

Celebrating National Homeownership Month With The Housing Authority of DeKalb County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Decatur, GA—June 28, 2006- In celebration of National Homeownership Month in June, the Housing Authority of DeKalb County (HADC) proudly hosted events to help the DeKalb community learn the value, process and financial gains of homeownership. With the Homebuyer's Education Workshop and Homeownership Fair 2006, over 100 participants received information, spoke with mortgage lenders and real estate professionals and learned the tools available to make owning their own home a dream come true.

The Homebuyer's Education Workshop, held at the DeKalb County Government Building at 4380 Memorial Drive, featured specific workshops on the aspects of purchasing a home -- and the pitfalls to avoid. Some subjects covered included types of mortgages available, predatory lending, and how to avoid foreclosure. HADC is an approved counseling agency for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the only housing authority in the state that is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) certified Housing Counseling Agency.

Homeownership Fair 2006 at the Coldwell Banker/Sanford Event Facility brought together various mortgage lenders, realtors and real estate educators in order to provide one-on-one counseling and workshop sessions in an easy-to-understand format. Attendees enjoyed fun games and door prizes as they learned the specifics of buying or keeping their home. The Housing Authority of DeKalb County partners with 7 counseling agencies, 23 lenders and 20 real estate agents to educate potential homebuyers and ready them for the journey to homeownership.

DeKalb County's Housing Authority administers the Downpayment Assistance Program for the First Time Homebuyer's Program for DeKalb County. On June 27, 2006, DeKalb CEO Vernon Jones and the DeKalb County Commissioners recognized the Housing Authority of DeKalb for its dedication to homeownership and for helping over 51 new homeowners in the past year.

To learn more about the Housing Authority of DeKalb County's homeownership program, please call 404.270.2504 and visit us at www.dekalbhousing.org.

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Left to right: Deon Lewis, Alphine Properties; Mary Ann White, Mortgage Counseling Services, Inc (Lender of the Year); Adria Kitchens, Nicole Wright & Associates; Sandra Bynoe, GMAC/Metro Brokers; Bambie N. Hayes, Homeownership Manager (HADC); Sterling Bethea, Vice President of the Housing Choice Division (HADC); Jenice Brinkley, ReMax of Atlanta (Real Estate Agent of the Year); Crystal Salton, GMAC Metro Brokers (Real Estate Agent of the Year); Meri McClintock, Assistant Vice President/Senior Mortgage Consultant, Wachovia Mortgage Corporation (Corporate Sponsor and Lender of the Year)



Group shot of workshop participants at HUD's vendor table.



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