HOUSING POLICY IS HEALTH POLICY

A Health Impact Assessment of Georgia's 2015 Qualified Allocation Plan for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits

The state of Georgia allocates about

$22 MILLION

in support of affordable housing each year.



Investments in affordable housing improve health and quality of life for many of Georgia's most vulnerable residents.

This report identifies numerous opportunities to achieve positive outcomes from this relationship.

Policies that employ a holistic perspective on the role housing plays in promoting health can improve well-being, increase productivity, and reduce health care costs.

200 PEOPLE A YEAR

could be helped to live longer, healthier lives by implementing modifications to help policy steer affordable housing development toward areas with lower health risk.

36 RECOMMENDATIONS

for integrating healthy community design into housing tax policy are identified. These adjustments could improve health through active living, healthy eating, improved air quality, and reduced injury risk.

Find the summary brief and technical report on our website:
ghpc.gsu.edu/?p=7125

Georgia Health Policy Center

Georgia State University | Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

HOUSING POLICY IS HEALTH POLICY

3 Opportunities to Improve Health through the Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP)

1 Changes to scoring could increase incentives for connections to healthy communities by using Demographic Cluster data developed by the Georgia Department of Public Health. This provides a more robust characterization of the communities in which Low-Income Housing Tax Credit developments are proposed.

2 Education is a critical health determinant.

Partnering with the Georgia Department of Education to use its new school quality metric, the College and Career Ready Performance Index, will incentivize development in locations that promote access to educational opportunity.

3 Within the policy, there are multiple opportunities to promote healthy design and operation of affordable housing based on existing best practices. The HIA provides a menu of options for implementing these best practices to improve health.



This project is supported by a grant from the Health Impact Project, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Pew Charitable Trusts, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, or Georgia State University.

Georgia Health Policy Center
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
404.413.0314
ghpc.gsu.edu
ghpc@gsu.edu