



Georgia<sup>®</sup> Department of



# Community Affairs



# Georgia Initiative for Community Housing



**Financial Planning, Housing  
& Consumer Economics**

*College of Family and Consumer Sciences*

*Housing and Demographics Research Center*

**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**



**Georgia  
Power**



# What is GICH?

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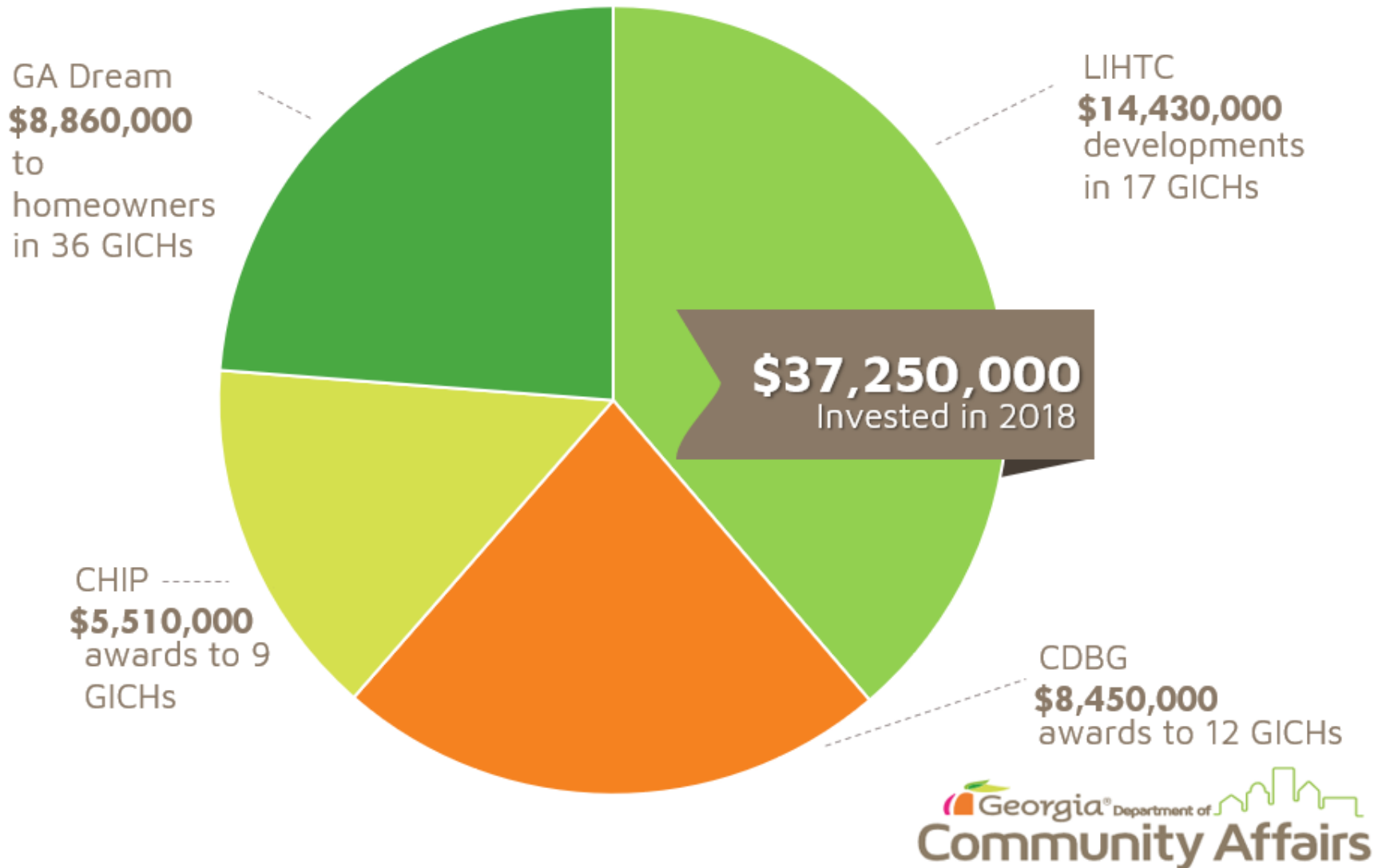
- GICH is a planning program that requires a 3-year commitment and ongoing community involvement.
- Communities – 5 per year, 15 at a time – are selected through a competitive process.
- Communities work with partners and each other to identify and prioritize local needs, learn about available resources, and develop plans unique to their community.

# GICH is not a funding program, but ...

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- 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

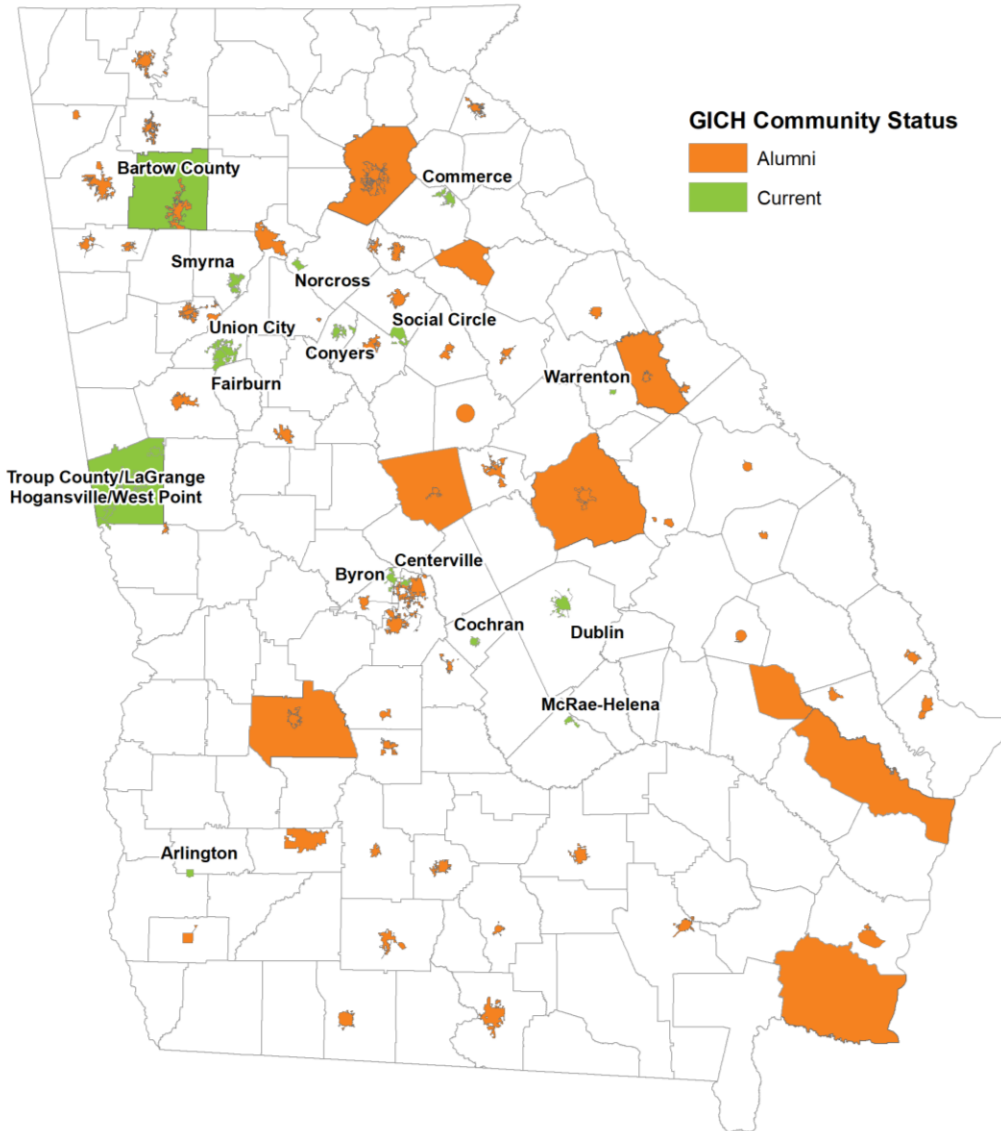


# Annual Retreat Topics

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- 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





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