Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH)

GICH is a three-year program that offers communities collaboration and technical assistance with the goal of helping them create and implement locally based plans to meet their affordable housing needs. The program is a partnership between the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), University of Georgia, Georgia Municipal Authority and Georgia Power.

How the Program Works

Communities apply for participation in the program through a competitive process and once selected, participate in:

» Facilitated Retreats
» Training
» Technical Assistance
» Consensus Building
» Networking
» Monitoring
» Collaboration

Selected communities comprised of specialized housing teams work for three years to create and implement a housing plan that addresses local housing needs. During the span of the program, communities learn about different approaches to meeting housing needs and the resources available to do so, develop new ideas about meeting local housing needs, produce a community housing plan, and begin implementation of said plan. Past communities have targeted distressed neighborhoods for revitalization, redeveloped a failed subdivision, developed tax credit multi-family housing, written and adopted an urban redevelopment plan, and completed sewer/water infrastructure improvements.

Who Qualifies

All municipalities are encouraged to apply.