



2026 HouseATL  
**Affordable Housing  
Awards Luncheon**

**April 22, 2026**  
11:30 - 1:00 PM  
THE GATHERING SPOT



Andre Dickens  
MAYOR



## CITY OF ATLANTA

55 TRINITY AVE, S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-0300

TEL (404) 330-6100

April 22, 2026

Dear Atlanta Housing Champions:

As the 61<sup>st</sup> Mayor of Atlanta, I'm pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone gathered for the *2026 HouseATL Affordable Housing Awards*.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to making Atlanta the best place to raise a child and a city where everyone belongs. Our progress is the result of collective effort. Atlanta is a *group project*, and what we have built together: safer neighborhoods, stronger communities, and more affordable homes – reflects the shared work of residents, advocates, philanthropic leaders, and partners like HouseATL.

The City of Atlanta remains firmly focused on ensuring affordable, safe, and stable housing in every zip code across our city. As part of our ongoing work, we continue advancing toward our shared goal of creating or preserving 20,000 affordable housing units by 2030, with more than 13,000 units already completed, funded, or under construction. Housing is foundational. It's the starting point for strong schools, safe streets, healthy families, and opportunity for all.

HouseATL has long been a leader in this work, convening partners, elevating resident voices, and furthering solutions that expand access to housing citywide. Today's honorees reflect that commitment, and because of their dedication, our neighbors are better housed, more secure, and safer across Atlanta. I convey my heartfelt gratitude to all who continue to advance this mission and help strengthen the work of building *One Atlanta*, one city, with one bright future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andre Dickens". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Mayor Andre Dickens

# SPONSORS

## PRESENTING SPONSORS



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# NOMINEES

## HOMEOWNERSHIP CHAMPION NOMINEES

A person or organization that is a visible proponent of the importance of helping homeowners preserve their homes and the need to support homebuyers seeking affordable housing.



Atlanta Habitat for Humanity



Sovereign Realty and Management



Tia McCoy



Urban League of Greater Atlanta

## HOUSING POLICY ADVOCATE

A person or organization that has boldly demonstrated their passion for positive housing policy change and has dedicated their time, resources and skills for a positive policy impact.



Alison Johnson



Jessica Gill



Lisa Benjamin



Mariel Risner Sivley

## EXCEPTIONAL FUNDER

A person or organization that pushes beyond the traditional roles of a funder to consider how to leverage all their means of influence for affordable housing impact.



Chris Womack, Southern Company



Dr. Christie Cade



Lauren Butler, Truist



Lineage

## RENTAL HOUSING PRESERVATION

A person or organization that has demonstrated exceptional leadership in preserving affordable rental housing, ensuring that existing affordable housing stock remains available, safe, and well-maintained for long-term affordability.



Columbia Residential



Dr. Christie Cade

## HOUSING RETENTION HERO

A person or organization that has prevented the displacement of community residents and galvanized others to take action.



Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation



Clayton County Office of Grants Administration

# PROGRAM

## WELCOME

- Dr. Alan Ferguson, Chief Housing Officer, DeKalb County & HouseATL Co-Chair
- Dr. Sara Patenaude, Director of Southeast Policy Solutions, Reinvestment Fund & HouseATL Board Director

## CELEBRATORY REMARKS

- Amanda Rhein, Chief Housing Officer, City of Atlanta

## REMARKS FROM PRESENTING SPONSORS

- Rita Breen, Vice President, Georgia Power Foundation
- Terri Block, Senior Vice President, Atlanta Market Executive, Bank of America

## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Housing Retention Hero  
**Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation**

Homeownership Champion  
**Atlanta Habitat for Humanity**

Housing Policy Advocate  
**Alison Johnson**

Housing Policy Advocate  
**Mariel Risner Sivley**

Exceptional Funder  
**Dr. Christie Cade**

Rental Housing Preservation Leader  
**Columbia Residential**

## CELEBRATION OF AWARDEES

- Dr. Alan Ferguson & Dr. Sara Patenaude

## CLOSING REMARKS

- Natallie Keiser, HouseATL Executive Director



# Our community, our responsibility

Here in Atlanta, we all need to share in the responsibility to do more. That's why we work closely with HouseATL and other local businesses, nonprofits and community leaders who share our vision of creating meaningful change. Side by side, we're committed to making a difference in communities in which we live and work.



Al McRae  
President, Bank of America Atlanta  
[bankofamerica.com/atlanta](https://bankofamerica.com/atlanta)

What would you like the power to do?®



# Building for Good

Georgia Power is proud to support HouseATL and its mission to advance affordable housing solutions that strengthen our communities. Together, we're helping to build a more vibrant and sustainable future for all Atlantans.





## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

Atlanta's housing crisis demands urgent, sustained action. Your championship and engagement with HouseATL supports advocacy, coalition building, and policy solutions that keep families housed, prevent displacement, and expand opportunity for all Atlantans.

## STAY CONNECTED!



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[houseatl.org](https://houseatl.org)

## WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR ADVISORY BOARD

HouseATL is grateful for the dedication and leadership of our Advisory Board:

**Co-Chairs** Keitt King | Dr. Alan Ferguson

David Allman | Dr. Christie Cade | Rachel Carey | Julio Carrillo  
Mandy Eidson | Frank Fernandez | Jennifer Freeman | Rita Gibson  
Karen Hatcher | Dr. Bambi Hayes-Brown | Will Johnston  
Terri Lee | Michael Lucas | Odetta MacLeish-White  
Rohit Malhotra | Tia McCoy | Dr. Sara Patenaude | Richelle Patton  
Richard Slaton | Marjy Stagmeier | Cathryn Vassell