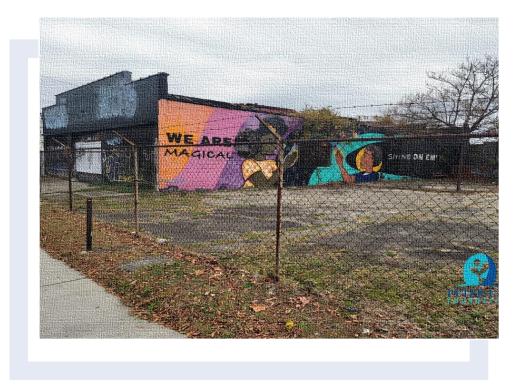
Southwest Atlanta Community Resource Project



In the diverse and dynamic state of Georgia, The Peter Uba Foundation's mission is centered around compassion, addressing and bridging the equity gap that persists in critical areas that directly impact the well-being and livelihoods of the residents of Metro Atlanta, Georgia communities that The Foundation serves. This comprehensive mission covers a range of challenges, including Homelessness, Food Insecurity, Health and Wellbeing, Poverty, Nutrition, Education, and Basic Human Development.



The gravity of the situation is clear, as we're confronted with the distressing fact that nearly 1 in 8 Georgians, with an even more alarming statistic of 1 in 6 children, are struggling with the harsh reality of food insecurity. These statistics underscore the urgency and importance of our mission. Food insecurity is a condition where individuals or households lack consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. This is not only a matter of physical sustenance but also an issue that cuts across all facets of life.

The statistics paint a picture of the struggles faced by a significant portion of the population in Georgia, showing the urgent need for targeted initiatives aimed at eradicating food insecurity and its associated consequences. The numbers reflect not only immediate concerns about hunger but also ripple into broader implications for health, education, and the overall well-being of communities. Children, in particular, bear the brunt of this crisis, facing obstacles in their physical and cognitive development due to insufficient access to proper nutrition.



In light of these compelling circumstances, by focusing on critical areas such as homelessness, where individuals and families lack stable and secure living arrangements, using this campaign, The Foundation aims to address the root causes that contribute to food insecurity and other challenges, incorporating broader aspects of human development, health, education, and poverty alleviation, recognizing the interconnected nature of these issues.

The call to action embedded in these statistics is a rallying cry for collective efforts to create sustainable solutions and systemic change. The Peter Uba Foundation, through its multifaceted mission, aims not only to provide immediate relief but also to institute long-term strategies that empower individuals and communities to break the cycle of poverty and insecurity.

Atlanta, the capital of Georgia, holds significant importance in our efforts. Situated in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and positioned to the southeast of the Chattahoochee River, Atlanta not only holds the title of Georgia's largest city but also stands as a pivotal trade and transportation hub in the southeastern United States.





Amidst its prosperous appearance and bustling urban landscape, Atlanta conceals a reality that contrasts with its outward image.

Beyond the gleaming skyscrapers and thriving economic activities, there exists a nuanced underbelly of hardships and disparities that some inhabitants face. Issues such as socioeconomic inequality, racial disparities, and urban development struggles cast shadows on the city's facade, highlighting the complex and multifaceted nature of Atlanta's societal dynamics.

This duality within Atlanta, with its outward success and underlying challenges, adds depth to our recognition of the city's importance. Acknowledging both the achievements and the issues is essential for a comprehensive understanding of Atlanta's role as a dynamic and evolving urban center in the southeastern region of the United States.

Recent data released by the United States Census Bureau reveals that Atlanta, despite its status as a model of economic prosperity, contends with the highest income inequality among major U.S. cities. This clear contrast in wealth distribution is not merely an isolated statistical anomaly but is deeply interlinked with historical racial inequities that continue to exert an intense impact on the city's population.



The roots of this economic divide can be traced back to historical injustices that have left a lasting imprint on present-day socioeconomic circumstances. Despite the overall affluence of the city, a significant portion of Atlanta's Black population finds itself excluded from the results of recent economic growth. This exclusion supports a cycle of disadvantage that extends across generations, creating a persistent and troubling pattern of inequality.

Adding to the difficulty of the situation is the broader economic context, where general inflation is an intensifying factor. The surge in prices, particularly for essentials such as food and gas, poses a disproportionate burden on lower-income residents in Atlanta. This economic strain further amplifies the hardship faced, exacerbating the existing disparities and making it increasingly difficult for them to partake in the city's overall prosperity.

In confronting these issues, it becomes evident that addressing income inequality in Atlanta requires a multi-layered approach that not only acknowledges the contemporary economic challenges but also recognizes and seeks to rectify the historical injustices. Effecting positive change demands a concentrated effort to create inclusive economic policies, bridge racial divides, and ensure that the benefits of Atlanta's success are shared equitably across all its diverse communities.



The geographical landscape of Atlanta reflects the glaring reality of the wealth gap, creating a pronounced disparity that is impossible to overlook. One of the most conspicuous examples of this divide is evident in the contrast between neighborhoods like Buckhead, situated in the affluent northern reaches of the city, and areas such as Thomasville Heights in southeast Atlanta.



These two neighborhoods represent extremes in terms of wealth distribution, capturing the profound economic disparities that persist within the city.

Buckhead, a predominantly white area in the northern part of Atlanta, stands as a symbol of affluence and opulence.

Renowned for its upscale residences, luxury shopping districts, and exclusive amenities, Buckhead ranks among the wealthiest areas not only in Atlanta but in the entire region. The wealth and prosperity concentrated in Buckhead contribute to the city's overall image as a hub of economic success and prosperity.



In obvious contrast, Thomasville Heights, located in the southeastern quadrant of Atlanta and characterized by a majority Black population, presents a striking juxtaposition. Census data paints a sobering picture, revealing that this neighborhood struggles with significant economic challenges, ranking among the city's poorest areas. The residents of Thomasville Heights face a multitude of socio-economic difficulties, including limited access to quality education, healthcare, and employment opportunities.

The geographical manifestation of this wealth gap emphasizes the deeply rooted racial and economic disparities that persist in Atlanta. It reflects not only current economic conditions but also historical patterns of discrimination and disinvestment that have disproportionately affected communities of color. Addressing this spatial inequity requires comprehensive efforts aimed at promoting inclusive development, equitable resource allocation, and dismantling systemic barriers that perpetuate the uneven distribution of wealth across the city. Ultimately, understanding and addressing the geographic dimensions of the wealth gap are crucial steps toward advancing a more just and equitable Atlanta.

Homelessness is a critical issue within Atlanta, with the city grappling with a critical issue that extends far beyond its borders. Alarming statistics reveal that Atlanta hosts more than a quarter of the state's homeless population, a figure staggering that 10,000 approaches nearly individuals. These numbers not only emphasize the magnitude of the crisis but also highlight



the urgent need for comprehensive and compassionate interventions.

Our mission takes on a comprehensive approach aimed at addressing the interconnected issues that contribute to homelessness. At the forefront of our efforts is a commitment to alleviating food insecurity, recognizing that many individuals experiencing homelessness face the daily struggle of securing their next meal. By addressing this fundamental need, we aim to provide a measure of stability and dignity to those navigating the difficult terrain of homelessness.

In addition, our mission extends beyond immediate needs to confront the deep-seated racial and economic disparities that often underpin homelessness. Systemic issues such as discrimination, limited access to education and employment opportunities, and historical injustices contribute to the vulnerability of certain communities. By actively engaging with these root causes, we strive to create lasting change that not only lifts individuals out of homelessness but also addresses the systemic factors that perpetuate the cycle.



Crucial to our mission is the provision of support to those experiencing homelessness, recognizing that the journey to stability is often complex and requires a range of services. This includes access to safe shelter, mental health resources, job training, and social services tailored to meet the diverse needs of

individuals experiencing homelessness. By offering a comprehensive support network, we aim to empower individuals to reclaim control over their lives and reintegrate into the community.

Your support is necessary in advancing these transformative efforts. By joining us in this mission, you create positive change in the lives of many Georgians in need. Together, we can build a more compassionate and equitable community, where the jeopardy of homelessness is replaced by opportunities for growth, stability, and a brighter future for all.



- In Georgia, the child poverty rate is 18.7% making it the 14th highest child poverty rate among states.
- In Georgia, 3.7% live on less than \$10,000 annually compared to the national average of 3.3%.
- Georgia has the second highest maternal mortality rate in the United States which disproportionately affects women of color and women who live in the rural areas of the state.

• Black women are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than Caucasian women (Capstone, 2020).

The primary objective of this project is to tackle the prevalent issues of food insecurity and hunger among homeless and low-income families in Southwest Atlanta. Recognizing the gravity of these issues, our key objective is to institute a comprehensive strategy that not only addresses immediate nutritional needs but also lays the basis for long-term empowerment.



A significant element of our comprehensive approach is a meticulous assessment of the diverse needs of the populations we aim to serve and work with. by The Peter Uba Foundation field team. We understand that each individual and family faces unique circumstances, and we seek to tailor our interventions to address specific challenges. Our field team engages directly with the

community, listening to their experiences, and identifying the underlying factors that contribute to food insecurity. By doing this, we develop targeted and responsive strategies that resonate with the lived realities of those we seek to assist.

In tandem with understanding the nuanced needs of our target population, we are committed to advocating for and facilitating targeted referrals and resources. This advocacy extends beyond immediate food assistance to incorporate a continuum of support services, including access to healthcare, educational resources, job training, and housing assistance. By establishing partnerships with local organizations, governmental agencies, and community stakeholders, we aim to create a network of resources that addresses the complex challenges faced by homeless and low-income families in Southwest Atlanta.



Our Approach

In formulating our strategy, we recognize that addressing immediate hunger concerns is just one facet of the complex challenges faced by the communities we serve and work with. A keystone of our approach is to explore deeper into the intricate web of factors that contribute to the struggles experienced by individuals and families. Through a meticulous process of thorough assessments, we uncover the nuanced and unique challenges that shape the daily lives of community members.

These assessments carried out by our field teams are not merely about collecting data; they are dynamic and participatory efforts. Engaging directly with the community, we listen to the voices of those affected, gaining firsthand insights into their experiences, aspirations, and the barriers they encounter. By understanding the specific needs and challenges at play, we adapt our interventions to be not only effective but also responsive to the diverse circumstances within the community.

We are champions for the community, using the knowledge acquired during our assessments to raise awareness and influence change at various levels. Our goal is to connect individuals with the appropriate support systems that extend beyond immediate hunger relief.



Specific objectives to achieve the mission of this project include:

- Establishing a Food Pantry and Resource Center centrally located for community members to easily access resources to meet their needs and receive appropriate advocacy.
- Conducting intake Assessments and making appropriate referrals for our homeless and lowincome families in Southwest Atlanta.
- Providing bi-weekly boxed dry goods for low-income families and the elderly.
- Assisting individuals and families in completing necessary forms to enable participation in programs that are available federally and through the state.
- Coordinating food services with other local businesses and entities such as parks and recreation and community-based organizations to provide easy access to food for community members.
- Providing resources such as coats, blankets, and weather-suitable clothing for individuals and children in need.
- Providing Nutrition, Health, and Lifestyle Education within the Resource Center to community members.



In essence, our advocacy efforts serve as a bridge between the community and the resources available to improve their quality of life. Whether it's navigating bureaucratic processes, dismantling systemic

barriers, or nurturing partnerships with other organizations, our commitment is to ensure that individuals are not only provided with essential support but also empowered to access the broader array of services that can contribute to their well-being. Through this campaign, we aim to create lasting positive change and contribute to the development of nourished and thriving families in Southwest Atlanta.



Visit our website now at <u>www.peterubafoundation.org</u> and take a leading role in reshaping the narrative for families in Southwest Atlanta. Your donations play a crucial role in making this vision a reality and establishing a more sustainable and fulfilling future for these families in Southwest Atlanta.

Donate Now! Thank you.