

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DCA to host three CHIP “listening sessions”

Sessions seek input from local leaders on HUD home repair program

Atlanta, GA (June 23, 2017) – The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is hosting three listening sessions around the state to get input on how the CHIP program is working in local communities. This will also be an opportunity for communities to ask questions about the Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) program.

Georgia’s CHIP program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), which provides formula grants to states and localities that communities use – often in partnership with local nonprofit groups – to fund a wide range of activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership or providing direct rental assistance to low-income people. HOME is the largest Federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households.

Each year, DCA awards between \$4-6 million in CHIP grants to local governments, nonprofits, and public housing authorities across the state to build new single family homes and help homeowners rehabilitate their homes. Grant amounts range from \$306,000 to \$612,000. These funds may be used to repair the homes of eligible, low- and moderate-income homeowners and to build new, single-family homes for resale to low- and moderate-income homebuyers. The goal of the program is to expand the supply of, and access to, safe and affordable housing in Georgia communities.

CHIP Listening Sessions

Northwest Georgia

Tuesday, July 11

2:00-4:00pm

Georgia Department of

Community Affairs

60 Executive Park South, NE

Board Room 302

Atlanta, GA 30329

Middle/Southwest Georgia

Wednesday, July 12

2:00-4:00pm

Cordele Courtroom

501 Seventh Street North

Cordele, GA 31015

Eastern Georgia

Thursday, July 13

10:00am-12:00pm

Council/Commission Room

Thomson-McDuffie Government

Center Administrative Building

210 Railroad Street

Thomson, GA 30824

Who should attend? These sessions are open to the public. Local government officials, public housing authorities, nonprofit housing organizations, and citizens interested in housing policy should attend.

NOTE: Cost is free. Seating is limited to the room capacity.

ACCESSIBILITY, FAIR HOUSING, AND LANGUAGE ACCESS POLICY: It is the policy of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to comply fully with all federal, state, and local accessibility and nondiscrimination laws and to operate in accordance with the rules and regulations governing Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity in housing and employment. Specifically, DCA shall not on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, family status, disability or age deny any family or individual the opportunity to apply for or receive assistance under HUD's Program. In accordance with Federal Executive Order 13166 and the DCA Language Access Plan, an in-person language interpreter will be provided upon request. Please contact Samanta Carvalho at Samanta.Carvalho@dca.ga.gov with any specific language or accessibility needs by **Friday, June 29**.

INELIGIBILITY: Cities and counties that receive HUD HOME funds are not eligible for CHIP. These include Albany, Athens-Clarke County, Atlanta, Augusta-Richmond, Clayton County, Cobb County, Columbus-Muscogee County, DeKalb County, Fulton County, Gwinnett County, Macon, and Savannah.

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About the Georgia Department of Community Affairs:

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) partners with communities to create a climate of success for Georgia's families and businesses through community and economic development, local government assistance, and safe and affordable housing. Using state and federal resources, DCA helps communities spur private job creation, implement planning, develop downtowns, generate affordable housing solutions, and promote volunteerism. DCA also helps qualified low- and moderate-income Georgians buy homes, rent housing, and prevent foreclosure and homelessness. For more information, visit www.dca.ga.gov.