Empowerline Forum Series
Lifelong Communities: Making the Atlanta Region Age-Friendly

Monday, August 19, 2019 | 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Georgia Power Arkwright Auditorium | 241 Ralph McGill Blvd. NE
Atlanta, GA 30308

Atlanta Regional Commission | empowerline

ARC ANNUAL PARTNERS

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— AGENDA —

8:30 am  Registration and Light Breakfast

9:00 am  Welcome  
Becky Kurtz, Manager, Aging & Independence Services Group, ARC

Keynote  
Jana Lynott, Senior Strategic Policy Advisor, AARP Public Policy Institute

Transportation Success Stories

Break

10:35 am  Housing Panel  
Beth Hogan, Local Home-Sharing Expert
Will Johnston, Executive Director, MicroLife Institute
Anne Kaiser, Vice President of Community and Economic Development, Georgia Power
Jacque Thornton, Director of Population Health, National Church Residences
Angela Threadgill, Director of Planning and Zoning, City of Decatur

Advocacy and Action  
Darin Givens, Board President, ThreadATL

Closing Remarks:  
Becky Kurtz, Manager, Aging & Independence Services Group, ARC
Darin Givens
Darin Givens is board president for ThreadATL, a group he co-founded in 2016 with a group of neighborhood activists and professional planners. Together, they build advocacy campaigns for promoting “good urbanism” in the City of Atlanta’s built environment while promoting national and international best practices for creating inclusively beneficial urban places.

Beth Hogan
For five years, Beth Hogan has operated a “Golden Girls/Guys” home — a shared living space where older individuals choose to live in community. As a registered nurse, she has worked in critical care, home health, and hospice for four decades.

Will Johnston
Will Johnston is the Executive Director of the MicroLife Institute and a thought-leader and innovator in the micro-living world. Over the past four years, his organization has enabled policy change and brought acceptance of micro-structures to the Southeast through events, projects, and advocacy.

Anne Kaiser
Anne Hydrick Kaiser serves as Vice President of Community and Economic Development for Georgia Power, leading the company’s efforts to recruit new industry to Georgia and help existing industries grow. The department has been internationally recognized as one of the top economic development organizations in the world, bringing more than 279,000 jobs and $53 billion in capital investment to Georgia over the past two decades.

Becky Kurtz
Becky Kurtz leads the Area Agency on Aging for the 10-county metro Atlanta region within the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). ARC connects older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers to resources, services, and supports through empowerline — and, together with partners, enhances the independence of metro Atlanta’s rapidly growing aging population by providing services, planning, and advocacy.

Jana Lynott
Jana Lynott is a Senior Strategic Policy Advisor with AARP Public Policy Institute’s Livable Communities team. As a researcher, writer, videographer, and keynote speaker, Jana brings to her work a passion for the role community design and transportation service play in the health and quality of life of people of all ages, abilities, and incomes.
Jacque Thornton
Jacque Thornton has been a leader and change agent in the field of aging services for over 19 years and spent 13 years in the public health arena as an analyst. She is currently the Director of Population Health at National Church Residences.

Angela Threadgill
Angela Threadgill has been in the community development and urban planning field since 1999 and is currently the Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Decatur, specializing in land use policy and community development. Her most recent work includes master planning for a 77-acre city-owned park and campus, and staffing the city-appointed affordable housing task force who are preparing recommendations for policy changes.
Lauren Welsh will be speaking in place of Darin Givens.

**Lauren Welsh**

Lauren Welsh, executive director of the Little 5 Points CID, has spent her career working in the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors addressing the critical issues impacting Atlanta – from the challenges of homelessness to the social power of good urbanism. In 2017, she co-founded ThreadATL, which engages residents to demand and support planning and development that creates a more connected and vibrant city for all Atlanta neighborhoods.