



Contact: Rick White
404.577-8900 ext. 221

What is the Quality of Life Initiative?

The **Quality of Life Initiative** will allow families in AHA's remaining conventional public housing projects the opportunity to escape an environment of concentrated poverty, consistent with AHA's vision of providing eligible families with **access to affordable housing**, while **deconcentrating poverty** and **building healthy communities**.

Why now?

- Despite the revitalization of more than a dozen AHA communities, the privatization of property management, and implementation of organizational efficiencies, more than 5,000 AHA families still live in the economically and socially detrimental conditions of **concentrated poverty**.
- A negotiated agreement with HUD has given AHA a **window of opportunity** (July 1, 2003-June 30, 2010) during which the agency has financial and regulatory flexibility in addressing Atlanta's affordable housing needs.
- The per-unit cost that HUD funds has dropped from 98.1% in 2005 to 76% in 2007, worsening the conditions at Atlanta's already **obsolete public housing** projects.

What will happen to the families?

- AHA will utilize **Responsible Relocation** in coordination with Atlanta Public Schools and other community stakeholders. Responsible Relocation ensures choice, support and **successful outcomes** for each family.
- Intensive human service case management will:
 - **Support the families** pre and post relocation
 - Promote **successful transition** of families to new communities
 - Increase **self-sufficiency**
 - Assist in **achieving personal goals**
- The Relocation Team will provide the families with the tools to make informed choices about the **best housing opportunities**:
 - AHA high-rise communities (seniors and the disabled)
 - Private mixed-income rental communities with a limited percentage of project based rental assistance
 - Housing Choice tenant based vouchers

How will this initiative impact neighborhoods?

The Relocation Team will manage the relocation of families with **thoughtful consideration** of the impact on Atlanta's neighborhoods, with assistance from:

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