, 2018  9:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
St. Luke’s Episcopal Church
435 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA
Today's Agenda

WELCOME
Bill Bolling, Moderator
Food Well Alliance

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

PRESENTERS
(See Bios on Back)

Jack Hardin
Regional Commission on Homelessness

Cathryn Marchman
Partners for HOME

Matt Hurd
Open Doors

PANEL PRESENTATION

Carol Collard
Caring Works

Jimiyu Evans
Project Community Connections, Inc.

Darlene Schultz
3Keys, Inc.

Audience Q&A

ADJOURN

@HousingForum  www.AtlantaRegionalHousing.org
Fifteen years after Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin asked United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta to convene what would become the Regional Commission on Homelessness - which subsequently crafted and implemented the Blueprint to End Homelessness, the City had its watershed moment last year.

Under the leadership of Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, the City accepted a challenge from United Way’s Regional Commission on Homelessness by agreeing to match private funding up to $25 million creating a $50 million fund to be invested in alignment with the community’s Clear Path Strategic Plan to make homelessness in Atlanta rare, brief and non-recurring.

Success to date has been made possible by steadfast support of the foundation community, the private sector and the collaboration of regional governments and especially the work of housing and service providers.

The new investment will: create 500 new units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals; secure housing for 300 homeless families who will be rapidly rehoused in permanent units; prevent 100 families from entering homelessness; create 264 new emergency shelter beds; and create 254 new housing interventions for homeless youth.

How do we leverage this success to address the growing need in the region? Documented increases in suburban poverty, fewer safety net programs and the nation’s third highest eviction rate is a recipe for increased homelessness. The regional answer may be found in further deployment of the Continuum of Care model.

In 1994, HUD began to require each community to submit a single, comprehensive “Continuum of Care (CoC)” application - rather than allowing applications from individual providers. Fast forward to today, metro Atlanta is served by five CoCs - a regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals.

Join us for the March 6 Atlanta Regional Housing Forum as we learn about the state of homelessness in our region, the challenges faced by CoCs and their myriad of providers, how essential elements of the ‘housing first’ strategy and rapid rehousing are being met - and what more is needed to claim victory over homelessness. You’ll also hear about a few Atlanta real estate developers who saw a need and created the Atlanta Real Estate Collaborative to help leverage available assets and are now, with the pro bono assistance of RentPath, have created smart technology to match needs with available units.
Common Acronyms in Homeless Housing

AHA - Atlanta Housing Authority

AHAR - Annual Homeless Assessment Report - is a HUD report to the U.S. Congress that provides nationwide estimates of homelessness, including information about the demographic characteristics of homeless persons, service use patterns, and the capacity to house homeless persons. The report is based primarily on Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data about persons who experience homelessness during a 12-month period.

BoS - Balance of State - Referring to the counties that share a Continuum of Care (CoC).

CDBG – Community Development Block Grant program administered by HUD. Major funding source. Under HUD guidelines, funds are allocated by localities and states for housing, services, public infrastructure and other community needs.

CDC – Community Development Corporation; community-based organization dedicated to development of economic opportunities and/or housing in the community.

CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, responsible for tracking, addressing communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS.

CHDO – Community Housing Development Organization; local housing development organization. Must serve defined neighborhood and have a board representing low-income persons.

CHIP – Children’s Health Insurance Program; a $24 billion program of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to pay for health insurance for children of families who make too much money to qualify for Medicaid and too little to pay for health insurance in private market. Administered by states under DHHS guidelines. For example, in Arkansas the program is called ARKids.

Chronic homelessness—an individual who has a disabling condition AND has been homeless for the last 12 months or had 4 episodes in last 3 years = 12 month

CMHS – Center for Mental Health Services; a division of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

CoC – Regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Continuum of Care; operates on two levels, i.e., a broad-based, highly inclusive and collaborative local approach to planning required by HUD as a condition for securing HUD funds for programs to assist homeless people; and the Continuum of Care delivery system of services and housing options for homeless people. Primary components of the CoC system are outreach, assessment, and intake; emergency shelter; transitional housing, and permanent housing (with or without support services).

CPD – HUD’s Office of Community Planning and Development; major funding source, administers McKinney Act programs Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care, Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy (SRO), and Emergency Shelter Grant programs specifically for homeless people, along with Community Development Block Grants, HOME and HOPWA programs, Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities, Youthbuild, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program.
Coordinated entry—A process through which people experiencing or at risk of homelessness access resources in the homeless assistance system. It includes access points for all types of assistance, a standardized assessment process, and referrals to appropriate housing and community services. Coordinated entry is required by HUD of every CoC.

CSAT – Center for Substance Abuse Treatment; a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. DCHV – Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans; funding source, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

DBHDD: Department of Behaviorl Health and Developmental Disabilities.

Deeply affordable housing—Rental housing that is subsidized to be affordable to households earning 30 percent or less of the area median income.

DHHS – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; major funding source for health care, mental health, treatment for substance abuse, welfare.

DMHMR – Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; all states have MHMR departments (and funds) for treatment and services for persons with mental illnesses or mental retardation.

DOL – U.S. Department of Labor; major funding source for job training activities.

DOJ – Department of Justice; in addition to administering wellknown criminal justice activities, is source of funding for shelters/services for victims of domestic violence.

DSM IV – Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Edition 4; the book used by mental health professionals in diagnosing mental illnesses and mental disorders.

EC – Enterprise Community; designated areas selected through HUD’s competitive process to receive additional Federal funds (but not as much as EZ’s) for improving economic conditions in distressed, disadvantaged communities.

ES - Emergency Shelter -short term bridge housing to other assistance; for all

ESG – Emergency Solutions Grant program; funding source administered by HUD, allocated locally.

EZ – Empowerment Zone; designated areas selected through HUD’s competitive process to receive additional Federal funds for improving economic conditions in distressed, disadvantaged communities.

FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Administration; funding source, administers $100 million annually to assist homeless and at-risk individuals and families. Funds allocated by local FEMA Boards.

FHA – Federal Housing Administration; HUD’s largest program, provides mortgage insurance, widely used to underwrite single and multifamily mortgages.

FHEO – Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity; HUD office charged with educational and enforcement of nation’s fair housing laws and civil rights laws as they impact housing discrimination.

FHLB – Federal Home Loan Bank; provides flexible, permanent financing, grants through Affordable Housing Program.

FMR – Fair Market Rent; maximum amount of rent HUD will pay or subsidize.

HCHV – Health Care for Homeless Veterans; funding source, administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
HMIS - Homeless Management Information Systems

HOME – HOME Investment Partnership; HUD program, major funding source, funds are allocated locally, sole purpose is to support affordable housing.

HOPE VI – HUD program; funds are used to replace deteriorated public housing with new, mixed-income communities.

HOPWA – Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS; HUD program funding housing and services for persons with AIDS.

Housing first—evidence based practice and philosophical approach to housing individuals experiencing homelessness without preconditions and barriers to entry such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements

HVRP – Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program; funding source, administered by the Department of Labor (DOL).

JTPA – Job Training Partnership Act; the primary job training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, replaced by the Workforce Investment Act.

LIHTC – Low Income Housing Tax Credits; funding source in housing development administered through states.

NIMBY – Not in My Back Yard; complaint often voiced by area/neighborhood residents opposing development of supportive housing for people with disabilities.

NIMH – National Institute of Mental Health; a research institute of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

NOFA – Notice of Funding Availability; describes funds available, who is eligible to apply, eligible activities, and how and when to apply.

PATH – Projects to Assist in Transition to Housing; homelessness assistance program administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

PHA – Public Housing Authority

PIC – Private Industry Council; local councils funded by Department of Labor to provide job training.

PSH - Permanent Supportive Housing - evidence based housing intervention that combines non-time-limited housing assistance with intensive wrap around supportive services. Ideal for chronically homeless

PTSD – Post Traumatic Stress Disorder; mental health problem marked by flashbacks of traumatic event, extreme anxiety. Many homeless veterans suffer from PTSD.

RFP – Request for Proposals

RRH - Rapid rehousing - Time-limited rental assistance and case management to help people experiencing homelessness find private-market housing & quickly re-house and stabilize individuals and families

SAMHSA – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Section 8 – Rental assistance program funded by HUD; administered on the local level by Public Housing Authorities.

Section 202 – HUD program providing funds for development/operation of permanent supportive housing for elderly people.
Section 811 – HUD program; funds development and operation of supportive housing programs for persons with disabilities. Persons to be housed do not have to be homeless, but homeless persons are eligible for the housing.

S+C – Shelter Plus Care; HUD’s rental assistance program for homeless people with disabilities. Applicants/grantees must match dollar for dollar with services. Can access only through Continuum of Care competition.

SHP – Supportive Housing Program; funding source, administered by HUD, can access only through Continuum of Care competition.

SNAPS – HUD’s Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs in Washington, D.C. where the Department’s $1.2 billion in McKinney Act funds to assist homeless people is administered.

SRO – Single Room Occupancy (efficiency apartment/room)

SRO Mod Rehab – HUD’s Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy program; provides funding for permanent housing for homeless people with disabilities. Can be accessed only through HUD’s Continuum of Care competitive process.

SSI – Supplemental Security Income; primary source of income for indigent persons with mental illness and other disabilities expected to last longer than a year or result in death.

SSVF - Supportive Services for Veteran Families

SuperNOFA – HUD’s combination of the Department’s numerous Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) into one “super” document with standardized criteria for rating applications for funding.

TANF – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; replaced Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Administered by States under Federal guidelines. For instance, in Tennessee the program is called ‘Families First.’

TH - Transitional housing -long term temporary housing (6-24 months) with intensive services. Ideally suited for domestic violence, youth, and substance abuse

VA – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

WIC – Nutrition program (free food, formula, etc.) for women (pregnant), infants and children, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service.

USICH - United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Source: Adapted from a list developed by Cathryn Marchman of Partners for HOME, Atlanta, GA and Pat Morgan of Partners for the Homeless, Memphis, TN.
BILL BOLLING is the founder and moderator of the Atlanta Regional Housing Forum. Bill served as executive director of the Atlanta Community Food Bank since founding the organization in 1979 until June 2015. Over the span of 36 years, he led the Food Bank’s distribution of more than half a billion pounds of food and grocery products through a network of more than 600 local and regional partner nonprofit organizations that feed the hungry across 29 Georgia counties. As a charter member of Feeding America, the national network of food banks, Bill was instrumental in the start-up of food banks across the country. He is a frequent speaker on topics related to hunger, poverty, regionalism, affordable housing and public policy reform.

CAROL COLLARD is the co-founder and President of CaringWorks, Inc. With a background in marketing and residential real estate, Carol Collard became a passionate participant in the fight to reduce homelessness while working for Progressive Redevelopment, Inc. In 1998, Carol returned to school to study social work and ultimately earned a PhD in the field. Dr. Collard has worked for more than 20 years in supportive housing and in grappling with the complex issues that can result in homelessness. Her combined expertise has given her the ability to operate a nonprofit agency with a caring heart and a mind for business. She oversees a 40-member staff which operates nine supportive housing programs in Georgia.

JIMIYU EVANS started at Project Community Connections in 2008, as Co-CEO he directs PCCI’s programs, evaluate program performance and provide support with board development, business management and strategy, fundraising, and community relations. Previously he worked as a Social Services Supervisor at Douglas County and then Carroll County Departments of Family and Children Services. In those roles, he partnered with community agencies to develop and implement best case practices in homeless service delivery. He started his career working with juvenile delinquents as a therapeutic assistant.

JACK HARDIN is a founding partner of Rogers and Hardin law firm. His practice concentrates on transactions and corporate governance. Mr. Hardin has received multiple professional and community service recognitions. He is Co-Chair of the Regional Commission on Homelessness, President of the Georgia Legal Services Foundation, Chairman of Gateway, LLC, a homeless services center, a member of the Board of Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation, Vice Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Health, Vice Chairman of the Board of Georgia Works!, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a former Chair of the Board of Directors of the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta.

MATT HURD is the Director of Open Doors, a program sponsored by the Atlanta Real Estate Collaborative and Enterprise Community Partners. Open Doors recruits companies with professionally managed properties, supportive to rent to veterans, families, and individuals exiting homelessness and in need of affordable housing. Matt is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has worked in the fields of behavioral health and supportive housing for the past 15 years, predominantly in the Georgia Community Service Board system. He has served as the planning committee chair and board member for the DeKalb County Continuum of Care, and a board member of the Georgia Supportive Housing Association.

CATHRYN MARCHMAN has is the Executive Director of Partners for H.O.M.E.. Cathryn has dedicated her career to working with individuals experiencing homelessness and marginalized communities for over 20 years as a licensed clinical social worker. Previously Cathryn served as the Legal, Policy and Compliance Officer for Saint Joseph’s Health System in Atlanta. Concurrent to this role, she was the Behavioral Health Coordinator for Mercy Care, Inc., and prior to these roles, served as the Program Director for City of Refuge.

DARLENE SCHULTZ serves as the President and CEO of 3Keys, Inc. She joined the organization in 2009 as Director of Development and was named President and CEO in 2012. Darlene has overseen the development of 3Keys’s affordable housing management component, the growth of the organization from 241 units of permanent supportive housing to 477 units, which includes five single site facilities and two scattered site facilities, as well as multiple preservation projects at 3Keys properties. In 2010, Darlene was awarded the Dancing Elephant Award by the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association for her outstanding service and commitment to the field of mental health administration. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Georgia Works!.