What is GICH?

- GICH is a planning program that requires a 3-year commitment and ongoing community involvement.
- Communities – 5 per year, 15 at a time – are selected through a competitive process.
- Communities work with partners and each other to identify and prioritize local needs, learn about available resources, and develop plans unique to their community.
GICH is not a funding program, but …

- Participants learn how to leverage housing resources from DCA and USDA to address local needs.

- Participants may designate one priority project for special consideration in DCA housing programs:
  - Housing tax credits
  - CHIP (HOME)
  - CDBG

- Active participants are also eligible for annual CDBG funding.
DCA Housing Programs

$37,250,000 Invested in 2018

- **LIHTC**: $14,430,000 developments in 17 GIChs
- **GA Dream**: $8,860,000 to homeowners in 36 GIChs
- **CHIP**: $5,510,000 awards to 9 GIChs
- **CDBG**: $8,450,000 awards to 12 GIChs
Annual Retreat Topics

- Overview of DCA Housing resources
- Heirs property and how it affects housing and blight
- Strategies for blight reduction
- Neighborhood revitalization
- Snapshots of community success stories
- Community vision: a placemaking collaborative
Participating Communities

Current GICH Communities (16)

**FRESHMEN**
- Arlington
- Centerville
- Conyers
- Smyrna
- Social Circle

**SOPHOMORES**
- Byron
- Cochran
- McRae-Helena
- Norcross
- Troup County / LaGrange /
  Hogansville / West Point

**JUNIORS**
- Bartow County
- Commerce
- Dublin
- Fairburn
- Union City
- Warrenton
Pembroke: Workforce Housing

Based on an assessment of housing inventory, Pembroke identified a need for workforce housing to support new industry, as well as nearby Fort Stewart.
Vienna: Neighborhood Revitalization

To address blight in its community, Vienna developed a 3-point revitalization approach:

1. Revise city code
2. Assess existing housing stock
3. Assist owners of substandard properties
Hawkinsville: Shelly Berryhill

City of Hawkinsville & Pulaski County