State of Metro Atlanta Health

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A message from the Executive Director:

Every day across metro Atlanta, people work to care for their families, manage chronic conditions, find stable housing, put food on the table, and navigate increasingly complex systems designed to support their health and wellbeing. Too often, however, the burden of connecting those systems falls on the individual. People facing illness, financial hardship, transportation challenges, or food insecurity are left to navigate a maze of disconnected services while organizations work independently to address interconnected problems.

The Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI) was created from a simple but powerful belief: improving health requires more than treating illness. It requires transforming the systems and conditions that shape health in the first place. Through cross-sector collaboration, shared accountability, community leadership, and evidence-based action, ARCHI works to shift the burden of navigating health and social services away from residents and toward a coordinated network of health systems, community organizations, government agencies, funders, and advocates. As we look ahead, I hope these stories inspire all of us to keep building the relationships, systems, and shared commitment that make a healthier Atlanta possible.



Jeffrey Smythe,
Executive Director



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Within these pages are stories of families who remained housed during a financial crisis, older adults who gained reliable access to nutritious food, patients who regained control of chronic diseases, community health workers who connected people to care and resources, and partners who came together to solve challenges no single organization could solve alone. These stories are supported by data, but they are ultimately about people: their resilience, their challenges, and what becomes possible when systems work together on their behalf.

The State of Metro Atlanta Health is not simply a report on programs or outcomes. It is a reflection of a movement that has grown over time, bringing together organizations and communities around a shared vision of a healthier, more equitable Atlanta. It demonstrates what can happen when we move beyond isolated efforts and invest in relationships, trust, and coordinated action. Most importantly, it reminds us that lasting change happens when communities are not only served by systems, but help shape them.

Together, we are building a metro Atlanta where health is not determined by a person's zip code, income, or ability to navigate complex systems, but by a community's collective commitment to ensuring everyone has the opportunity to thrive.



Why a collaborative, systems-focused approach was needed

Atlanta's health challenges have never belonged to one organization, one sector, or one point of care. The conditions that shape health—safe and stable housing, access to nutritious food, reliable transportation, quality clinical care, economic opportunity, and trusted community support—are deeply connected. Yet, for too long, the systems designed to respond to these needs often operated separately, leaving residents to navigate fragmented services and leaving partners working hard in isolated lanes. ARCHI was created because improving health across metro Atlanta required a different way of working: one that could align efforts, build shared priorities, and move partners from individual programs toward collective action.



A collaborative, systems-focused approach was needed because no single institution could address the root causes of poor health alone. Health systems could treat illness, but they could not solve housing insecurity by themselves. Community-based organizations could meet urgent needs, but they needed stronger connections to clinical partners, public agencies, and funders. Government and philanthropic partners could invest in solutions, but those investments had greater impact when guided by community voice and coordinated across sectors. ARCHI's role has been to bring these pieces together—creating a table where partners can see the full picture, identify gaps, share accountability, and design solutions that are stronger because they are connected.

This approach positioned ARCHI not simply as a convener, but as a catalyst for systems change. **By connecting health care, public health, housing, food access, community leadership, and civic partners, ARCHI helped shift the work from responding to individual needs after they became crises to building the relationships,** infrastructure, and shared strategies needed to improve health upstream. The need was clear: Atlanta did not just need more programs. It needed a coordinated network capable of working across systems, listening to community, and building a healthier region together.

"One of ARCHI's early insights was that health doesn't begin or end at the doors of a hospital or clinic. Improving health meant looking at the entire community and finding ways for our institutions, to collaborate and create an approach to health improvement better than any one of them could accomplish on their own."

—**Evonne Yancey, Former Director of Community Benefit and Community Relations** at Kaiser Permanente of Georgia and founding member of ARCHI Steering Committee

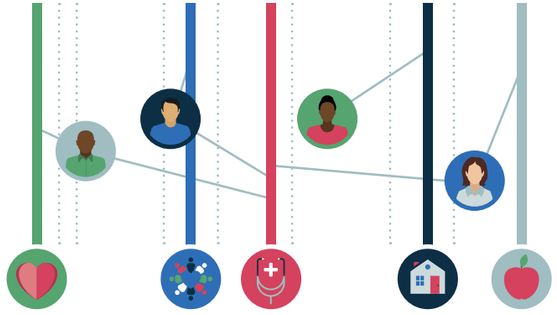


Founders Vision

ARCHI was built on a shared belief that metro Atlanta could improve health more effectively by redesigning the system around people. The vision is to shift the burden of navigating health and social services away from residents in distress and toward a coordinated network of providers, community organizations, public agencies, funders, and advocates. Grounded in data and centered on people, ARCHI aligns partners around evidence-based systems change and a common commitment to solving health inequities across the region.

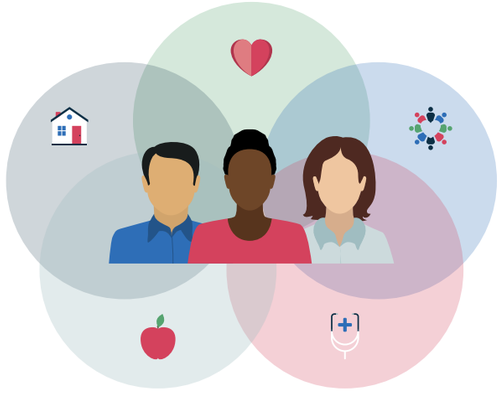
THEN

Health care, public health, housing, food access, and community supports often operated in separate lanes, leaving residents to connect fragmented services.



NOW

ARCHI supports a broad cross-sector network that aligns systems, data, and community programs around shared priorities and coordinated action.



Why ARCHI Was Created



"The greatest opportunity is still ahead for all of us who are ARCHI partners. The relationships and trust built over the past decade give Atlanta a foundation to do something extraordinary: move from collaborating around individual challenges to building a truly connected system that makes it easier for every person to get what they need to thrive."

—Kathryn Lawler, CEO of St. Joseph Mercy Care



"Real community change happens when we move beyond what any one organization can accomplish and take responsibility for the well-being of the region together. ARCHI has helped create a table where partners can align around what matters most: better opportunities and better outcomes for people and families."

—Milton Little, CEO of United Way of Greater Atlanta



"From the beginning, ARCHI was about more than bringing organizations together. It was about changing the way we work together, centering community voice, and building the relationships and shared responsibility needed for lasting systems change."

—Dr, Karen Minyard, CEO of the Georgia Health Policy Center



"Building one great region requires us to look beyond jurisdictional and organizational boundaries and work toward shared outcomes. ARCHI shows what is possible when we bring a regional perspective to strengthening the conditions that allow people and communities to thrive."

—Anna Roach, CEO of Atlanta Regional Commission

ARCHI History

2011

- Georgia Health Policy Center calls organizations together to discuss opportunities to coordinate Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) among health systems
- Kaiser and Grady complete first joint CHNA

2012

- Stakeholder meetings result in the adoption of the Atlanta Transformation Scenario; organizations begin to formally align with ARCHI through partner agreement
- ARCHI is formally created with United Way, GHPC and Atlanta Regional Commission as founding trio

2014

- Steering Committee formalizes its roles and responsibilities including fiscal management
- Community work begins in Tri-Cities at the end of 2014; ARCHI engages with AHEAD and SCALE national programs

2016

- Community assessment begins in DeKalb county. ARCHI leadership begins to focus on raising resources for full time staff person
- Five systems complete a joint CHNA

2017

- ARCHI community work-moves from assessment to codesign of multi-year collaborative interventions to address community needs
- ARCHI systems work includes focus on joint CHNA implementation and innovative financing among providers and insurers in value-based care
- ARCHI launches new logo, website and communications
- ARCHI hires first Executive Director and adds two full time change managers

2019

- ARCHI hosts yearlong series on health inequities with over 1000 participants
- ARCHI holds 28th quarterly breakfast
- ARCHI named Community Health leader by US News and World Report and UW Place Based Champion
- ARCHI partners launch diabetes Collaborative
- Health/Housing Investment Collaborative makes public commitment

2020

- ARCHI develops and adopts Invert the Burden Strategy
- ARCHI provides re-time evaluation and learning circles for partners responding to the COVID-19 pandemic
- ARCHI partners collaboratively design systems maps of systemic racism across SDOH in Atlanta
- ARCHI facilitates COVID collaboratives that focus on: sharing information in real time across health systems, supporting innovation in vaccine education an outreach
- ARCHI launches Community Resource Hubs inside Grady and Mercy Care. Community-based organizations agree to close network for referrals and data-sharing.
- ARCHI partners continue to drive health investments into housing
- ARCHI builds financial support for multi-year effort to support coordinated services and strength Community Health Workers across metro region

2022

- ARCHI deepens implementation of Community Resource Hubs and community-based referral networks
- ARCHI expands focus on Community Health Workers as a bridge between health systems and community organizations
- ARCHI strengthens partnerships addressing housing, food security, and other social drivers of health
- In light of hospital closures in already burdened communities, ARCHI holds series of community and steward gatherings to drive systems change

2023

- Rent Mortgage and Utility Relief collaboration launches, easing application and matching process for assistance-seekers and nonprofits.
- Community voice and lived experience engagement are even more centralized in ARCHI governance, strategy and program design
- ARCHI expands work with municipalities, health systems, and community partners to identify multisolving approaches to health inequities
- ARCHI serves as Georgia's CHW Network backbone

2024

- ARCHI serves as statewide convener supporting Community Health Worker collaboration and certification efforts
- Community Resource Hub model expands to additional sites including Mosaic and Healing Community Health and demonstrates stronger coordination between health systems and community-based organizations
- ARCHI secures major investments to expand coordinated care and social needs navigation
- ARCHI and partners co-create The Atlanta Hypertension Initiative

2025

- ARCHI grows Community Resource Hubs to include multiple health systems, community organizations, faith partners, and emerging payer partnerships
- ARCHI begins active exploration of sustainable Community Care Hub reimbursement models with health plans and healthcare providers
- Wellbeing By Design convening forges path for unprecedented cross-health system collaboration with Mayor and other key partners.
- "Policy Pulse" convenings initiated for partner understanding of policy changes and collective action.

2026

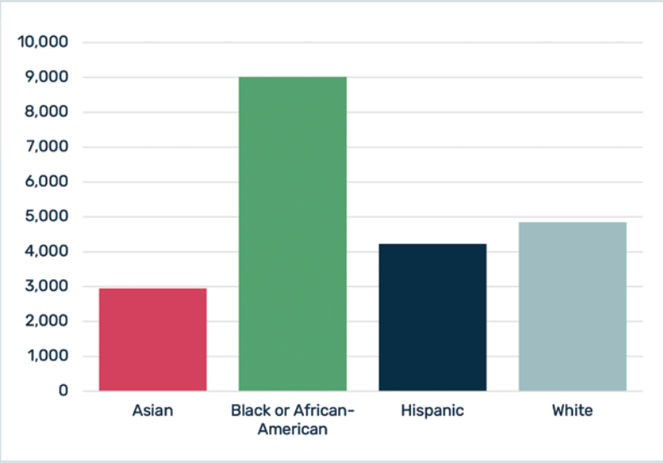
- Community Care Hub strategy advances through partnerships with health systems, managed care organizations, and community-based organizations
- ARCHI's network expands to support coordinated services, Community Resource Hubs, Community Care Hub development, housing, food security, and chronic disease initiatives across Metro Atlanta.
- Community Resource Hubs expand to Humana, Medcura and Emory.
- Listening Sessions with partners, systems, community members, and neighborhood leaders drive next bold goals for ARCHI.

The Data that Drives the Mission

Years of Potential Life Lost, Five Core Counties, by Race and Ethnicity: 2025

The numbers reveal a stark gap in premature mortality across racial and ethnic groups. Black or African American residents experience substantially more years of potential life lost than other populations shown. This disparity underscores why ARCHI's mission centers on addressing the systems and conditions that shape health, so that where people live or who they are does not determine how long they live.

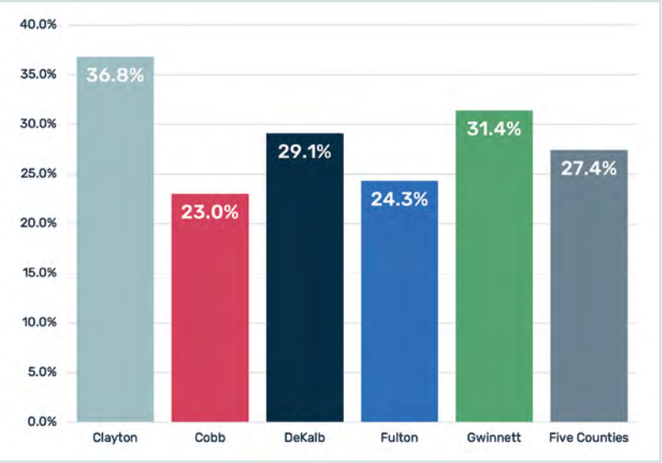
Source: GA Dept. of Public Health, OASIS



Percentage of Renters Paying More Than 50% on Rent, 2024

Housing affordability is a health issue. Across the five-county region, 27.4% of renters spend more than half of their income on rent, with the burden reaching 36.8% in Clayton County and 31.4% in Gwinnett County. When so much household income goes toward housing, fewer resources are available for other essentials. These numbers reinforce ARCHI's focus on connecting health to the broader conditions in which people live.

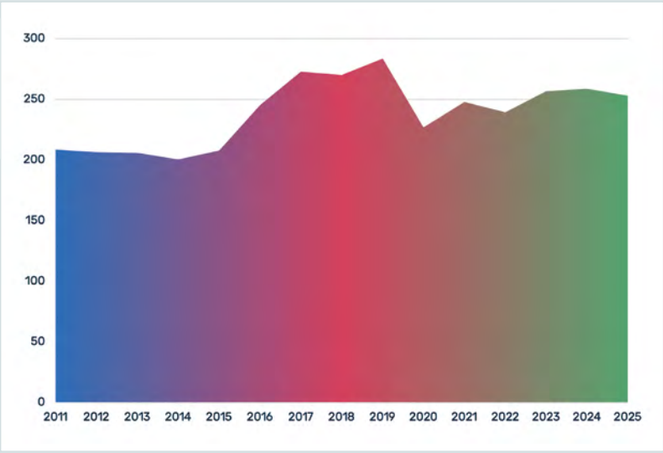
Source: 2024 American Community Survey



Age-Adjusted ER Visit Rate for Diabetes: Five Core Counties

Preventable emergency care is a signal that people may not be getting the support they need before a health issue becomes urgent. The diabetes ER visit rate across the five core counties remains elevated after increasing substantially from earlier years. The trend reinforces the need for stronger prevention, chronic disease management, and connections between clinical care and community-based suppot.

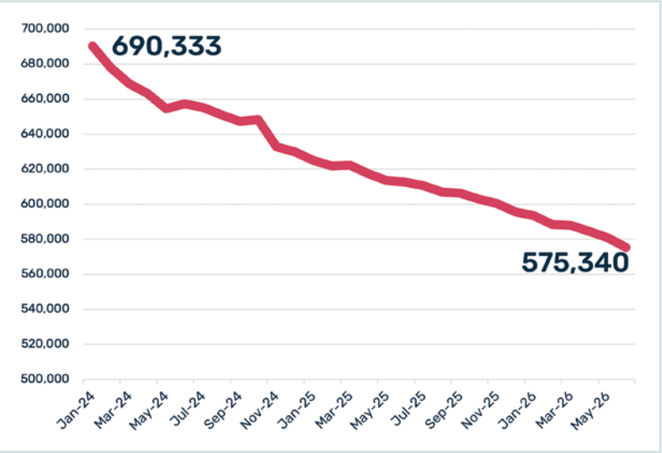
Source: GA Dept. of Public Health, OASIS



Total Medicaid Members: Fulton and DeKalb

A shrinking Medicaid population raises an important question: where are people turning for care? Enrollment across Fulton and DeKalb counties declined from approximately 690,333 in early 2024 to 575,340 by mid-2026. For ARCHI, this trend highlights the importance of a connected regional health ecosystem that helps residents navigate care and resources as coverage and circumstances change.

Sources: Office of Commissioner of Insurance (ACA enrollment); DCH Office of Program Analytics (Medicaid enrollment)



From Agreement to Action

Health Systems Unite for Better Health

The Health and Housing agreement helped advance a shared vision that housing is a critical part of health. That vision became reality through McAuley Station, a mixed-income housing community adjacent to Mercy Care's campus that combines stable housing with access to health care and supportive services. As **Kathryn Lawler, CEO of Mercy Care,** noted, *"McAuley Station is our latest effort to build a healthcare system that truly heals. Intentional social care, like the housing we are here to celebrate today, is how we move the needle when even the best healthcare isn't enough."*





"People sort of see ARCHI like the water. They have the flexibility of being poured into whatever environment and making it move. And I think that's the cadence and the energy behind ARCHI and why we think this partnership is so important. ARCHI does an amazing job of keeping those touch points and holding hands and bringing people together. And so that's the beauty of it. And we celebrate that."

—Jevon Gibson, CEO, The Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority

A Different Way of Working

ARCHI creates connective infrastructure across metro Atlanta It brings health systems, public agencies, community-based organizations, funders, advocates, and residents into sustained collaboration so partners can identify shared challenges, exchange resources, align investments, and build solutions that extend beyond any single institution. The result is a network designed to reduce fragmentation and make coordinated care and support easier to access.

For more than six years, ARCHI has convened social workers and other hospital-based professionals each month to troubleshoot shared challenges, discuss complex patient needs, and exchange resources and ideas. The collaborative creates a consistent space for health systems to learn from one another and strengthen support for patients and families.



Nearly 50 Health System Representatives convened monthly to problem-solve, learn, and connect around Atlanta's most challenging clinical and social issues.



Partners: Grady, Emory, Wellstar, Piedmont, Northside, St. Joseph's/Mercy Care, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Kaiser Permanente, Mosaic Health Center and more

"ARCHI's monthly health systems call is one of the most valuable opportunities I have to connect with colleagues across Atlanta. These connections help us learn from one another, strengthen our approaches, and ultimately better support the patients and families we serve."

—Brooke Santos, Social Worker, Emory Healthcare



Turning Collaboration into Collective Impact

A Different Way of Working









Wellbeing by Design

Wellbeing by Design brings executive leaders together to move from individual programs toward shared strategies for systems change. The work creates space for leaders across sectors to collaborate, imagine new approaches, and act on core initiatives that influence health and wellbeing across metro Atlanta.

CHW workforce alignment

Partners are working toward more consistent approaches to hiring, training, and supporting community health workers while exploring opportunities for employers to collaborate. Regional alignment can strengthen the workforce and help CHWs connect more people with care, resources, and advocacy.

Community Care Hub (CCH)

ARCHI's Community Care Hub work is designed to create a more seamless referral system linking families to food, housing, financial assistance, and community-based care. The model aligns health insurers, health systems, community organizations, and people with lived experience around coordinated support for health-related social needs.

Cross-sector leadership

ARCHI convenes leaders who can act across organizational boundaries. By building trust, aligning resources, and sharing accountability, the network turns ideas from multiple sectors into collective action that no single institution could accomplish alone.

50+ Executive Leaders engaged across the region to collaborate, imagine, and act on four core programs advancing systems change.



"What stands out about ARCHI is its ability to convene partners, build trust, and turn shared ideas into collective action. We're proud to support ARCHI's work and to be part of a network committed to creating healthier communities by addressing the conditions that shape health in the first place."

—Stefanie Hurst, Senior Director of Community Health, Kaiser Permanente Georgia

CCH accomplishments

Engaged health insurers, health systems, and community stakeholders to identify priority populations and align Community Care Hub strategies with regional and statewide needs.

Launched a pilot Community Care Hub initiative with a health insurer to expand coordinated support for older adults in metro Atlanta and test a scalable model for health-related social needs.

Embedded caregiver and community voice in planning and implementation so hub development remained responsive to real-world needs and lived experience.

What the Work Looks Like in Real Life

ARCHI's work at the intersection of health and housing was catalyzed by a 2019 grant from The Kresge Foundation's Advancing Health Equity through Housing initiative. Working together with partners like Grady Memorial Health System, St. Joseph's/Mercy Care Health System, Hope Atlanta, United Way of Greater Atlanta, Kaiser Permanente, and the Fulton and DeKalb County Boards of Health, ARCHI took a two-pronged approach to centering housing to achieve health equity in the metro region: integrating health and housing services to address the unmet social needs of area patients through Community Resource Hubs and driving efforts to address the housing crisis.

In 2023, the ARCHI Portal was launched to address the growing housing crisis in Atlanta.

archi PORTAL

This technology has streamlined access to over $5 million in aid from partner organizations, helping residents cover housing and utility expenses while reducing administrative burdens for agencies. Through strategic partnerships with the City of Atlanta and CONCIERGE, the ARCHI Portal will only continue to grow in the coming years with breadth and depth of resources provided and communities served.

Through a universal application, residents are automatically matched to eligible assistance, eliminating the need to contact multiple agencies or duplicate paperwork. Partner agencies gain efficiency by receiving pre-screened applicants.

Launched in October 2023, the portal has already processed nearly 100,000 applications, underscoring the urgent need for coordinated housing relief and its significant community impact.

$650,000 Nearly **$650,000** in rental and utility assistance was distributed to residents in need during the last 12 months.

In August, Crossroads Community Ministries assisted a family facing an unexpected financial crisis after one parent lost a job just before rent was due. With bills mounting and only one source of income, the family was at risk of eviction while awaiting new employment. Through the rental assistance program, supported by ARCHI's technology and coordination, the family caught up on rent and remained safely housed. The assistance provided stability during a temporary setback and helped the family regain its footing as the wife prepared to begin a new job.



Atlanta's CONCIERGE Pilot simplifies housing help for residents

Finding housing help shouldn't mean calling organization after organization trying to figure out where to start. The new **CONCIERGE Pilot** brings together the City of Atlanta, AssuranceAmerica, ARCHI and community partners to help residents facing eviction or housing instability connect with the right resources sooner.



The goal of Concierge is simple: make it easier for Atlantans to know where to start and where to go next before a housing challenge becomes a crisis.

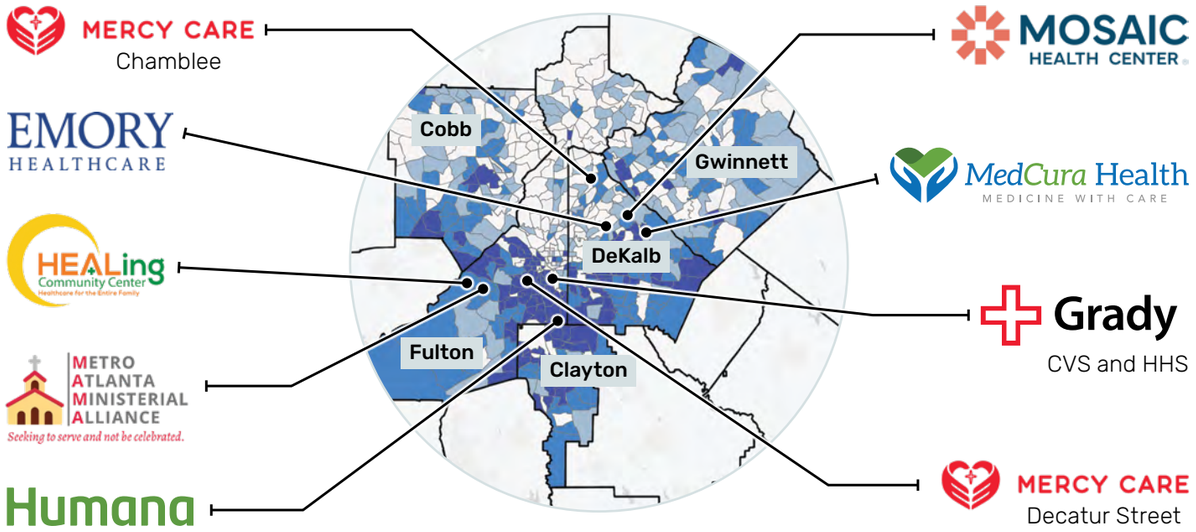


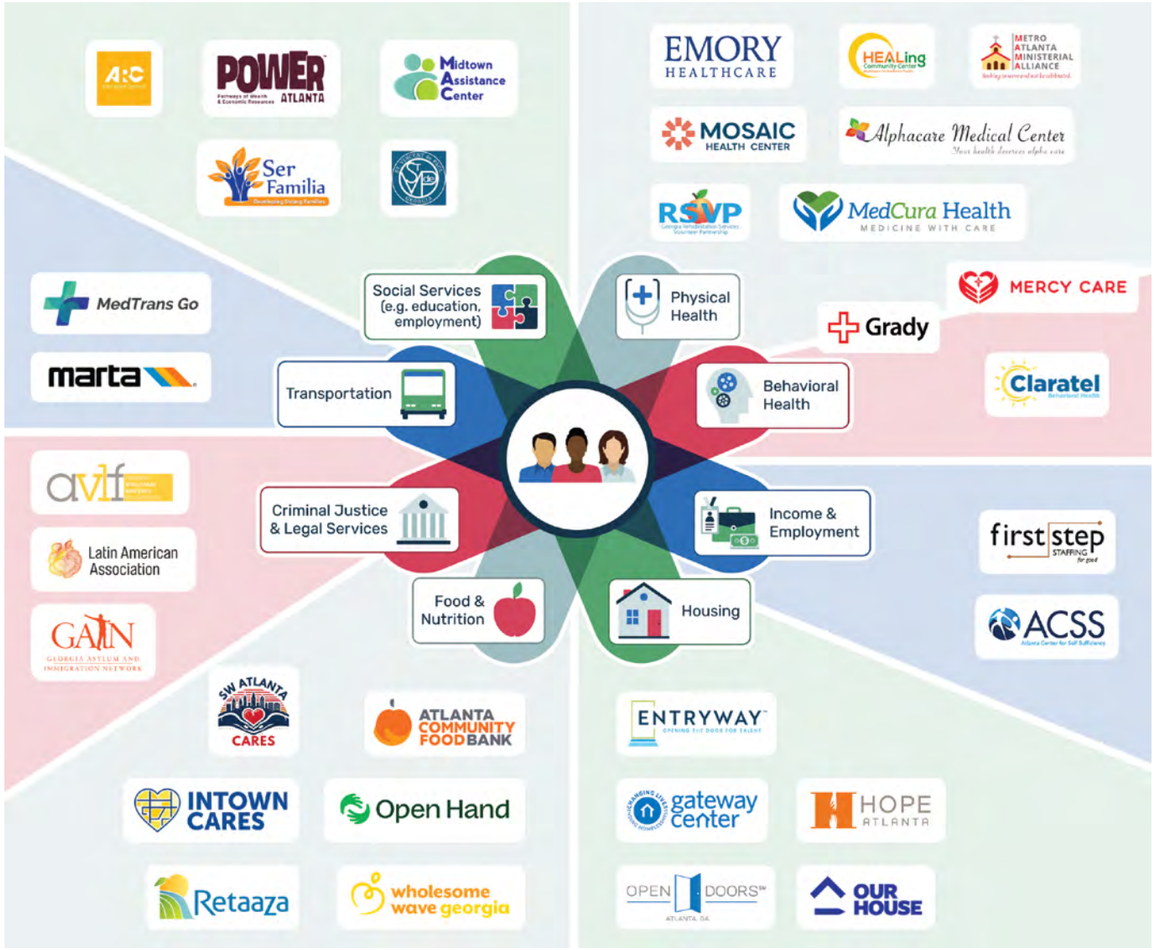
Housing stability is a health intervention. Coordinated rental and utility assistance can help prevent an immediate financial shock from displacement, interrupted care, or a longer-term crisis.

Inverting the Burden through Hubs

Community Resource Hubs (CRHs) are person-centered care coordination networks embedded within health care systems, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), payers, and churches. Community Health Workers (CHWs) are embedded throughout the network, providing one-on-one support to help individuals navigate services, address barriers, and connect to needed resources. CRHs bring together healthcare providers and community-based organizations to streamline referrals, strengthen coordination, and support timely data sharing across the network.

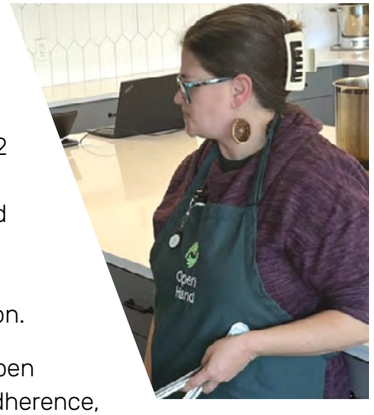
By creating a more connected system of care, CRHs shift the burden of navigating complex health and social services away from individuals and families and onto a coordinated network of partners. As a core part of ARCHI's approach to improving health across metro Atlanta, the CRH network connects residents in Atlanta, Decatur, Clarkston, Stone Mountain, and surrounding communities with resources and support that promote health and well-being.





Community Resource Hub in Action





ARCHI is partnering with Open Hand and Grady Health System to support older adults and caregivers experiencing food insecurity, chronic disease, and barriers to healthy food. Participants referred through Grady community health workers receive 12 weeks of home-delivered medically tailored meals and monthly nutrition education from a registered dietitian nutritionist. Eligibility reflects identified needs such as diabetes or hypertension, food insecurity, and limited mobility or transportation.

The program addresses more than meals. Open Hand assesses nutrition risk, medication adherence, food security, and general health at enrollment and after 12 weeks. Participants receive live nutrition education in the Teaching Kitchen or virtually and may continue accessing education after meal service ends. The partnership connects health care, community organizations, nutrition services, and social supports so people have food, knowledge, and resources to better manage their health.

First-year preliminary findings

42% reported improved general health.

42% reported improved physical health.

37% reported improved mental health days.

Nearly **79%** said the meals eased concern about having enough food.

93% felt somewhat or very confident making healthy changes.

Nearly **79%** said the meals helped them take medications as directed.

Nutrition knowledge scores increased an average of **17%**.

Nearly **one-third** moved into a high or marginal food security category.

Nearly **half** reported sharing meals with others.

Open Hand

"Food helps when I don't have anything. Food stamps are not enough. When you don't have anything to eat, you're extra hungry and anything helps. Thank you for each and everyone involved with this."

"I enjoyed the taste. So easy to pop into the microwave."

"We are very grateful for you guys helping the needy and low-income families that depend on a meal a day to survive."

"They were very helpful. I lost my son during the time I was receiving the meals. They helped me so much."

"The meals were helping me a lot and I didn't have to cook. The meals were healthy too since I have health problems."

Access to Care

At 58, one patient had managed diabetes and hypertension responsibly for more than a decade. When his Affordable Care Act marketplace premium suddenly increased, he could no longer afford coverage and began stretching, then stopping, his medications. **After four months without treatment, he arrived at Mosaic Health Center with blood pressure of 200/95, blood glucose ranging from 450 to 600, an A1C of 14, abnormal kidney function tests, and significant leg pain.**

An abrupt increase in insurance cost forced a patient with previously controlled chronic conditions to go without medication for four months. Free medication, frequent follow-up, education, nutrition support, and connection to food resources helped restore access and improve measurable health indicators.

Mosaic Health Center restarted and carefully managed his oral and injectable medications at no cost. Every two weeks, he returned for clinical care, self-management education, and nutrition support. The team also helped him apply for SNAP and connected him with food pantries after illness forced him to stop working. **His most recent blood pressure was 123/58, and his blood glucose has consistently declined to 100–125. The story shows what becomes possible when clinical care and social support are coordinated around the whole person.**



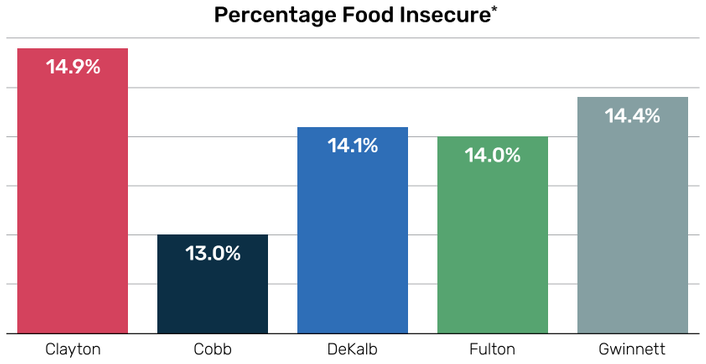
	At intake	Most recent
Blood pressure	200/95	**123/58**
Blood glucose	450–600	**100–125**

Food Insecurity

Coordinated Care



In 2025, ARCHI partnered with the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority (FDHA) and the Ministerial Alliance of Metro Atlanta (MAMA) to **engage churches as trusted community partners in connecting residents to resources, addressing social needs, managing chronic conditions, and improving overall health.** An older Southwest Atlanta couple faced growing food access challenges after the husband survived a stroke. Mobility and vision limitations made long-distance travel difficult, and his wife had become his full-time caregiver. A neighbor who used MAMA's food bank asked whether groceries could be delivered and explained that the couple needed foods that were easy to cook or warm. **MAMA coordinated with food partners to provide appropriate groceries and arrange delivery. The neighbor later reported that the couple was grateful and relieved to have a reliable food source that accommodated their needs.**



Across the five core counties, roughly 1 in 7 residents experiences food insecurity. This persistent need underscores why ARCHI works across healthcare and community sectors to address the social conditions that influence health and build stronger pathways to support.

*Feeding America, 2022

Limited mobility, vision challenges, caregiving responsibilities, and difficulty traveling can turn food access into a daily health barrier. Flexible delivery and foods that are easy to prepare help make support usable, not merely available.

Atlanta Hypertension Initiative

Coordinated Care

AHI is co-led by CDC Foundation, the American Medical Association (AMA), the Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI), and the Metro Atlanta American Heart Association (AHA), with foundational leadership from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Our mission is to improve equitable hypertension control across metro Atlanta through a collective impact approach—bringing together leaders from over 90 organizations across sectors to catalyze sustainable, community- and system-level improvements. Ultimately, our shared goal is to bring over 500,000 more Atlanta adults with hypertension under control and serve as an example for others to replicate.

Approximately **175 patients** were intended to receive home blood pressure devices, guidance, and support through the initiative.

In partnership with ARCHI and AHI, the Metro Atlanta American Heart Association launched a clinical Self-Measured Blood Pressure initiative to improve hypertension management in community-based clinical settings. The initiative reduced barriers to monitoring by providing validated home blood pressure devices and support to patients who might not otherwise have access.

Participating clinical partners

- Emory Hillandale
- Cobb & Douglas Public Health
- Healing Community Center
- Good Samaritan Health Center of Atlanta
- Community Whole Health
- Greater Atlanta Women's Healthcare
- Health-E Medical Center

Live to the Beat makes heart-health education and support more accessible, relevant, and actionable for populations disproportionately affected by cardiovascular disease. An Atlanta-focused campaign reached adults ages 35–54 with hypertension through culturally relevant information intended to strengthen understanding of blood pressure control and confidence in taking action. The campaign used digital and social media, MARTA bus and rail placements, local radio, and trusted voices to connect residents with practical resources for understanding and managing blood pressure.

The campaign met people in the places and channels they already use. Messages were designed for Atlanta-area adults ages 35–54 with hypertension and focused on practical, achievable steps toward blood pressure control.

14.4 million digital impressions delivered during the campaign's final reporting period.

AHI Change Agents

Collectively, AHI Champions will work together to implement accelerated change by drawing on collective assets, including patient education campaigns and CDC, AMA, and AHA's clinical quality improvement (QI) tools and resources. These collective assets include: AMA MAP™ Hypertension, Target: BP, Live to the Beat, and the Million Hearts® Hypertension Control and Hypertension in Pregnancy Change Packages. These assets are available on our website under Tools and Resources.



Progress to date

350+ Individual Participants and Champions

90+ Organizations Represented

5 convenings and **4** webinar trainings

4 Mini Grants and **5** Clinical Stipends awarded

426 HTN Control Commitments made in 2026

6 New Target: BP Program Sign-Ups

5,731 Community BP Screenings

4 New Health Clinics Achieving 70% HTN Control Rate Status

292 Home BP Monitors Distributed

5 Clinic Stipends Awarded (SMBP Implementation)

81 HTN Trainings

Building Resilient Communities





"What I value most about ARCHI is the opportunity to be part of a network that brings people together around the conditions that shape health and wellbeing. It creates space to share what we're learning, build relationships across organizations, and discover new ways to collaborate and strengthen the communities we serve."

—Audrea Rease, Partner and Executive Director, Star-C

Through ARCHI and Resilient Metro, Star-C has connected with partners across sectors, learned from organizations using innovative approaches, and accessed practical capacity-building opportunities. One example was Resilient Metro's "Beyond the Shop: Frontline Readiness" training. Audrea Rease completed the training twice and found it so valuable that every member of the Star-C team completed it. The experience illustrates how a regional network can spread useful learning, strengthen organizations, and build relationships that support children, families, and communities.

ARCHI co-leads the regional coalition of Resilient Georgia to bring public and private partners together to build an integrated, trauma-informed behavioral health system for children and their families. This work advances childhood trauma prevention, early intervention, research, advocacy, policy, and coordinated systems of care to strengthen support for children and families across the region.

Resilient GEORGIA

Nearly 60 free trainings projected in 2026, centered on resiliency, connection, and mental health advocacy.

Regional Mental Health Data*

Healthy Lifestyles—Mental Health	APS	Clayton	Cobb	Decatur	DeKalb	Fulton	Gwinnett	Marietta	Average
How often do you feel stressed?	**15.1%**	**19.5%**	**26.6%**	**25.4%**	**21.9%**	**23.8%**	**23.8%**	**27.2%**	**23.0%**
During the past 12 months, on how many occasions have you seriously considered harming yourself on purpose?	**6.2%**	**6.8%**	**7.6%**	**7.2%**	**8.0%**	**6.6%**	**6.5%**	**9.8%**	**7.0%**
I know an adult at school that I can talk with if I need help.	**22.1%**	**26.1%**	**26.5%**	**20.3%**	**29.9%**	**26.0%**	**22.7%**	**28.0%**	**25.3%**

*Source: GADOE (Student Health Survey)

Listening to Community

Community voice is essential to systems change. **ARCHI creates opportunities for residents, caregivers, community leaders, and partner organizations to shape priorities and solutions based on lived experience.** This approach treats community members not simply as recipients of services, but as partners in designing the policies, programs, and connections that affect their health.

Through civic advocacy training with our partner Georgia Watch, community members learned how policymaking works, connected lived experience to policy issues, and built skills and confidence to advocate for their communities. The work reinforced a central lesson: lasting systems change is stronger when people most affected by the system help shape its direction.



Community Health Workers

Community health workers are trusted connectors who help residents navigate care, social supports, and community resources. ARCHI works to elevate CHWs as part of a stronger regional health ecosystem and to align partners around consistent approaches to hiring, training, supporting, and sustaining the workforce.





"One of the greatest lessons from our work together is that meaningful systems change happens when communities are not simply recipients of services, but active partners in shaping the policies and solutions that affect their health."

—Natasha Taylor, Executive Director, NAMI Georgia



"Community Health Workers are really connectors at heart. ARCHI makes a difference for CHWs by strengthening our connections with each other through the GA CHW Network and by connecting us with partners and resources we can share with our communities. The ARCHI breakfasts are especially good at that!"

—Adrianne Proeller, Community Health Worker, Morehouse School of Medicine

Convening Atlanta

10+ Events / More than **1,000** cross-sector attendees

Neutral Convener



"The breakfast event on redlining was excellent—from the topic and format to the speakers and overall flow. It's no small feat to pull off a large event with a small team, and the ARCHI team absolutely nails it every time!"

—Lysa Moore, Data Fluency and Training Manager, Neighborhood Nexus

ARCHI's convenings help partners and residents connect history, lived experience, policy, aging, and present-day health conditions. Across four events, the network created shared learning spaces that reached hundreds of participants and strengthened a common understanding of the forces shaping health in metro Atlanta.

Moving the Needle



175+

cross-sector ARCHI partners

61%

increase in funding for hubs, CHW projects, and collaboratives since 2023

Nearly $650,000

in rental and utility assistance distributed in the last 12 months

A Mosaic patient's **blood pressure improvement from 200/95 to 123/58** and **blood glucose decline from 450–600 to 100–125**

Improved self-reported health and food security in the medically tailored meals initiative

At least 25%

of ARCHI revenues redistributed to collaborating community partners

ARCHI engaged national funding partners to support local systems change, helping connect outside investment with locally designed, cross-sector strategies.

Nearly 60

free resiliency, connection, and mental health advocacy trainings projected in 2026

9

Atlanta Health Care Systems Engaged

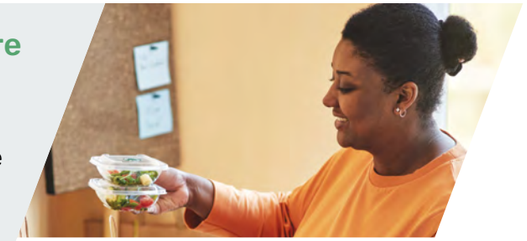
Examples of network investment include Community Care Hub development, community health worker projects, cross-sector collaboratives, rental and utility assistance coordination, medically tailored meals, and hypertension initiatives.



What We Are Learning

Meet people where they are

Effective programs fit people's daily realities. Home blood pressure monitoring, delivered meals, accessible education, and trusted community messengers reduce the distance between a resource and the person who needs it.



Coordinate across organizations

No single organization holds every solution. Shared referrals, recurring convenings, aligned partners, and clear roles help residents move through a connected network instead of navigating fragmented systems alone.





Address health and social needs together

Health outcomes are shaped by the ability to obtain medication, food, housing, transportation, and trusted guidance. The strongest stories in this book pair clinical support with practical help that makes health management possible.



Invest in community infrastructure

Sustained systems change requires investment in the organizations, workforce, relationships, and tools that communities rely on. Redistributing resources to collaborating partners strengthens the network's capacity to respond and endure.

Home-based monitoring extends care beyond clinic walls.

Medically tailored meals connect health care and nutrition.

Rental assistance protects housing stability.

CHWs and community ambassadors provide trusted guidance.

Cross-sector convenings turn shared learning into coordinated action.

Future Initiatives

Vital Conditions

Health is shaped by more than access to healthcare. Vital Conditions reflect the interconnected social, economic, and community factors that create the foundation for people to live healthy, thriving lives. By working together, we can strengthen these conditions, deepen belonging, and build the civic muscle needed to create lasting change.

Coordinated systems of care

Develop stronger referral relationships and Community Care Hub infrastructure that link health care with food, housing, financial assistance, and other community-based supports.

Community-connected health care

Bring care closer to daily life through trusted community partners, home-based tools, practical education, and referral systems that connect clinical and social support.

CHW workforce development

Advance regional alignment in CHW hiring, training, support, employer collaboration, advocacy, and sustainability so trusted community leaders can thrive in the workforce.

Community voice

Community voice is essential to systems change. ARCHI creates opportunities for residents, caregivers, community leaders, and partner organizations to shape priorities and solutions based on lived experience. This approach treats community members not simply as recipients of services, but as partners in designing the policies, programs, and connections that affect their health.

Mental health and resilience

Build on Resilient Metro and partner training to expand community capacity for resilience, connection, and mental health advocacy.

What else will we accomplish together?

Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement

Cross-sector collaboration | **Evidence-based systems change** | **Invert the burden**

ARCHI recognizes the health systems, community-based organizations, public agencies, advocates, funders, residents, caregivers, and community health workers whose collaboration makes this work possible.

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