

UNDERWATER ATLANTA

Addressing Our Region's Negative Equity Issue

March 17, 2015 | The Carter Center | Atlanta, Georgia



NeighborWorks America is a proud supporter of

Piece by Piece

Like you, we care passionately about protecting the long-term future of our neighborhoods and communities.

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR FY 2014 IMPACT

323,400

HOUSEHOLDS ASSISTED WITH HOUSING

RENTAL HOMES OWNED AND/OR MANAGED

118,200

NEW HOMEOWNERS

CUSTOMERS COUNSELED AND EDUCATED

.08,500

58,600

REPAIRED HOMES

CUSTOMERS COUNSELED THROUGH THE NATIONAL FORECLOSURE MITIGATION COUNSELING PROGRAM SINCE INCEPTION

For more information, please visit www.NeighborWorks.org

Working Together for Strong Communities®



Acknowledgments

Initiative Planning & Leadership



















A special "Thank You" to our Initiative Sponsors





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Initiative Partners

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Atlanta Land Trust Collaborative

Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc.

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Atlanta Urban League Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, Inc.

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Georgia Conservancy Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Georgia Bankers Association

Georgia Watch

Georgia Real Estate Fraud Prevention & Awareness Coalition Georgia STAND-UP

Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association **Gwinnett County Community Development** Habitat for Humanity International **Happy Home Communities**

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Urban Land Institute – Atlanta

Wells Fargo

West Georgia Board of REALTORS Windom Construction Company, Inc.

Workforce Resource, LLC www.KidsOfForclosure.com

Zip Code 30310 Mortgage Fraud Task Force

Your Notes:

About the Issue

The aftermath of the foreclosure crisis continues to severely impact portions of our region. Housing recovery has been wildly uneven, bypassing large portions of metro Atlanta, particularly communities south of I-20 and along the I-85 corridor. Our region has the highest rate of underwater homeowners in the country. Negative equity damages the fabric of our communities. Homeowners are stripped of wealth, homes fall into decline, property taxes drop off or remain unpaid, and blight accelerates.

Of the top 10 hardest-hit zip codes in the country for negative equity, nine are located in metro Atlanta. The hardest hit zip code in the country is in Clayton County where a staggering 76% of homeowners are underwater (Haas Institute). In this Clayton community, 89% of homeowners are



African American. The most impacted neighborhoods for negative equity in the region have a significant proportion of minority families. The impact of negative equity is even more significant given the fact that home equity accounts for 92% of personal net worth for the typical African-American household.

About the Initiative

Piece by Piece — A Regional Foreclosure Initiative is a bold, coordinated effort designed to spur strategic action from the many regional stakeholders who care passionately about protecting the long-term future of our neighborhoods and communities.

Conceived in 2010, Piece by Piece is being coordinated by a leadership team that includes Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership (ANDP), Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), Clearpoint Counseling, Enterprise Community Partners, The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association, The Home Depot Foundation, National Housing Conference and NeighborWorks America. The goal of the Initiative is to spur strategic action from a diverse spectrum of regional stakeholders to fight the foreclosure crisis and its after effects.



The Initiative has three key objectives:

(1) provide up-to-date status of metro Atlanta's foreclosure crisis and its aftermath and ways to take action to help address challenges; (2) offer opportunities for coordination and best practice sharing; and (3) encourage public commitments on goals and actions intended to address the foreclosure-related challenges.

For more information about the Piece by Piece initiative, visit us online at www.PiecebyPieceAtlanta.org. For monthly email updates about the foreclosure crisis and its aftermath, send your email address to sadams@andpi.org.

Today's Agenda

Opening Acknowledgments



Susan Adams, Piece by Piece Coordinator

Welcome Remarks



Ed Jennings, Jr. **HUD Regional Administrator, Southeast**

Be sure to pick up a copy of the Negative Equity Information & Resource Guide! Also available online at www.PiecebyPieceAtlanta.org

Negative Equity

Information & Resource Guide

UNDERWATER

Negative Equity Issue Overview & Context



Spencer M. Cowan, Vice President, Woodstock Institute

Local Elected Officials – Moderated Panel Discussion, Q&A



The Honorable John H. Eaves, Chairman **Fulton County Board of Commissioners**



The Honorable Deborah A. Jackson, Mayor City of Lithonia, Georgia



The Honorable Bucky Johnson, Mayor City of Norcross, Georgia



The Honorable Ceasar C. Mitchell, President City Council of Atlanta, Georgia



The Honorable Jeffrey E. Turner, Chairman **Clayton County Board of Commissioners**



Douglas R. Hooker **Executive Director Atlanta Regional Commission** (Panel Moderator)

Introduction of Keynote Speaker



Donald Phoenix Regional Vice President NeighborWorks America

Keynote Address, Q&A



Paul Weech President & CEO NeighborWorks America

Helping Underwater Homeowners - Moderated Panel Discussion, Q&A



Carmen Chubb **Deputy Commissioner** Georgia Department of **Community Affairs**



Mark McArdle Chief of Homeownership Preservation Office U.S. Treasury



Megan Moore Special Advisor **Federal Housing Finance Agency**



Odetta MacLeish White **Program Director Enterprise Community Partners** (Panel Moderator)

Creating Value in Underwater Neighborhoods - Moderated Panel Discussion, Q&A



Derrick Duckworth, Realtor Founder **Committed to Communities**



John O'Callaghan President & CEO Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc.



Sarah Kirsch **Executive Director** Urban Land Institute - Atlanta (Panel Moderator)

Closing Remarks