

**DRAFT - Minutes**

**PECS-Planning, Economic Development & Community Services  
Committee**

*Commissioner Michelle Long Spears, (Chair)*  
*Commissioner Robert Patrick, Member*  
*Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, Member*

Thursday, November 14, 2024

9:00 AM

178 Sams Street, Decatur, Georgia 30030

**Special Called Meeting**

Meeting Started At: 9:01 AM

Attendees: Commissioners Long Spears, Bradshaw, Terry

- Present**        2 - Commissioner Michelle Long Spears, and Commissioner Steve Bradshaw
- Absent**        1 - Commissioner Robert Patrick

*UNHOUSED SUMMIT*

**I. Welcome and Introduction**

*Comments provided by Commissioner Long Spears*  
*Introductions were provided by all round table attendees;*  
*Commissioner Terry, DeKalb County Super District 6.*  
*Commissioner Bradshaw, District 4*  
*Damon Scott, Director of Human Services DeKalb County,*  
*Allen Mitchell, Director of Community Development, DeKalb County,*  
*Zachary Williams, Chief Operations Officer, DeKalb County,*  
*Darion Dunn, Atlantic Properties*  
*Fabio Van Der Merwe, CEO of Claratel Behavioral Health*  
*Micheal Carnathan, Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)*  
*Melvia Richards, Housing Program Director, Community Development, DeKalb County*  
*Andrew Schneggenburger, Housing Policy Advisor, DeKalb County District 2*

## II. Defining the Problem and the Solutions

*Presentation provided by Fabio Van Der Merwe, CEO of Claratel Behavioral Health*

*Question ZLW: This question is for Fabio, Slide 4 of your presentation: is there any trend data associated with rents that may suggest the cause of increases? Do you think this is because of corporate ownership?*

*FVDM: I focused on what is the current median of rent for DeKalb and the cities. Additional context provided.*

*Presentation provided by Melvia Richards, Housing Program Director, Community Development, DeKalb County*

## III. Homelessness in The Metro

*Presentation provided by Micheal Carnathan, Director of Research and Analytics, Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Comments provided by Commissioner Terry -DeKalb County Super District 6.*

*Question TT: what is the ARC asking of local leadership?*

*MC: We preach coordination, systemic approaches, and support for bringing leaders into the same room to solve these complex problems and determine the solutions. One thing the ARC has to offer is the Local elected Leadership Housing Committee. Additional context was provided.*

*Comment provided by Damon Scott, Director of Human Services*

*Comment provided by Andrew Schneggenburger, Housing Policy Advisor, DeKalb County District 2*

## IV. Stakeholder Comment Period

*George Dusenbury - Decatur Council District 1*

*Cynthia Roman - VP of Family Stabilization & Well-Being - Latin American Association*

*Micheal Bryant - CEO of New Life Community Alliance*

*Dalton T. Rushing - Senior Pastor of Decatur First United Methodist Church*

*Joy Monroe - CEO of Single Parent Alliance & Resource Center & Sue Sullivan - Community Advocate Rev.*

*Dr. Lisa Heilig - Executive Director of Toco Hills Community Alliance*

*Greg White - Frontline Response / Ret. Decatur Parks & Rec*

*Jennifer Parker - DeKalb Resident*

*Theodora Kruse - DeKalb Resident*

*Javier Lerch - Saint Vincent DePaul*

*Rob Johnson - A Home For Everybody DeKalb*

*Lynn Deutsch - Mayor of Dunwoody*

*Don Anderson - Tucker First United Methodist Church*

*Annie Jordon - Executive Director - DeKalb Pro Bono*

*Luculia Lewis - DeKalb Resident*

*Amanda Davis - DeKalb Resident*

## V. BREAK

*Meeting briefly adjourned - 10:56 - 11:01 AM*

## VI. The Melody

*Presentation provided by Darion Dunn from Atlantica Properties*

*Question TT: can you speak more about the bureaucratic and background process of this project? How was the property zoned and what administrative roadblocks did you find?*

*Response and additional context provided by Darion Dunn*

*Comments provided by Andrew Schneggenburger*

*AS: what does the long-term maintenance of this property require?*

*Response and additional context provided by Darion Dunn*

## VII. County Initiatives & Solutions

*Presentation and update on the Integrated Community Care Initiative "ICCI" provided by Allen Mitchell, Director of Community Development, DeKalb County,*

*Presentation and update on the Housing Trust Fund and Community Land Trust provided by Andrew Schneggenburger, Housing Policy Advisor, DeKalb County District 2*

*Presentation and update on the Unhoused Plan Development "Housing First" provided by Commissioner Long Spears, District 2 and Fabio Van Der Merwe, CEO of Claratel Behavioral Health*

*Presentation and update on the Comprehensive Housing Plan provided by Brian Brewer, Planning and Sustainability*

## VIII. Closing Comments

*Comments provided by Commissioner Terry, Super District 6, and Commissioner Long Spears, District 2*

Meeting Ended At:12:05 PM

**This agenda item was adjourned meeting**

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Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC

## **PECS Unhoused Summit**

**November 14, 2024**

Michael Bryant – CEO New Life Community Alliance (formerly New Life Community Ministries)

Located at 3592 Flat Shoals Road - South DeKalb

NLCA has been serving the South DeKalb residents for 22

### **Synopsis of Unhoused Guests That Stayed at The New Life Community Alliance Overnight Warming Station January – April 2024**

#### **Description/Demographics of Overnight Guests**

- 271 Unique Guests
- 13 Days Average Stay
- 3482 Total Stays (duplicated guests)
  - 1754 Men/50.37%
  - 1568 Women/45.03%
  - 160 Children/4.60
  - 89% African American
- Our youngest guest was 5 months old and our oldest was 80.
- Surprised at the number of single moms with children
- Also, surprised at the number of seniors

#### **Outcomes of 13 Guests that Elected to Receive Case Management**

- 4 guests were employed and housed
  - a. One of the four is still receiving case management and mental counseling for himself and child
- 1 guest housed via SSI benefits

- 1 guest was returned to Tennessee to mental health facility
- 2 guests were in motels receiving services but left case management with no notices
- 5 guests stopped case management after warming station closed

### **Where Did Guests Originate**

1. Majority from DeKalb County
2. Bibb County
3. Clayton County
4. Cobb County
5. Fulton County
6. Some did not share

### **Out of State Guests**

- Connecticut
- Clarke County, Virginia
- Greensboro North Carolina
- Miami Dade County
- Perry County, Pennsylvania
- Tennessee

### **Why do People Come from Out of State**

- For better opportunities, employment
- Fleeing Domestic Violence
- Stay with Relative or Friend

### **Reasons for Unhoused**

- Relationship Breakup
- Loss of Employment
- Eviction

- Family Dysfunction
- Catastrophic Event
- Mental Illness/ Substance Abuse
- Physical Health

## **Barriers to Housing Stability**

- No employment
- Limited Wages
- Seniors on Fixed Incomes against Rising Rents
- Rents too high
- Lack of Second Chance Housing
- Seniors Raising Grandchildren
- Returning Citizen or criminal backgrounds
- Family Size
- No Transportation
- No IDs / Birth Certificate
- Limited Skills
- No High School Diploma
- Lack of Life Skills (budgeting, time management, setting priorities/planning, comprehension/literacy and parenting)
- Mental illness and Substance Abuse

## **Solutions**

- Dedicated Case Management
- Mental Health Counseling
- Parenting Skills Training

- Temp Shelters/Supportive Housing
- Temporary Hotel Stays
- Affordable Housing Options
- Employment Assistance
- Rental /Financial Assistance
- Life Skills Education
- GED
- Furniture Assistance
- Transportation
- Homeless Prevention – provide sustained supportive and financial services before loss of home

## **Partners**

- Decatur Cooperative Ministries – Supportive Housing
- Partnership for Community Action – Rent/Utility Payments
- Psalms 71 – Supportive Housing
- Salvation Army – Temp Housing
- STAND – Substance Abuse
- H.O.M.E. Inc. (Helping Oppressed Mothers Endure) - Furniture
- Social Security Administration – Senior Benefits
- DFACS – Benefits for Grandparents Raising Children
- New Life Church – Funded Case Manger
- DeKalb County Community Development – Rent /Utility Assistance
- United Way of Greater Atlanta Motel to Home – Deposit/Rent Assistance
- Volunteers that supported the warming station

In Summary, it took dedicated case managers and the collective efforts of partner nonprofits, faith based institution, and government agencies to provide the various social and mental health services needed to successfully help the unhoused.

Commissioners and friends,

My name is the Rev. Dalton Rushing, and I serve as senior pastor of Decatur First United Methodist Church just down the street. First, let me thank you for hosting this important meeting about an issue which has quickly become a crisis.

I come this morning to share just how much our churches and their hundreds of thousands of members, housed and unhoused, need the strong leadership of the county at this moment, and to share some simple recommendations.

I do believe that the churches in DeKalb are responding faithfully to our call to love our neighbors, but we are struggling, and not just in downtown areas. The number of people who are unhoused who come to us looking for help in recent months has skyrocketed, and the church simply does not have the ability to meet all of the need. As a result, county libraries and churches--more than anyone--are bearing the brunt of the acute frustration from our neighbors who are unhoused and cannot access services.

Let me point to a few of those legitimate frustrations. The coordinated entry system, which creates a one-stop-shop for people experiencing homelessness, has frankly become a barely-workable bottleneck for those earnestly seeking services. No one, not a pastor nor a family member, no one may call on someone's behalf. As you can imagine, considering the intersection of mental health and homelessness, this requirement severely limits the usefulness of this service. Assuming this phone line is answered, which it often is not, and the call is not dropped, which it often is, it can only be accessed between the hours of 9am and 2pm, Monday through Friday. This means that even when the system works perfectly, it can only be accessed for 25 hours a week, hours which I would note account for less than 15% of the week itself and which are the very hours many people who are unhoused tend to be asleep. When unhoused people actually get through to this resource, county officials tell me, they are typically placed on a waiting list. Meanwhile, many of the nonprofits with whom the county contracts to provide shelter services sit largely empty. When a waiting list exists alongside empty beds, there is by definition a problem. My faith tradition calls that "sin."

There do seem to be some simple, inexpensive changes that could really move the needle.

These solutions include expanding the hours of coordinated entry beyond 25 hours a week, or at the very least changing those hours to afternoon and evening, a move that would cost nothing. I hope these meetings of the mind will continue. And I ask that the county expand its relationship with Frontline and make full use of the new facility on Gresham Road.

My clergy colleagues and I remain grateful for the attention of the County commission to this crisis. It is real, and we need your help.



PECS Committee  
Unhoused Summit  
11.14.2024

Thank you, Committee Members and Commissioners, for this opportunity to speak. On Tuesday, I spent most of my day in the jury room of the Dekalb County Courthouse, doing my civic duty as a citizen of this county - for 32 years, by the way.

As I looked around that room, I was so grateful to be in this county, with these beautifully diverse neighbors from all walks of life, all races and religions, colors and creeds.

Sadly, though, too many of our neighbors are not doing so well. As the Executive Director of a large food pantry in North Central Dekalb county, serving over 700 families each week, I have seen up close that the struggle, as they say, is real - the struggle to put food on the table, the struggle to secure and stay in safe housing, the struggle to keep going.

Some 20% of those who come to our food pantry are known to be unhoused. There are doubtless quite a few others that we do not know about. Many of these are unhoused, but not unsheltered, meaning they couch surf with friends or stay in extended stay motels. Certainly, more than a few are also unsheltered and are urban campers.

Besides the 35 pound box of free groceries that we share, we also share referrals for concerns other than food insecurity, including housing. Currently, we have no really good referrals.

What we can and are doing, though, by providing free groceries to these families on a weekly basis, is freeing up their resources to maintain their housing or at least their shelter. Some 80% of our families in a recent survey said that because of the food we give, they have less worry and more resources.

Though it is about food - lots of food, as we are on track to give out 1.5 million pounds of food this year - what we do is about more. It is about care and compassion and community.

When we provide our neighbors with care in the form of healthy food and when we share compassion as neighbors helping neighbors, we strengthen the entire Dekalb community.

And there are so many neighbors in need. In my 6 years as Executive Director, we have tripled the number of families we serve. Just over a week ago, in one day, in 3 hours, we served 390 families - most of them working or they are retired or disabled and have some form of income. It just doesn't stretch...

The number of our neighbors not doing so well, who are in need, is only increasing. We are trying to keep up, but faith communities and nonprofits need support from local government and others to help our neighbors, to strengthen our community.

For example, we have reached capacity at our current location. With funds for a refrigerated box truck, though, we could take food to locations in the community, reaching people close to where they live and work and go to school with free, healthy groceries to ensure their families can live active lives.

We are experimenting with delivering boxes directly to those, our seniors and disabled veterans, who have difficulty accessing services. If we had more funding, we could serve more people. It is only \$5 to deliver each box.

I am so grateful this county that I love and call home is looking to serve our neighbors better, to ensure they have basic needs like food and housing. This will make our community, our county, healthier and stronger. And that is good for all of us.

Again, thank you for your time.

Rev. Dr. Lisa Heilig, Executive Director  
Toco Hills Community Alliance  
– 11/14/24 PECS Unhoused Summit Comments

Good morning commissioners and Unhoused attendees. I am Gregory White a DeKalb resident, Frontline Response Part-Time staff -Unhoused Advocate/Outreach and a retired City of Decatur Parks and Recreation Director (30 years) representing the voices of the unhoused.

As we discuss this pandemic and seek solutions I have been on the ground since 1994 when Decatur had one unhoused patron who had a home but preferred the Decatur Square.

My eyes have witnessed the following:

Established relationship with all unhoused in Decatur ( City representative) 75 patrons

Families suffering on cold nights and extreme heat

Unhoused patrons trying to move and no place to store items. Decatur Recreation Center became a storage facility.

People eating out of trash cans

How do we communicate with unhoused patrons

Library closed on Sunday what do unhoused people do -lack of restrooms, food, thunder storms

Showers - thanks Tucker United Methodist opening on Sunday. Numbers have gone from 20-80 patrons

Warming Center - thanks Frontline and New Life

What do you do with animals on a cold or extreme hot day

Community Garden becomes housing and restroom

MARTA cards are a major resource for unhoused- thanks A Home for Everyone in DeKalb

Fire Stations as warming center and people lining up at 4pm and people being turned away

Mental Illness and Addictions -we are all addicted to something

Unhoused Patrons in major intersections seeking change

No place to assist people in an emergency situation expect paying for a hotel

Staff turnover

Unhoused patrons living out of wheelchairs and walkers

I see police but I don't see county vans or staff on the ground on cold nights. We can be partners.

Try unpacking the trauma patrons have and expect them to navigate a piece of paper handed to them.

How many unhoused have we not reached and they don't know us.

Re-imagine removing the systemic barriers that are in place.

Solution Ideas

1) Increase Street Outreach Staff by region to establish relationships with unhoused patrons. Properly fund with benefits.

2) Include Unhoused patrons in the decision making process. Invite them to meetings.

3) Involve college students in problem solving. Currently working with Georgia Tech students to develop an unhoused communication tool so they are informed about weather, emergency situations, showers, food and services. App and web based

4) Establish a Homeless Coalition that meets every month- Elected Officials Night when temps are 35 degrees to observe the issues.

Unhoused Advocacy Group; On the ground groups working with the county, cities, nonprofits and faith-based in a collaborative way.

5) Reimagine case workers and mental health staff being properly paid and their office is on the street.

6) Funding -reimagine if we connect to this pot of funding- NCAA, NFL, NBA, MLB and World Cup to solve this issue. Accountability.

As I close we must have this mindset:

- People over Politics

- Work Yields Resources

Gregory Whiteg - Ret. Decatur Parks & Rec/ Frontline Response

Decatur Resident – 11/14/24 PECS Unhoused Summit Comments

Your Name	Your Organization	Position Title	Comments for Commissioners
Carol Collard	CaringWorks, Inc.	CEO	What steps does the Commission plan to take to increase affordable housing inventory?
Derrica Williams	DeKalb NCNW Section	Past President	What solutions are being considered when looking at the growing number of the unhoused population in our county?
Annie Jordan	DeKalb Pro Bono	Executive Director	I'm looking forward to learning more.
David Lewicki	North Decatur Presbyterian Church	Pastor	Our church, over its history, has contributed to the founding of Decatur Cooperative Ministry, Our House, the Initiative for Affordable Housing, and A Home for Everyone in DeKalb--we provide financial and volunteer support to each of those groups. We strongly support the role of passionate non-profits in addressing the needs of the unhoused. But our experience is that the COC is the entity that must initiate a coherent county-wide plan to coordinate the landscape of services: mental health services, housing development, and the specific roles of nonprofits and faith communities in solving homelessness. We support a centralized, forward-thinking COC to move this work forward. Our current COC seems stuck in an old way of thinking about these issues.
Todd Speed	Decatur Presbyterian Church and Threshold Ministry	Senior Pastor	I just attended a workshop yesterday with Commissioner Robert Patrick at Frontline. Please help me and others understand how we can all work together on common goals.
Lance Lewis	All Souls Fellowship Church	Assistant Pastor of Mission and Medical Director. Probono. / Co founder	Thank you for the invitation, I look forward to working with everyone on this critical issue.
Gulshan Harjee	Clarkston community Health Center		I am happy to attend and curious to learn and understand the situation of our citizens in DeKalb county. Am initial conversation will allow us to better position ourselves.
Scott Overcarsh	Decatur Presbyterian Church	Elder, Finance Chairman	Looking forward to a collaborative effort to assist the unhoused and address their multifaceted issues keeping them on the streets in DeKalb County.
Deirdre P Pierce	DeKalb County Board of Education	Board Member	Looking forward to working together toward a viable solution.
Jean Douglas	Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence	Executive Director	Thank you for including me in this critical discussion.
Mary Vincent	Wellroot Family Services	SVP Programs	Looking forward to learning and connecting with others on this important topic!
			On behalf of Blessing Bags of Warmth, thank you for prioritizing the needs of our unhoused community through this summit. We are on the frontlines, providing essential items, support, and resources to those struggling with homelessness in DeKalb County. However, as a community, we need more than just temporary solutions; we need sustainable, long-term plans that address housing affordability, healthcare access, and mental health services.
			Our organization serves individuals who often have nowhere else to turn, including families with young children, seniors, and people with disabilities. Without safe and stable housing, these vulnerable populations remain at risk. We urge the board to prioritize funding and partnerships that create pathways out of homelessness, including support for affordable transitional housing, job training, and mental health services that meet people where they are.
			Blessing Bags of Warmth is committed to being a resource and partner in this work. We encourage collaboration with local nonprofits, community advocates, and service providers to ensure that the resources allocated reach those who need them most. We believe that, together, we can create meaningful change and restore dignity and hope to our unhoused neighbors. Thank you for your time and dedication to this issue.
Sherri McCoy	Blessing Bags of Warmth	Founder	
Ann Pope	DeKalb County Human Services Department - Office of Partnerships, External Affairs and Grants	Special Projects Coordinator, Senior	Encouraged by this convening and cross sector discussion on the status and prevalence of unsheltered homelessness in DeKalb. Hope this is the first of many discussions on the scope of the problem, current county capacity and resources to address and increased county commitment to help fill funding gaps to provide emergency shelter, assessments, transitional and permanent housing for unsheltered persons with severe mental health conditions or physical disabilities.
Gregory White	Frontline Response	Unhoused Advocate/Outreach	Please consider expanding funds to increase the number of street team staff which play a vital role in building trust with unhoused patrons. Street teams should be split up to work various regions across the county. COC restructure so this pathway is efficient. Please properly fund this area so that unhoused patrons can make progress.
Terry Tucker	Frontline Response International	National C.E.O.	We are happy to provide as much insight and service needed to ensure a productive collective approach to this extremely complex issue. Do let us know how we and our work may be helpful
Gamel DeWese	The Helping Hand Travels LLC	Founder-CEO	We are here to support PECS by providing anger management and behavior modification services to the unhoused community through cognitive restructuring to reduce stress so they can approach employment and housing opportunities with a better thought process that will increase their chances of obtaining an abode and or employment.
Paula Bradley	Safe Haven Transitional Inc.	Victim Advocate	Interested in seeing what's available for domestic violence homeless victims.
			Please explain what plan of action is in place to the county to collaborate with smaller nonprofits that are community lead and engage with on regular basis; with provision of food, clothing and temporary housing assistance - and how these smaller organizations may receive allocated funds .
Christy Bloodworth	Omega Support Center	Executive Director	Thank you
Shelly Fine	A Home For Everyone In DeKalb	Board Emeritus	I would like to hear plans for the huge number of people who are unhoused. I know what is happening presently in DeKalb, but I would like to see money going for housing even if it's small dormitories.
Pamela Privette	Beacon Hill and resident of decatur and dekalb	member of community	update on front lines contract w/ city and county Unhoused getting arrested in city Communication between agencies and unhoused need for longer hr and availability in evening: needing place to live
Dr. Darrel Polk	New Psalm Records & Productions, LLC	Owner & CEO	My wife Natasha Polk and I have a heart for the plight of unhoused people in our community. We are truly interested in learning more about the current thinking, resources, and substantive considerations in place regarding this touching topic.
Donna Davis	Tucker First UMC	Cold Weather Shelter Team	FRONTLINE-Gresham Rd & new facility. VILLAGE IMPACT-21 acres Covington Hwy. COC - \$4million spent to house 400 unhoused in motels. (\$10k per person !) CLARATEL-Behavioral Health Coalition. Dekalb Regional Crisis Center 30 beds serves 6 counties. CITY OF DECATUR, TUCKER, etc. DEKALB COUNTY AFFORDABLE HOUSING COALITION. A HOME FOR EVERYONE IN DEKALB. FAITH BASED- helping or enabling. Safety issue. DEKALB PD-50% of calls are menal health/substance abuse issues. Commissioners Long-Spears, Patrick, Terry- working TOGETHER on this ????? FOCUS EFFORT!!
Eric Watts	Claratel Behavioral Health	Clinical Director of Substance	Looking forward to learning more about the County's housing legislation.
Janet Kennedy	Clairmont Presbyterian Church	deacon	I am very interested in the resources the county provides and how other groups can best support the needs of our unhoused individuals.
Damon Scott	Human Services Department (DeKalb County Government)	Director	I am a member of the DeKalb County newly formed Behavioral Health Coalition, and the Human Services Department operates the warming station at N. DeKalb senior center for the unhoused as part of the County's DEMA/public safety plan.

				(1) Has the effectiveness of the CoC been evaluated? I don't understand why Hagar's House, the family shelter in Decatur, is not consistently full. Where is the system breaking down? (2) There needs to be consistent outreach and relationship building on the streets to people who have mental health and substance abuse issues, and there needs to be services that are readily available to help and support people who are struggling with these issues. (3) There needs to be a concerted effort to address the needs of people on the street who have severe mental illness. Immediately, we need to address the need for cold weather sheltering (i.e. making warming centers available both in terms of transportation and staff who are able to work successfully with this population.)
Ellen Gallow	A Home for Everyone in DeKalb	Board member; Cold Weather Committee, chair		
Sheila Fuller	Status Home	HMIS Administrator/Program		Looking forward to learning more about the PECS unhoused
Sue Sullivan	First, as a community advocate, I also work part-time with SVDP Motel to Home	Realtor		I am glad that you are holding this summit - as you know we have a proposal in to you all to do any actual count of families and children living in these hotels in Dekalb County. These families are one-step from homelessness and without any family shelters, have no where to go. These families need to be included in the affordable housing conversation as they desparatly want out of these hotels and are looking for housing in Dekalb County. I know that our count will be staggering.
Greg Tallant	Holy Trinity Parish	Rector (Sr. Pastor)		I am part of a group of Decatur clergy who have been meeting regularly to discuss the growing number of homeless persons in downtown Decatur, and we have been looking for ways we can support one another and advocate for improved care for these people.
Paul Cornely	National Alliance for Mental Illness - DeKalb County.	NAMI Board Secretary		Do we seek federal funding (HUD, SAMHSA) to address the unhoused?
Darryl Blackwell	Community Development	Senior Planner		Looking to hear fruitful and constructive discussions.
Yolanda Moore	Y E Moore Properties,LLC	Owner/President		I am a concerned citizen and business owner in the DeKalb County community. I would like to be able to join this meeting virtually if possible due to scheduling conflicts. Please add me to your list for future community engagements regarding homelessness. Thank you!
Patricia Sale	Clairmont Presbyterian Chruch	Mision Team		I look forward to leaning about this issue in our neighborhood
Courtney Page	N/a	Homeless		I need housing for my family.
Emma Dean Smith	None	None		I am wondering why so many people don't have housings and the ones that been built are over charging asking for 2 and 3 times your pay scale which is ridiculous and we can't afford these outrageous Rates
Joy Monroe	SPARC (Single Parent Alliance & Resource Center)	Founder/CEO		I am deeply concerned about the growing number of families, living in extended-stay motels. These motels, originally meant for short term stays, have become housing for families locked out of traditional permanent housing. They were never intended to accommodate families at all, but certainly never for months or even years. The conditions these families face are a public health crisis. We need to focus specifically on this population, their unique challenges and address their urgent needs. With numbers rising and conditions worsening, it's clear we must allocate more resources and support to these families. The silence on this issue is deafening and it's time to take action .
Letitia Campbell	Candler School of Theology, Emory University	Director, Contextual Education I and CPE, and Assistant Professor in the Practice of Ethics and Society		I am concerned about the adequacy of services for unhoused communities both as a resident of DeKalb County and in my capacity as the director of a program that through which graduate students from Candler School of Theology work with community-based service organizations as part of their professional education in faith and community leadership. I am concerned about how challenging it is to help my unhoused or precariously housed neighbors connect to services, and I am also interested in understanding how we can better equip the next generation of faith, civic, and business leaders for the work of building a fair and caring system of housing, healthcare, and food security in our region.
Phyllicia Thomas	Atlanta Legal Aid	Law Graduate		- What are you doing to solve the problem of increasing homelessness? - What are the common/frequent routes to homelessness in this county? - Are there any resources for those that are on the brink of homelessness? If so, what are they? - Are there any available resources for those that are already unhoused? If so, what are they? - What are the preventative measures DeKalb County is currently doing to address this?
Tresa D Smith	Agape's Safe Haven, Inc	Manager		We are interested in contributing to the community by providing housing for those in need. The vacant land we currently plan to improve is in District 4
Patricia Sale	Clairmont Presbyterian Church	Missions team		I thought I had already signed up for this, but have not gotten any confirmation. I look forward to listening and learning with you tomorrow. Thank you. Patricia Sale



What is your plan  
to tackle this issue

Anger Management  
Dewese@TheHelpingHANDTravels.com

How can I help

1 800 988 2969

Assistance by phone  
for housing must be  
available 7 days a  
week, 24<sup>o</sup> - like a dr.  
office - have a person  
on call

Explain the Plan

that was presented @

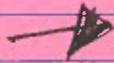
the end. What was that a  
plan for??

How accurate - really -  
are point in time  
counts? How can  
we get more accurate  
numbers?

Can we get more  
warming Stations  
in Dekalb?

Great job!

① What efforts have been made to engage property owners w/ vacant homes + land?



② What efforts have been made to engage w/ owners of extended stay hotels? Since a large portion of individuals + families will never be able to get ahead staying @ extended stay hotels how do we fix that?