

Course Outline

(NOTE: The following course outline is based on previous offerings and is only intended to provide a general overview of the topics which are covered. The actual agenda used for the next offering of this course is subject to some variation.)

Course Title:

“Housing Solutions for Georgia Cities”

Course Length:

6 hours

Course Description:

This course will expose municipal elected officials to the resources available to assist local communities create affordable housing opportunities for all residents of their community. Particular focus will be given to housing as a key element of economic development.

Objectives:

Participants will:

- Learn about programs available to promote homeownership, create new rental housing, and increase housing opportunities for individuals who are homeless or have a disability.
- Explore how affordable housing is an important tool in promoting economic development in their community.
- Identify the different entities that can partner with the community to address its affordable housing needs.
- Build local support for affordable housing.

AGENDA / Outline:

8:30 – 9:10

Welcome and Overview

- *Review expectations.*
- *Exercise to create understanding of the “language” of affordable housing.*

9:10 – 9:25

Session 1 - Why Housing?

- *Develop an understanding of the role affordable housing plays in promoting economic development in your community.*

9:25 – 9:55

Session 2 – Georgia Dream Homeownership Program

- *Learn how the first and second mortgage programs available from DCA can create new homeowners in your*

community and the important role of your local lender to this transaction.

9:55 – 10:25

Session 3 - CDBG and CHIP

- *Learn how the Community Development Block Grant can support affordable housing development in your communities.*
- *Learn how the Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) can be utilized to rehabilitate owner-occupied housing or assist households to become homeowners.*
- *Learn from the successes of other communities to utilize this assistance.*

10:25 – 10:40

BREAK

10:40 – 11:15

Session 4 - Affordable Rental Housing

- *Gain an understanding of how quality, affordable rental housing benefits your community.*
- *Learn how the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program can create residential opportunities in your communities.*

11:15 – 11:45

Session 5 – Special Housing Initiatives

- *Hear how the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing can assist your community to develop and implement a strategic plan to address your affordable housing needs.*
- *Identify the resources available to promote housing opportunities for people with special needs and the homeless.*

11:45 - Noon

Session 6 – Housing Data Review

- *Interpret key data indicators to determine what affordable housing issues exist in your community.*

Noon – 1:00

LUNCH

1:00 – 1:25

Session 7 – Your Public Housing Authority as a Housing Partners

- *PHAs are expanding from their traditional housing role to create new affordable housing opportunities. Learn how PHAs are creating homeownership and rental housing and transforming neighborhoods.*

1:25 – 1:40

Session 8 – Building Your Housing Strategy – Putting Together the Pieces of the Puzzle

- *Participate in an exercise to see how programs can be combined to create your affordable housing strategy.*

1:40 – 2:40

Session 9 - Ask the Expert

- *Talk in small groups with a housing expert to ask questions specific to your community*

2:40 – 3:10

Session 10 – Building Community and Building Support for Housing

- *Recognize how your community assets are opportunities in your affordable housing plan.*
- *Identify the important players to creating support for affordable housing in your community.*

3:10 – 3:30

Session 11 – What Can I Do About Housing in my Community?

- *What are the next steps that I can take in my community?*
- *Evaluation and closing remarks*