## FAITH & ADVOCACY

N E T W O R K

## Housing & Homelessness

LEAD:

**ADELAIDE STEEDLEY** 

Like Jesus, 3,000 men, women, and children are homeless daily in the City of Atlanta. The National Alliance to End Homelessness calls Atlanta the 4th Neediest American City. Enterprise Community Partners estimates Atlanta is losing 1,500 affordable housing units per year to demolition, expiring contracts, and gentrification. Atlanta is one of the fastest gentrifying cities in the nation. Studies show despite its rapid growth, Atlanta remains one of the U.S.'s most segregated and unequal urban areas.

We are committed to a strong social safety net for the most vulnerable Americans. We focus on supporting families to find affordable housing, access housing supports, and encourage the development of affordable housing, especially in our community. St. Luke's proudly hosts Atlanta's Regional Housing Forum, bringing metro housing and homeless sectors together quarterly to focus on systemic and specific issues of concern, highlight opportunities and share solutions.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines homelessness in four categories:

- Literally homeless for those who lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residences
- Imminent risk of homelessness due to the inevitability of losing their primary nighttime residence
- Fleeing Domestic Violence
- Homeless because of special needs or barriers

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## HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Participate in the <u>Atlanta</u>
<u>Regional Housing Forum.</u>
Find volunteer & service
opportunities at <u>Partners for Home.</u>

EARN

"And Jesus said to him, 'The foxes have holes and the birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head. "'
Matthew 8:20

PRAY

Attend services and donate to the Church of the Common Ground. Organize your group to provide sack lunches for the congregants.

Reach out to policymakers, calling, writing, emailing representatives, speaking out on issues specifically referencing assistance for people experiencing homelessness, production and preservation of affordable housing, and zoning reform.