



Family Impact Fact Sheet

The **Quality of Life Initiative** allows families in AHA's remaining public housing projects the opportunity to **escape concentrated poverty**. This is consistent with AHA's vision of providing eligible families with **access to affordable housing** while **de-concentrating poverty** and **building healthy communities**. The Quality of Life Initiative focuses on 11 of AHA's remaining public housing communities.

AHA's relocation team works closely with community stakeholders to manage the relocation of families with thoughtful consideration of the impact on Atlanta's neighborhoods and to ensure each family's successful transition into their new community.

Families are making **informed choices** about where they make their home

- Today, 1,827 families who relocated from the old projects due to community revitalization initiatives used Housing Choice vouchers in making informed choices about affordable housing and the places where they chose to make their home.
- The vast majority (82%) of those families who used **Housing Choice vouchers** moved to housing within the city.
- The remaining 18% of the families using Housing Choice vouchers chose housing outside of the city.
- Through February 2007, 332 families who relocated from the old projects chose to return to one of the revitalized communities. These vibrant, mixed-income communities with a diverse resident population also include another 180 public housing residents and 44 Housing Choice voucher holders, none of whom relocated due to a community revitalization initiative.

AHA is working closely with **community stakeholders** such as:

- Georgia State University to **prepare families** to be successful neighbors
- Human development **case management** services to help families transition into communities
- 1-888-AHA-4YOU – 24-hour **customer service hotline** for Atlanta's citizens

AHA continues to **deliver on its purpose** to provide affordable housing

AHA is serving approximately the **same number of households** today as it was in 1995 when it first began its revitalization efforts. Today, as then, AHA serves the affordable housing needs of approximately 18,000 families, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Residents who leave concentrated poverty **fare better** in every way

Research shows that residents who leave public housing projects experience improved quality of life.*

- Higher Income - Five years after relocation, the number of head of households among relocated families earning \$20,000 and more increased.
- Higher Employment - Residents who relocated using a housing voucher were more than twice as likely (46%) to be employed as residents who remained in conventional housing (21%)

Stronger Schools - New schools, like Centennial Place Elementary, incorporated into the master plan of the revitalized communities are now exceeding state standards after years of failing scores.

* "Environment Matters," Thomas Boston, PhD, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2005.