FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



HOPE Atlanta to Participate in Metro Atlanta's Yearly Point-in-Time Count

Activity to provide valuable insight into metro Atlanta homeless population

ATLANTA, GA – January 20, 2017 – <u>HOPE Atlanta</u>, a 116-year old nonprofit focused on ending homelessness in the metro Atlanta area, is scheduled to participate in Atlanta Continuum of Care's Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count from January 23rd, January 25th and January 26th. The organization will participate in PIT counts for three separate areas: City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and Cobb County. The yearly activity provides valuable insight into the metro Atlanta homeless population.

This marks the 10th time that HOPE Atlanta will be involved with the PIT count. The organization will work to locate and count homeless in the metro Atlanta area who live in parks, underpasses, encampments and other unsheltered areas. The goal of the exercise is to provide demographic information about the current homeless population. Homeless will also be interviewed so that service providers can better understand the current needs of homeless and effectively formulate strategy to better serve those in need.

Several members of HOPE Atlanta's Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) and Street Outreach team, a program that engages homeless living on the streets and places not meant for human habitation, will act as Team Captains for several locations that are participating to ensure the process runs smoothly.

"The yearly Point-in-Time Count is a wonderful opportunity for HOPE Atlanta employees and Board members to see firsthand the conditions that many homeless individuals endure day in and day out," explains Edward Powers, executive director of HOPE Atlanta. "We appreciate all of the staff and volunteers who will participate in this incredibly worthy effort."

HOPE Atlanta's continued cooperation with the Point-in-Time Homeless Count, permits the organization to confront the critical issues of homelessness in our community while providing a voice for the unheard population.

If you would like to register for the Point-in-Time Homeless Count, click here.

About HOPE Atlanta

116-year old 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 in metro Atlanta. The majority of the people helped 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. They are usually initially in crisis and in need of immediate crisis intervention services.

###

Media Contact:

Krystle Waters HOPE Atlanta (404) 574.1698 kwaters@hopeatlanta.org