

State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless Commission

THE MISSION OF THE STATE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR THE HOMELESS (HTF) IS TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES STRIVING TO END THEIR STATE OF HOMELESSNESS.





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2016 ANNUAL REPORT

2016 Commission Members State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless

Eve Byrd

Executive Director, Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression, Emory Brain Health Center
Atlanta

John Ellis

Deputy Commissioner, Finance & Administration
Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Randy Glass

Chief Development Officer North American Mission Board
Alpharetta

Douglas Hanson

Board Member, Good News Clinic
Gainesville

William C. McGahan

Board Chairman, Georgia Works!
Atlanta

Mara Register

Leadership Development Program Manager, Carl Vinson Institute of Government
Athens

Barry Maurice Slay

President, Terco Inc.
Atlanta

Joyce C. Stevens

Partner, The Stevens Group
Board Member, Georgia Department of Community Affairs
Good Hope

Chris Vaughn

Fostering Bulloch
Statesboro

The resources and activities of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless Commission are administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Housing Finance Authority.

Camila Knowles

Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs
Executive Director, Georgia Housing Finance Authority

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Mission Statement

The mission of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless (HTF) 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 organizations that promote self-sufficiency; and
- Forming partnerships with organizations that embrace the goal of ending homelessness in Georgia.

Annual Report

Homelessness Prevention

The Commission supports programs that provide assistance to individuals and families who are facing imminent homelessness. Providing this support on the front end works to stop the movement towards a loss of housing. Homelessness prevention may include financial assistance, utility assistance, moving costs, and case management to ensure ongoing housing stability.

In State Fiscal Year 2016, 1,351 individuals in 795 households were provided homelessness prevention assistance. Sixty-two (62%) percent of clients served in this program exited to a permanent housing destination, meaning that this housing intervention prevented most clients from entering homelessness.

Rapid Re-Housing

Due to the high success rates and cost effectiveness, Rapid Re-Housing has quickly become a core program in Georgia's work to address homelessness. These programs work to quickly move individuals and families from homelessness into permanent housing, as opposed to having them spend extended periods of time in the homeless system. Rapid Re-Housing assistance may include funding for rental assistance, moving costs, utility assistance, and case management to ensure ongoing housing stability.

1,924 individuals, from 896 households, received assistance from HTF-funded Rapid Re-Housing programs during State Fiscal Year 2016. Almost 90% of clients served in this program achieved stability and exited to a permanent housing destination.

“If it were not for the program and the stepping stones it provided, I would not have been able to make it.”

Recipient of Rapid Re-Housing from an HTF-funded program

Street Outreach

Street outreach programs are designed to identify unsheltered individuals and families and meet them where they are, both geographically and emotionally, as these people are often the most reluctant to enter programs or accept assistance. Providing funding for street outreach enables programs with specially trained staff to work to build relationships and trust with those living on the streets. As with all of our homeless interventions, the ultimate goal is to move homeless individuals and families towards stable permanent housing situations.

571 individuals, from 417 households, received assistance from street outreach programs in State Fiscal Year 2016. Of those, 43% subsequently entered into some type of homeless assistance program or exited the program to a permanent housing destination, becoming one step closer to ending their homelessness.

Supportive Services

Supportive services available through Housing Trust Fund funded provider programs included employment assistance, transportation, aftercare case management, childcare, and SSI/SSDI Outreach and Recovery (SOAR) benefits services. Supportive services programs must be directly connected to programs moving clients into permanent housing.

1,860 individuals, from over 1,686 households, received assistance from HTF funded supportive services programs.

Transitional Housing

Transitional Housing offers housing and supportive services for up to 24 months. These programs provide intensive services and are typically appropriate for special needs subsets of the homeless population. Eligible costs include maintenance, operations, insurance, utilities, furnishings, and essential client services.

420 people, including 26 veterans, in 379 households were housed in HTF-funded transitional housing programs, in State Fiscal Year 2016. Of this number, 50% left the programs and moved into permanent housing.

Emergency Shelter

Emergency shelter offers immediate accommodations for individuals and families who are homeless and provides a short-term program that works to connect people with more permanent housing and services.

Over 9,531 people -- 6,216 households with over 370 veterans -- stayed in emergency shelters funded by the Housing Trust Fund. Of those, 34% left the shelter and moved into permanent housing.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing combines federal and state HTF financial resources to finance development of affordable rental housing that will have supportive services for eligible tenants with a disability.

“My journey began very, very hard but with support and always encouragement from the Shelter staff and being able to find resources that met vital needs in my life, I was allowed the freedom to begin a new life free from domestic violence and also gained a belief in myself which will enable me to provide for myself and my children, rely on my instincts when entering another relationship and always be thankful that the people who were there for me will always be just a phone call away. My sons and I are so grateful that we are in America and that my children and I have the opportunity to live a life free from the destruction of domestic violence.”

Survivor of domestic violence, resident of HTF-funded emergency shelter

“You see, there is one thing about being homeless...most of us that are have had a home and all sorts of goods. But, at some time or another, (we fell short) along the way -- whether it was (because of) mental health or other medical conditions, loss of job or just a bad run of luck. Shelter Plus care offered me an opportunity to love my surroundings again.”

Client in HTF-Funded Shelter Plus Care Program

Shelter Plus Care

Connecting supportive services with housing is a best practice in achieving stable housing for those traditionally hardest-to-serve persons living on the streets or in a shelter. The Shelter Plus Care (S+C) Program provides over 1,800 units of permanent supportive housing across Georgia to persons living with a disability while homeless.

In State Fiscal Year 2016, 3307 people, in over 2700 households, were housed in HTF-supported S+C programs.

Project Homeless Connect

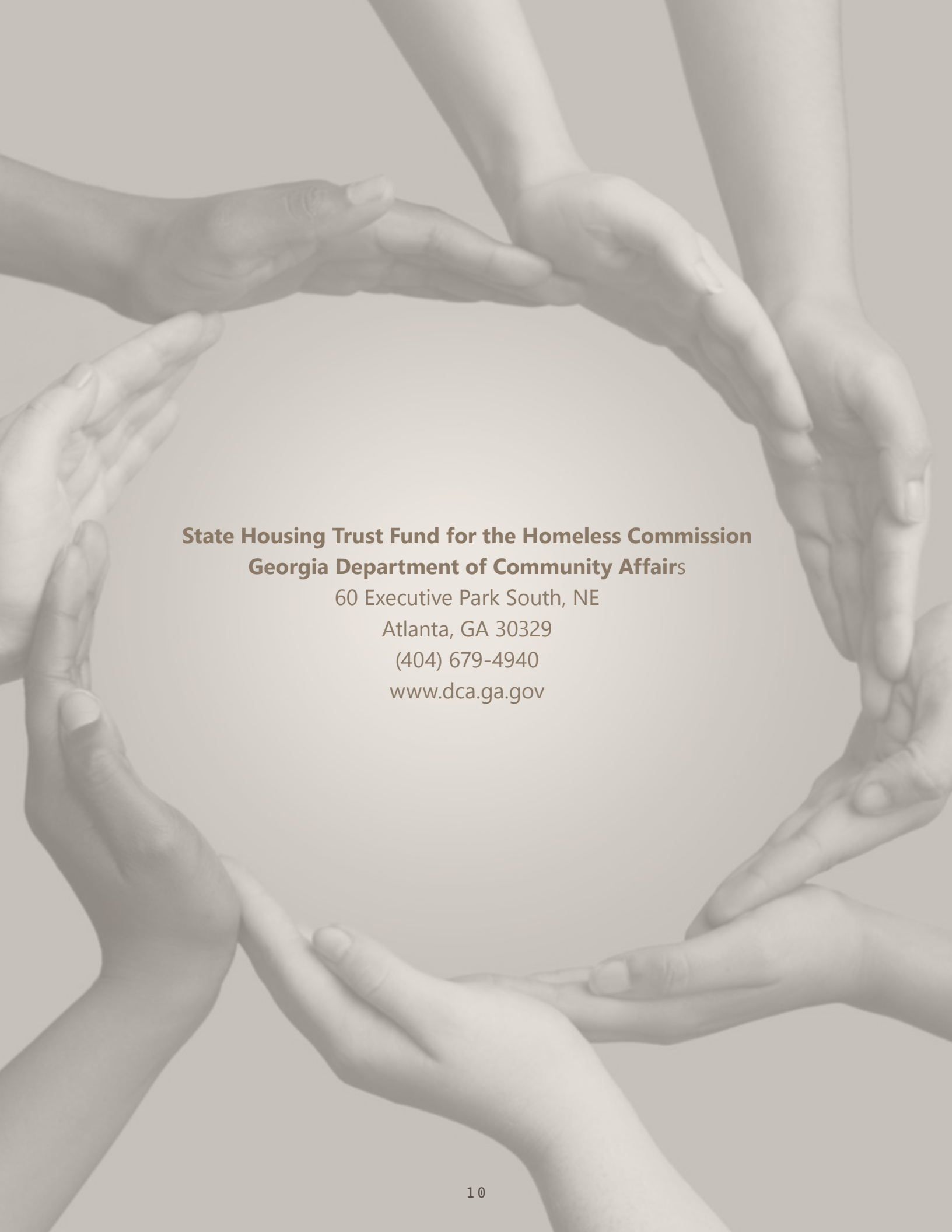
Project Homeless Connect is a one-day, one-stop event designed to connect people who are homeless with services in their areas. Services include hot meals, personal hygiene, transportation, healthcare, HIV/AIDS testing, and some permanent housing.

In State Fiscal Year 2016, approximately 4,810 homeless individuals participated in fourteen different Project Homeless connect events held throughout Georgia.

State Housing Trust Fund Finances



State Fiscal Year 2016	State HTF and RPH	Federal \$ Amount (if applicable)
Expenditures		
Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) (which include emergency shelter, transitional housing, homeless prevention, supportive services, and Project Homeless Connect)	\$1,421,790	\$4,047,269
Housing Opportunities with Persons with AIDS		\$2,355,297
Shelter Plus Care (S+C)	\$1,555,729	\$14,362,450
Re-Entry Partnership Housing (RPH)	\$654,150	0
Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)	\$136,000	\$1,193,497
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	\$90,000	0
Balance of State Continuum of Care Planning	\$10,000	\$128,693
Administration	\$282,998	\$340,799
Totals:	\$4,150,667	\$22,428,005



State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless Commission
Georgia Department of Community Affairs

60 Executive Park South, NE

Atlanta, GA 30329

(404) 679-4940

www.dca.ga.gov