



Dream HOME Expo on September 27 Helps Homeowners Protect Their Biggest Investment

ATLANTA – Sept. 2, 2025 – With the cost of living and home repair expenses on the rise, the pathways to homeownership and maintenance are becoming more challenging to navigate. For current homeowners, unexpected repairs can lead to tough financial decisions. For those aspiring to buy, questions about affordability, securing a mortgage, home inspections and the closing process can feel overwhelming.

To help residents explore pathways to homeownership, protect their homes and avoid costly mistakes, HouseATL is hosting the **Dream HOME Expo – Homeowner Maintenance & Education Expo**, a free, hands-on event designed to give current and future homeowners the tools and resources to maintain their property, save money, and make informed decisions about buying and owning a home.

The Expo will be held on **Saturday, Sept. 27, 2025** at 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at House of Hope Atlanta (4650 Flat Shoals Parkway, Decatur, GA 30034).

At the Expo, attendees will:

- Learn practical home maintenance strategies from local experts
- Discover resources to budget for repairs and protect long-term equity
- Receive step-by-step guidance on the path to homeownership—from credit repair to closing
- Connect with more than 30 trusted housing advisors, financial experts, lenders, realtors, and legal experts from organizations like On the Rise CDC, The Homeownership Urban Blueprint, Self-Help Credit Union, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Habitat for Humanity DeKalb, Rebuilding Together Atlanta and Nehemiah Project.

“Homeownership is more than a milestone—it’s a pathway to stability, wealth building, and stronger communities. Yet for too many of our residents, the dream of owning a home remains out of reach due to rising costs and access to credit and opportunity. The Dream HOME Expo will connect residents with resources to address these barriers,” said Lorraine Cochran Johnson, CEO of DeKalb County.

According to the [Aspen Institute](#), the median homeowner in America has a net worth of **\$400,000**, while the median renter’s net worth is just **\$10,400**—underscoring homeownership’s role in building long-term wealth.

“Homeownership is one of the biggest investments most of us will ever make,” said Eboni Killian and Archie Emerson, Co-Chairs of the Homeownership Working Group at HouseATL. “In the current economy, knowing how to maintain that investment is more important than ever. The Dream HOME Expo gives people the knowledge, skills, and connections they need to keep their

homes safe, preserve their value, and take confident steps toward homeownership.”

“I had the unique experience of attending the HouseATL Home Expo less than 24 hours after closing on my new home. As a brand new homeowner, I attended this event with so many questions about how to preserve and maintain my investment. The Expo provided practical information, guidance, and peace of mind. It was both timely and empowering, and I left the Expo feeling more confident about caring for and protecting my home,” said Shelida Ragland of last year’s event.

This free event is open to current homeowners and future homeowners. Learn more about the Sept. 27 event and register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dream-home-expo-homeowner-maintenance-education-expo-tickets-1389544377639>. This free event is made possible by support from: Wells Fargo; Atlanta Realtor Association; Dr. LaDena Bolton, Super District 7 Commissioner; NeighborWorks America; Truist; Prosperity Home Mortgage; Southern First Bank; Silverton Mortgage; Ameris Bank; and Cadence Bank.

About HouseATL

HouseATL advances equitable housing outcomes for individuals and families in the metro Atlanta region by leading cross-sector collaboration and advocating for affordable housing policies and solutions. Founded in 2018 through the combined efforts of the Urban Land Institute of Atlanta, The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, Central Atlanta Progress, the Center for Civic Innovation, and the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, HouseATL now brings together more than 400 members from over 230 organizations. The coalition works to address the region’s housing challenges, develop policy recommendations, and secure funding for affordable housing—envisioning a thriving and diverse region, where people at all income levels have housing choices and can live with dignity, for generations to come.

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