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Housing as a Platform for Health and Wellness in Georgia

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HOUSING AS A PLATFORM FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN GEORGIA:

THE RIPPLE EFFECTS OF THE HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA)

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

The Health Impact Project, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Pew Charitable Trusts, funds an HIA to inform how health can be incorporated into Georgia's Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) for LIHTC.

Multisector stakeholders from local, state, and federal perspectives convened for HIA advisory committee.

12 mentions of *health* in the QAP Many QAP HIA recommendations are adopted into annual

update.

As a result, there is a threefold increase in affordable housing developments sited near high-performing schools.

mentions of health

in the QAP

GHPC conducts a follow-up HIA with the Department of Public Health (funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) to assess impact of policy changes.

GHPC begins working directly with developers.

Additional HIA recommendations adopted.

27
mentions of health
in the QAP

80 mentions of health in the QAP

DCA sets "Health Outcomes for Residents" as a state priority for LIHTC allocation.

Healthy Housing Initiatives (HHI) section created in QAP.

GA Homes for Healthy Futures project begins.

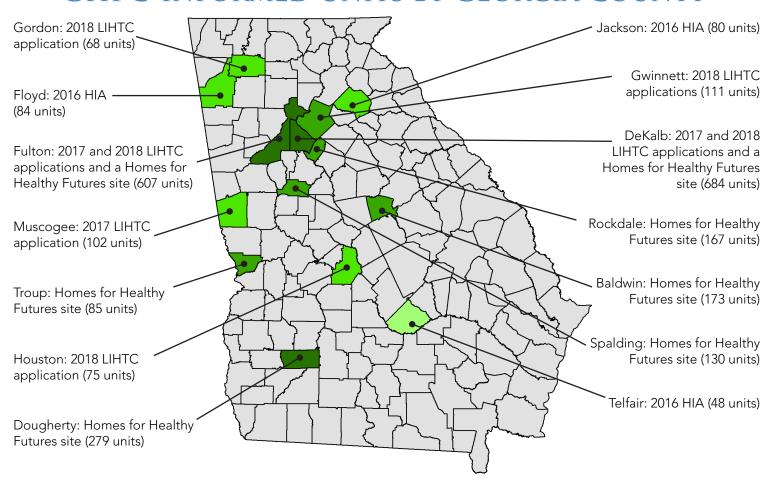
GHPC partners with SK Collaborative to assist developers' applications mentions of health in the QAP

GHPC informs 13% of annual LIHTC applications.

GHPC designated as an Enterprise Green Communities technical assistance provider.

DCA engages GHPC to inform long-term evaluation of HHI at

GHPC-Informed Units by Georgia County



PROMOTING HEALTH THROUGH ALL POLICIES: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

"Strategically approaching affordable housing as a platform for health and wellness has become one of our top priorities."

—Director, Housing Finance and Development, Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Affordable housing stakeholders in Georgia have made significant advances toward aligning health and housing perspectives over the last five years, starting with the annual allocation of \$22 million in low-income housing tax credits (LIHTCs).

1 ST

The Georgia Health Policy Center (GHPC), in partnerships with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), conducted the nation's first health impact assessment (HIA) to inform LIHTC policy, demonstrating how public health perspectives could be more strongly incorporated.

30+

GHPC has worked directly with over 30 housing developers, local housing authorities, and other stakeholders across the country to implement recommendations from the initial HIA, to identify new opportunities for partnership, and to more fully integrate health into the mindset of affordable housing decision-makers.

10,000

Adoption of health-related criteria into the allocation of LIHTC in Georgia has indirectly influenced the wellbeing of residents in over 10,000 units of affordable housing across the state. GHPC has had direct influence on over 1,100 of these units through ongoing partnerships with housing developers in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

Building on this collaborative success, DCA, the Kresge Foundation, Southface Energy Institute, and GHPC are partnering on the Georgia Homes for Healthy Futures project to improve public housing authorities' ability to address resident health through better quality environments, programs, and services.

