



What Was the Status Quo in Public Housing?

- Concentration Camps of Poverty
- Detrimental Living Conditions
- Warehousing Atlanta's Most Vulnerable Citizens
- High Rates of Generational Poverty

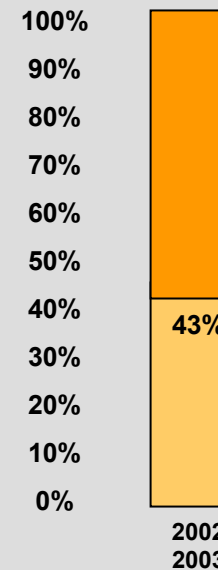


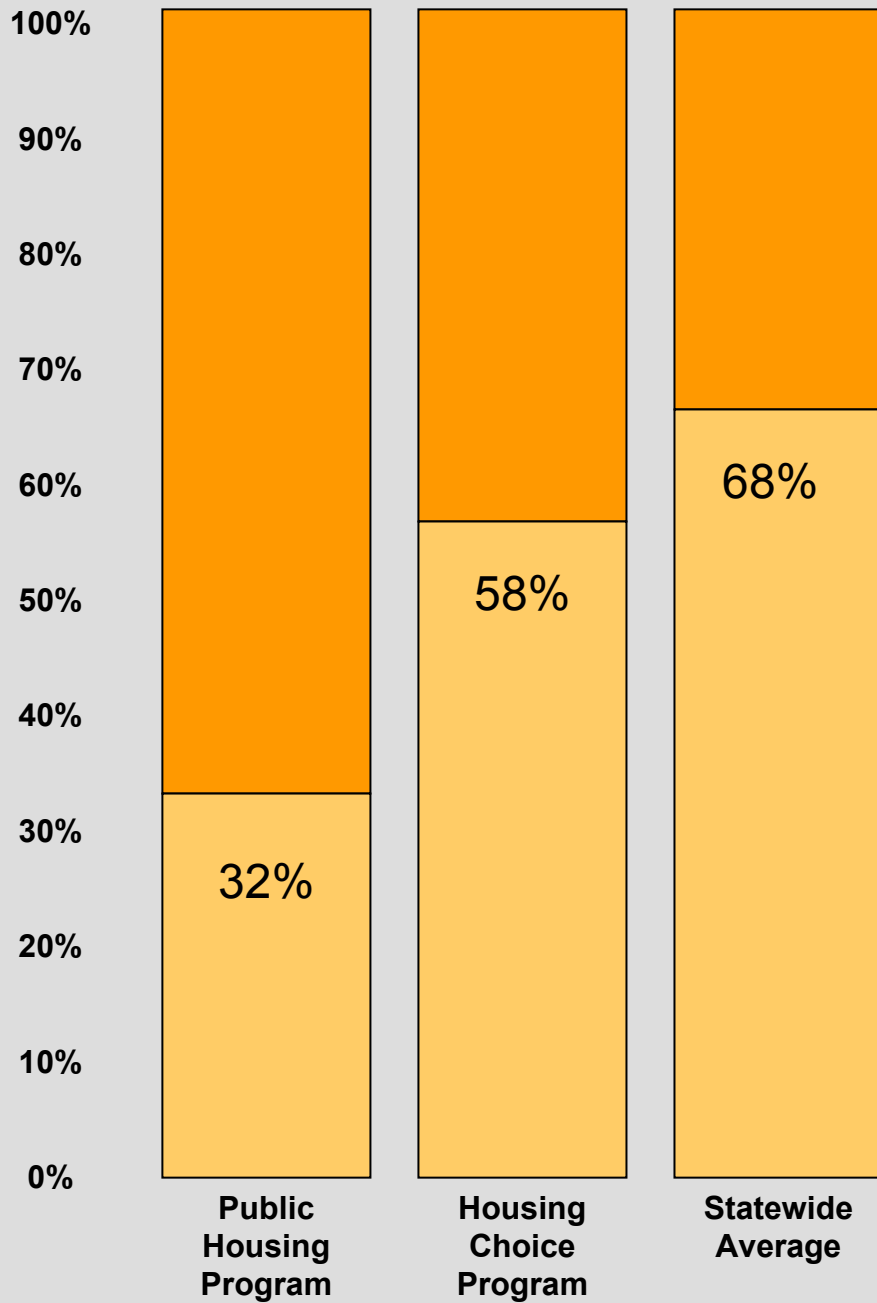


If We Did Nothing...

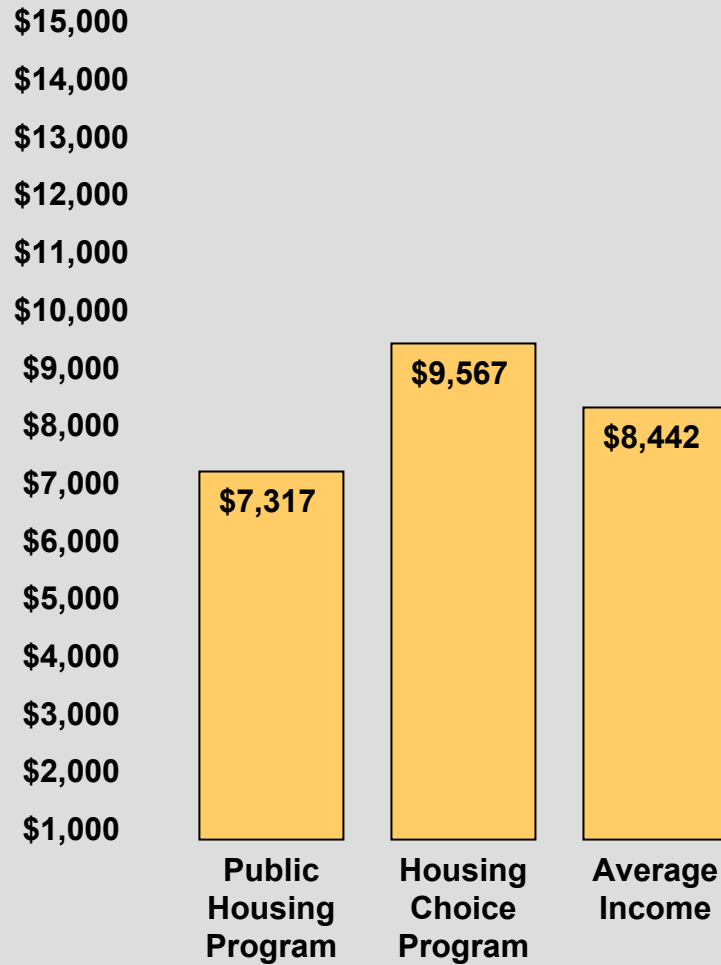
The Status Quo...

- Low Educational Attainment
 - **High Rates of Truancy**
 - **Low Graduation Rates**
- High Rates of Crime and Involvement in Other Anti-Social Behaviors
- Families Dependent Upon & Connection to Broken Social Systems





**Percentage of
AHA Assisted
Families
Reporting Earned
Income in 2001**



**Average
Income of
AHA Assisted
Families in
2001**



CATALYST Work Requirement

The Rationale For Change...

- Repair Broken Social Contracts
- Restore Belief in the Power of Human Potential
- Raise Personal Standards and Family Expectations
- Heighten Educational Values and Strengthen Lifelong Learning



CATALYST Work Requirement

Preparing for CATALYST Success...

- AHA and HUD execute Moving-to-Work Agreement on September 23, 2003
- Implemented Agency-wide October 1, 2004



CATALYST Work Requirement

The Communication Strategy...

AHA communicates by letter and brochure sent to all households (8-2-04)

Official date of CATALYST MTW plan (10-1-04)

AHA clarifies work requirement with households(1-14-05)



CATALYST Work Requirement

The Requirements...

- All Adults between the ages of 18 – 61 must be working 30 hours or more per week
- Elderly and disable are excluded
- Can be granted a deferment from the work requirement for approved conditions
- Must provide verification of employment or supporting documentation for deferments
- Compliance is verified annually at each resident's recertification (Earned Income Verification System and Department of Labor).

CATALYST

"Needing help with a place to live is a temporary condition, not a way of life. I'm working my way out so I can live my dream of becoming a minister."

Steve Coleman
Resident of Herndon Homes





CATALYST Work Requirement Ensuring Family Success

Service Provider Network (SPN)



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services & Activities

Service Provider Network (SPN)...

A service delivery strategy designed to connect AHA-assisted families to mainstream resources to achieve successful outcomes



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services/Activities

Job Training & Placement Partners...

- Atlanta Workforce Development Agency
- Atlanta Urban League
- Goodwill Industries
- Center for Working Families

Services

- Basic Skills, life skills and job readiness training
- Career Assessments
- Employment/job placement referrals
- On the job training
- Job Fairs
- Office technology training



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services/Resources

Literacy and Education Partners...

- Literacy Action
- Literacy Volunteers of Atlanta
- Atlanta Technical College
- Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System
- Georgia State University Educational Opportunity Center

Services

- Reading/math skills and basic skills development
- GED preparation/GED testing
- Basic computer training



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services/Resources

Counseling Partners...

- Center for Working Families
- Families First
- Jewish Family and Career Services

Services

- Counseling, crisis and referral services
- Pregnancy education and prevention services
- Foster care and adoption services



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services/Resources

Supportive Services Partners...

- Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services
- Gate City Childcare
- Atlanta Workforce Development Agency
- YMCA Early Childhood Development
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta

Services

- Childcare Assistance
- Transportation Assistance
- After School Programming



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services/Resources

Financial Literacy and Housing Counseling Partners...

- Atlanta Urban League
- Center for Working Families
- Catholic Social Services

Services

- Credit training and counseling
- Delinquent and default counseling
- Pre-homeownership counseling



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services/Resources

Senior and Persons with Disabilities Partners...

- Atlanta Regional Commission Agency on Aging
- Georgia Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Bobby Dodd Institute

Services

- Connection to supportive, counseling and assessment services
- Work adjustment training and supported employment

“At 17, I had to take custody of my brothers and sisters. CATALYST helped me keep my job and continue my education. I now have the opportunity to get my life in order and move ahead. I made CATALYST work for me.”

Andrea Simpson recently received her associate's degree from Atlanta Tech and is enrolled at Georgia State University. She also works full time and takes care of her brother and two sisters.

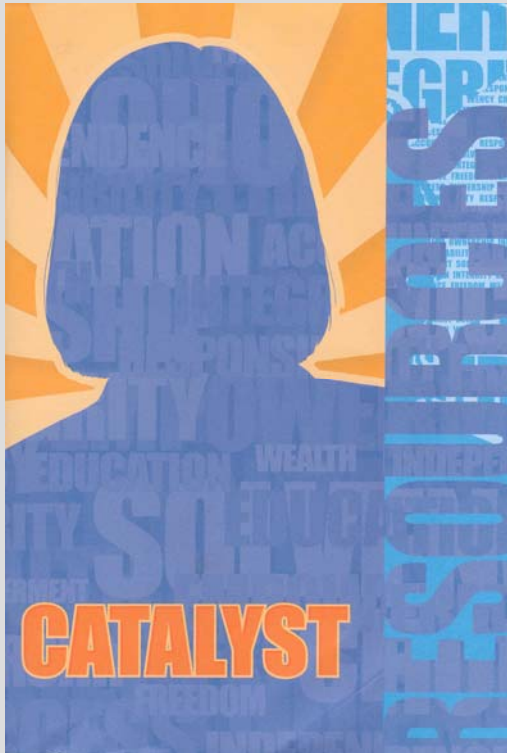




CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services/Resources

**Other “connections” to inform, educate and
empower families...**

CATALYST Work Requirement: Support Services & Resources



CATALYST Resource Guide:

- First released in October 2004 to assist families in meeting the work requirement
- Provides information on area service providers, on-line resources and helpful hints and useful tips
- Update underway to include more metro area resources to assist relocated families

CATALYST Work Requirement Supportive Services & Resources

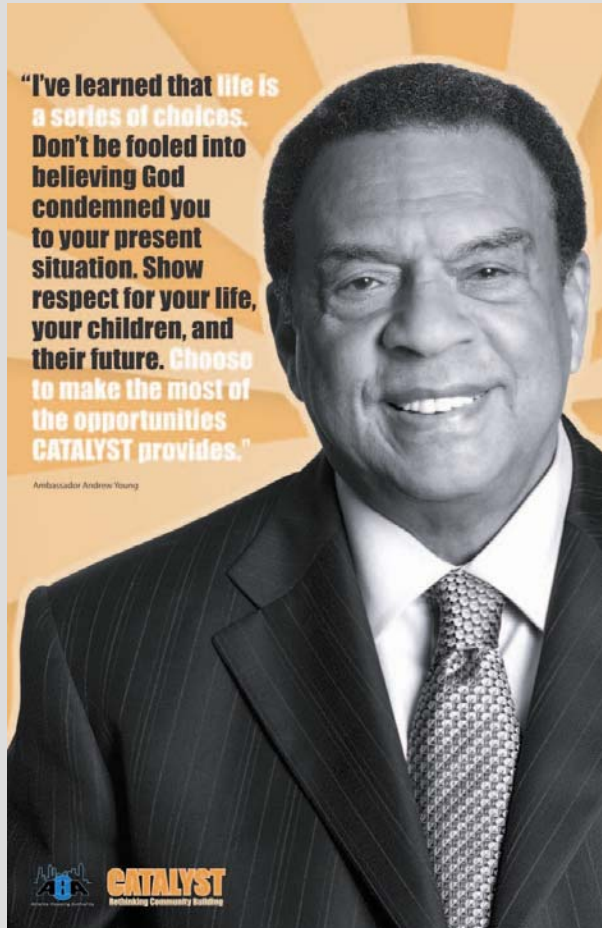
A-HA! Newsletter:

- Designed and published to inform and educate families and key stakeholders

- Bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 20,000 (Section 8 & 9 families & key stakeholders)
- Success driven highlight resident achievements, important information, deadlines and requirements
- Spotighting community leaders and service providers



CATALYST Work Requirement Support Services & Resources



Poster and Postcard Campaign:

- Highlights CATALYST supporters (resident, community and civic leaders)
- Emphasizes the human potential in achieving successful outcomes
- Postcard mailed to non-compliant households includes a highlight on a service provider



**“Thanks to CATALYST,
many people who
didn’t know about
our agency have
come to see what
we have to offer.
More than 80%
leave here with a
job, a GED and the
life skills to help
them succeed.
Make CATALYST
work for you.”**

Deborah Lum
Executive Director
Atlanta Workforce Development Agency

www.AtantaIndustry.org



CATALYST
Atlanta Workforce Development Agency

**Debra Lum, Executive Director
Atlanta Workforce Development
Agency**



CATALYST Work Requirement

Connecting Residents to Services



Connecting Residents to Services

Push...Pull...Lift...

A Triage System to understand the Current State of each Assisted Family

Categorized Families into One of Three Situations to Understand the Most Appropriate Services Providers needed to Address the Family's Needs

- Push – Families needing the least amount of assistance in meeting the work requirement
- Pull – Families needing a little more assistance and will require more time to meet the work requirement
- Lift – Families needing more intensive services and extended amounts of time to meet the work requirement



Connecting Residents to Services

Development of a Referral System...

Trained Onsite Resident Services Staff on the Use of the Service Provider Network and introduced them to SPN member organizations

Developed a Referral Form for use by Onsite Resident Services Staff and SPN.

Established Monthly Goals and Benchmarks for Onsite Resident Services



Connecting Residents to Services

Development of a Referral System...

Established Monthly Reporting Processes and Procedures with Onsite Resident Services Staff

Established Monthly Meetings with Private Management Company Senior Level Staff to Discuss Resident Services Performance and to Problem Solve



Connecting Residents to Services

Additional Support for Families...

CATALYST Human Development Social Workers Hired to...

- Ensure consistent Eviction Standards
- Prevent Fragile Families From Falling Through the Cracks
- Provide More Intensive Services to Families in the “Lifting” Phase
- Ensure Consistent Messages to the Community Relating to the CATALYST Work Requirement



Deferment Criteria

Deferment from the Work Requirement...

Head of Household is a full-time student at an accredited institution

Head of Household is working at least 25 hours per week or enrolled in a job training program

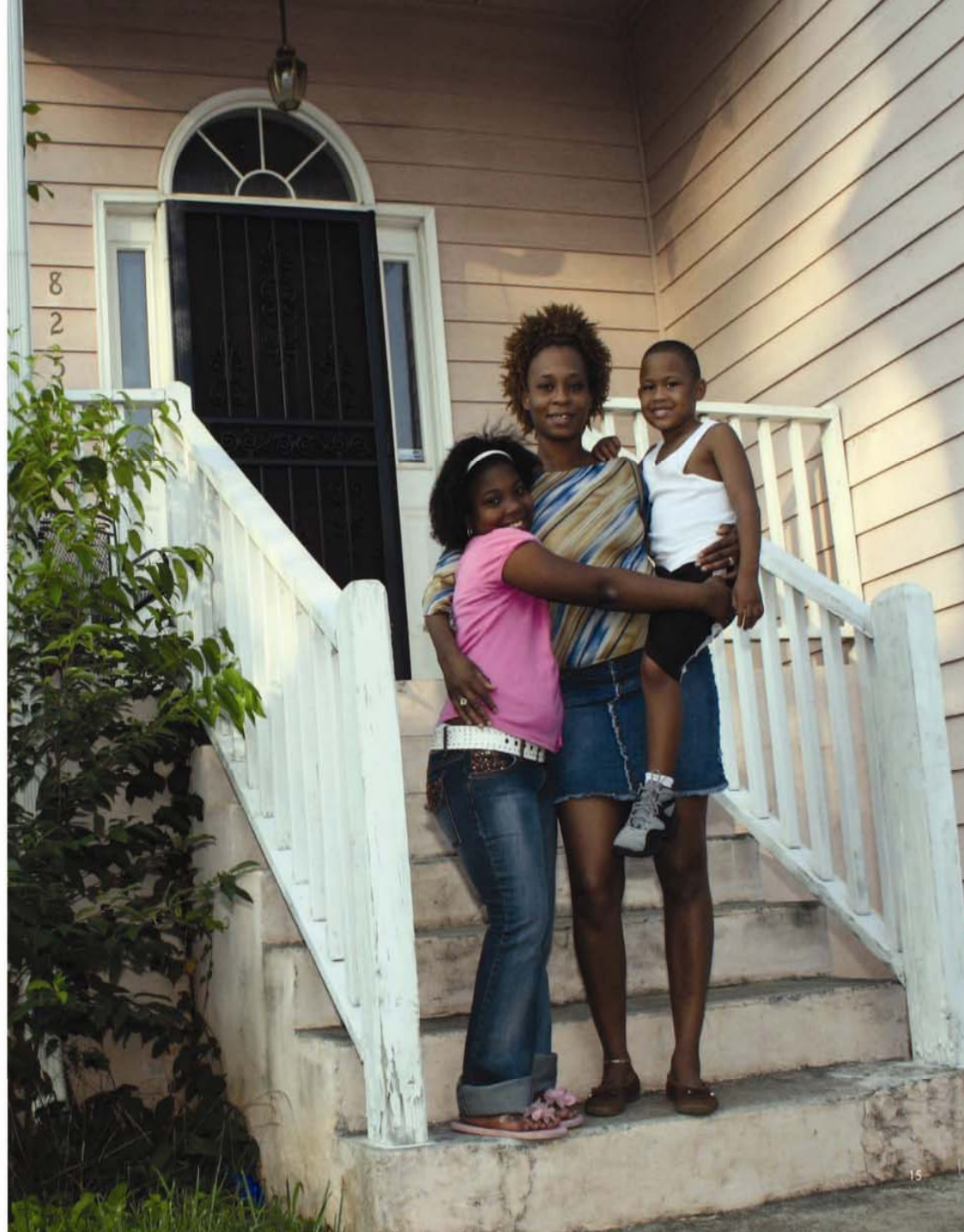
Head of Household has a short-term disability that is supported by documentation from a qualified medical professional

A household member has a verified medical condition that requires the head of household to serve as caretaker

Housing Affordability Initiative

“My daughter was having a hard time in the school near University Homes,” says Shunquilla Peterson, who now lives in a healthier community with higher performing schools. “My children are making better grades now. The school has more activities to offer the students, more parental involvement, and I believe it is only going to get better.”

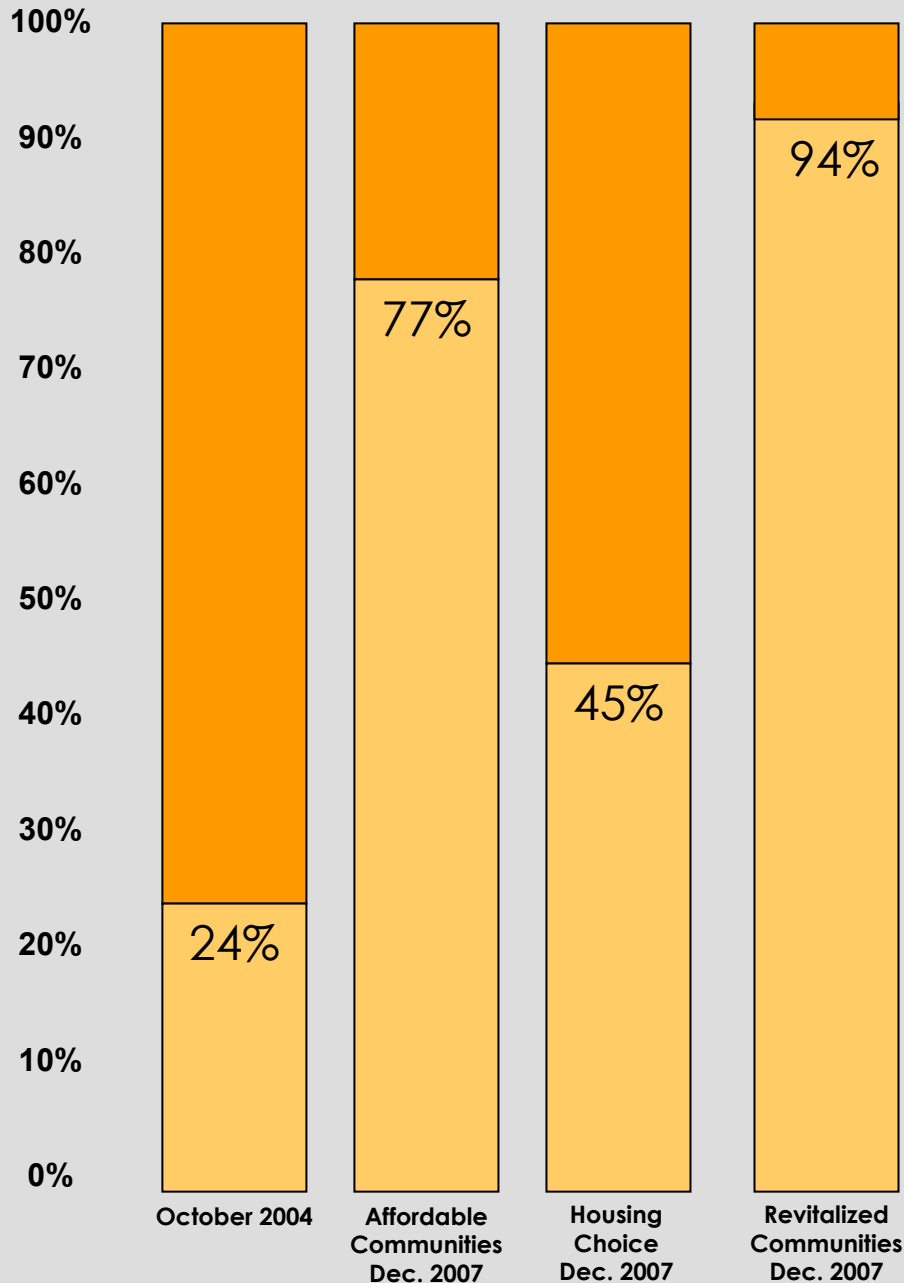
Shunquilla Peterson
Former public housing resident





CATALYST Work Requirement

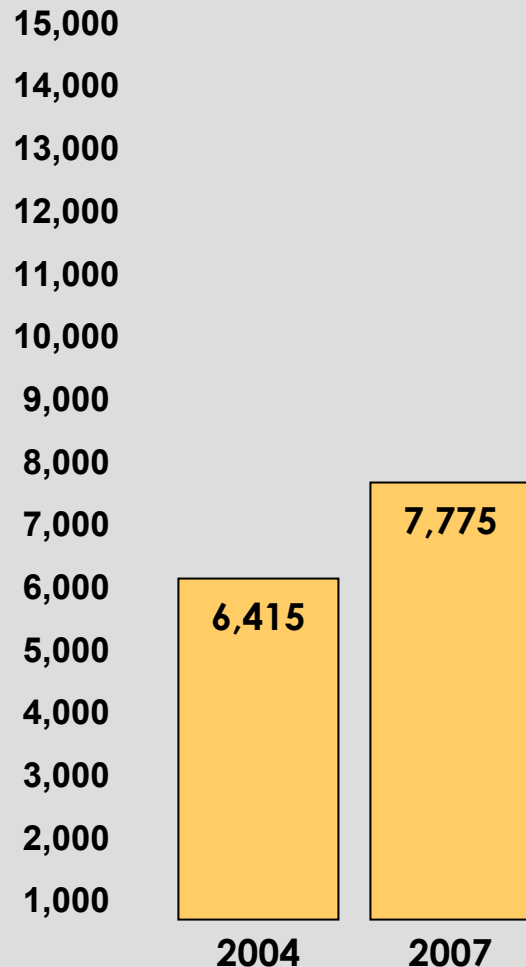
Family Success



**Comparative
Percentage of
AHA Residents
Compliant with
the CATALYST
Work &
Program
Requirement**



Success

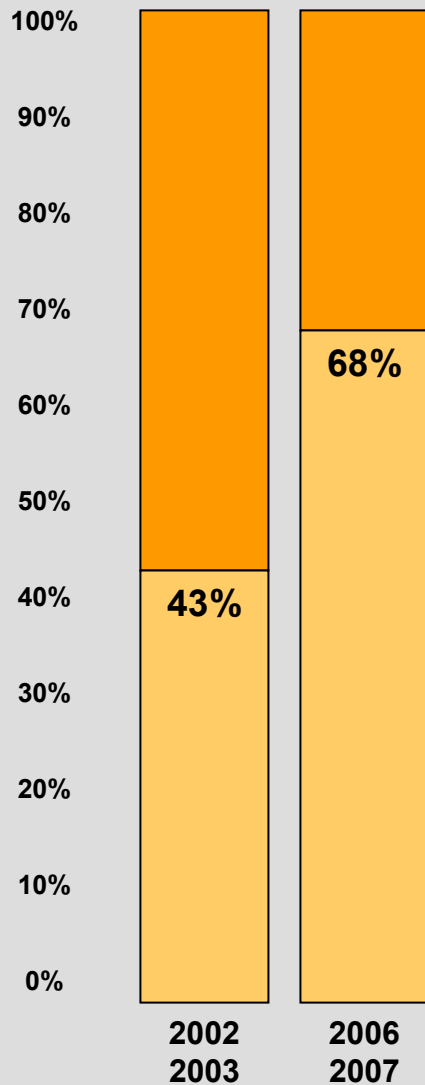


Comparative Numbers of AHA Assisted Individuals in the Workforce

NOTE: 6,548 of 21,064 Customers are Non CATALYST Targeted



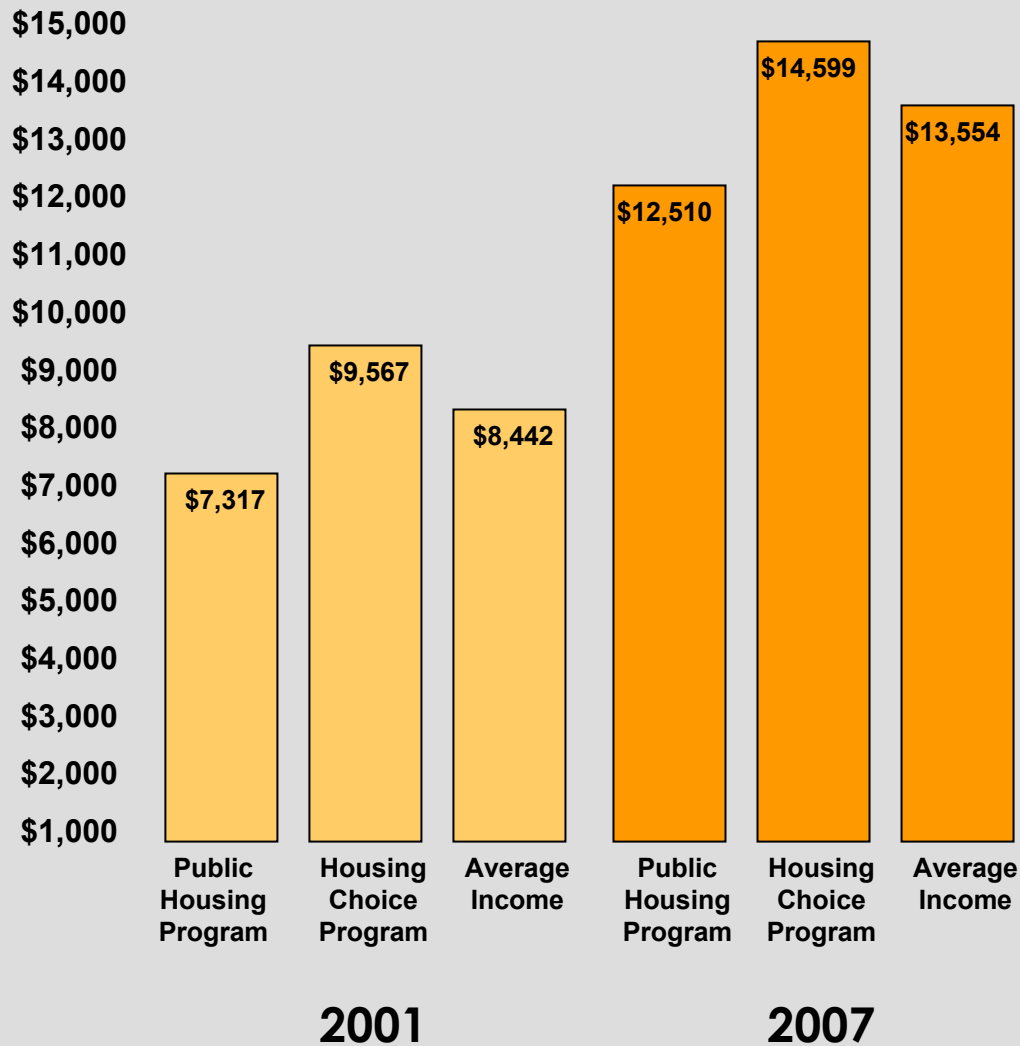
Success



Comparative Graduation Rates of Students in the Atlanta Public Schools System



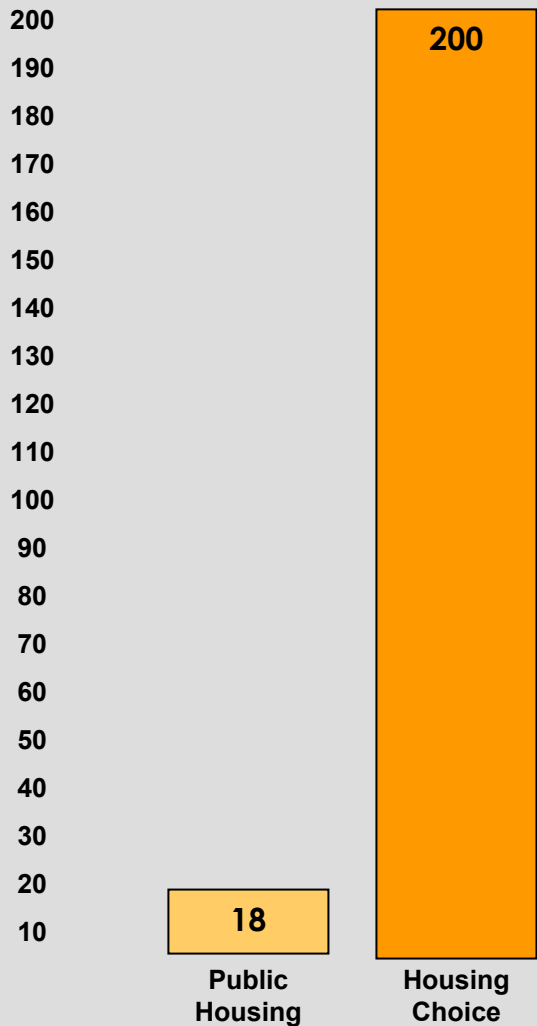
Success



Comparative
Average
Incomes of
AHA Assisted
Families



Success

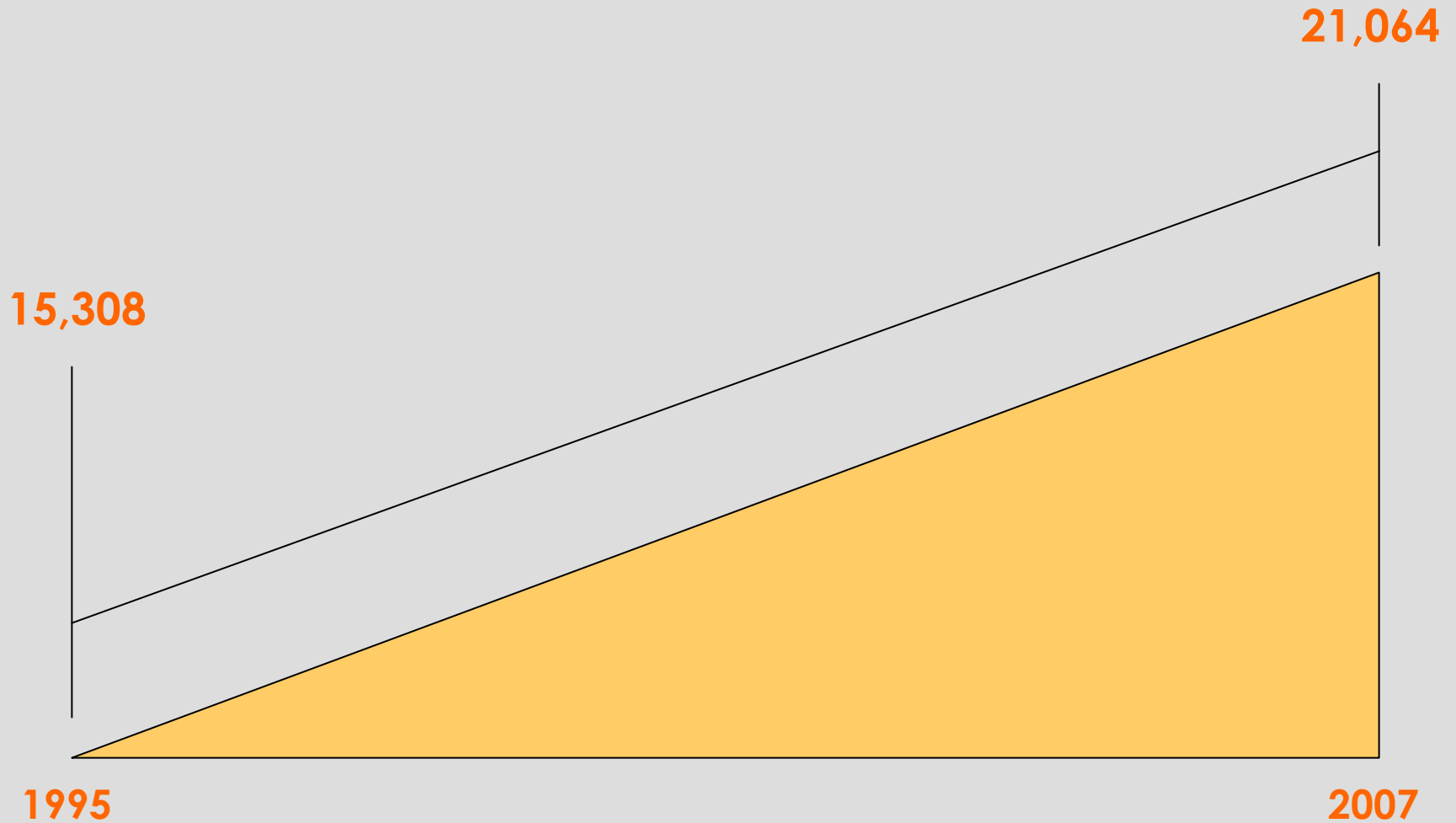


Number of
Evictions Based
Solely Upon
Failure to Meet
Workforce
Compliance
Since 2004

 **Success**

Successes to Date

Number of Families Served





Successes to Date

Families are paying 20% more in rent, decreasing the amount of government assistance needed and becoming more self-reliant





Successes to Date

Increased employment rates have allowed AHA to collect an additional **\$2.3 million** in rent to reinvest in families and individual success.

 **Success**