

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**HOPE Atlanta Helps Identify and Relocate Families
Out of Uninhabitable Creekside Forest Apartments**

*Apartment complex recently received 228 health code citations
due to unsafe living conditions*

ATLANTA, GA – January 31, 2017 – [HOPE Atlanta](#) and a team of partners discovered 54 households, including 90 children and 84 adults, living in squalor at Creekside Forest Apartments. In August of 2016, Creekside’s numerous health code violations including water leaks, rodents, bed bugs and trash littering, came to light when local CBS affiliate aired a news story about the unhealthy living conditions the tenants were living in. Upon learning of Creekside Forest Apartments’ unsafe living conditions, HOPE Atlanta’s Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) and Street Outreach programs joined a group of collaborative partners from several nonprofit organizations to provide housing services to those who were unable to relocate without assistance.

In order to effectively provide services to those in need, the collaborative developed a three-tiered plan to house the Creekside residents. The process required:

- Identifying households that could be referred to existing programs for immediate housing
- Identifying and providing assistance to residents who could move forward immediately with limited assistance
- Providing counseling for households with little to no income and refer them to relevant housing and service programs.

As a result of the efforts of the partnership, already 28 of the 54 families have been successfully relocated.

“We are proud to have been a part of this very successful project. Each organization could not have done this on its own,” admits Edward Powers, the executive director of HOPE Atlanta. “We needed the resources and support of all agencies to address this dreadful situation.”

Partners in this project include: HOPE Atlanta, DeKalb County Community Development Department, DeKalb County Police Department, Decatur Cooperative Ministry, Code Enforcements, Action Ministries and New Life Church.

About HOPE Atlanta

HOPE Atlanta offers an array of services including shelter and other emergency services, transitional and permanent supportive housing, case management, street outreach, homeless prevention, domestic violence services, Veterans services, HIV/AIDS services, reunification, and rapid re-housing. The majority of the people we assist are homeless or about to become homeless and have very low income. Many are chronically homeless, veterans, victims of domestic violence, suffering from mental or physical illness, or chemically addicted.

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