

Georgia Initiative for Community Housing Retreat – Winter, 2017

Sponsored by: Georgia Power
Dept. of Community Affairs
Georgia Municipal Association
University of Georgia

GICH Team Members at Retreat Merry Acres Retreat Center & Inn



Albany, GA - Feb. 20-22, 2017

Attendees:

Ms. Tarika Peeks, *City Planner*

Mrs. Carol Berry, *Eric Berry Foundation*

Pastor Ingrid Thompson, *Nehemiah Program*

Ms. Elise Cooper, *Planning and Zoning
Commissioner*

Mr. Jay Knight, *Developer*

Mr. Al Lane, *Consultant/Economic
Development*

Council Member Alex Heath, *Fairburn City
Council*

Chair – Lydia Glaize, *Fairburn City Council*

GICH Teams

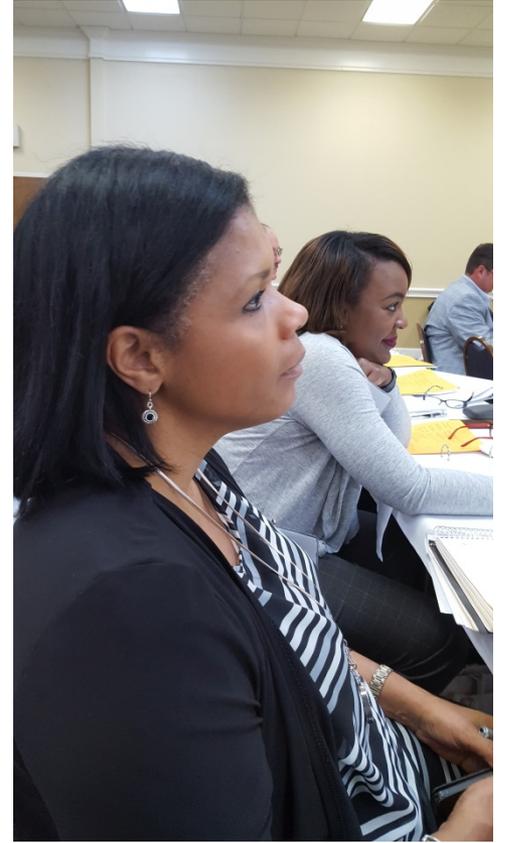
- Freshmen: Barton County, Commerce, Dublin, **Fairburn**, Union City, Warrenton
- Sophomores: Athens-Clarke County, Evans County, Millen, Monroe, Rock Mart
- Juniors: Cedartown, Liberty County, Madison, Pine Mountain, Trion

Program Description: GICH Retreats

- 3-year training program:
 - Technical Assistance/Facilitator
 - Best Practices/Expert led Topics
 - Facilitated Work Sessions
 - Report Backs
 - Resource Mapping/Networking
 - Held Bi-Annually (Winter,Fall)

Pictures from Class





Topics Addressed:

- Conducting Housing Assessments
- How to create Landbank Authorities
- Legal Tools for Addressing Housing Issues
- Heir Property
- Housing Programs (CDBG, CHIP, Housing tax credits and Examples)

Take-A-Ways

- Sophomore Class:
 - Engage – Consistently
 - Community
 - Other Stakeholders
 - Engagement - Methods:
 - City Website update(s)
 - Target neighborhood meeting
 - Involve Residents in Clean Up Projects
 - Consistent Reports to Mayor/Council/Staff
- Junior Class:
 - Keep GICH Members interest by assigning sub-committees/objectives
 - Keep at least 10-12 Active Team Members/Supporters for Productivity
 - i.e (Add Code Enforcement)

Freshman- 4 Work Sessions

1. Identifying Issues
2. Prioritizing the Issues
3. Setting Goals
4. Developing the 6 month work plan

6-Month Work Plan:

- Communication Plan
 - Website Update/Social Media
 - Targeted neighborhood(s) meeting
 - Town Hall Meeting (w/Union City??)
 - What is GICH? Focus areas?
 - Heirs Property ???
 - Neighborhood Spruce Up/Days
 - The “Light”
 - Summerwood
 - Citywide – (Council member Alex Heath)
 - Pocket Parks Beautification – Council Member Glaize

Continued...

- Fairburn Employee Housing Needs Survey
- Dept. of Facilities (Bldg.)/Streets/Permitting continue working on “Blighted Structures”
- Housing Bus Tour to Athens-Clarke County:
Legislative Body, Administration, Staff, & GICH
Team

Fairburn GICH Team Conversing



Fairburn GICH Members Hard at Work

