PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
The #1 requested supportive service...

Step Up is going to Atlanta! An innovative partnership between Step Up, Dr. Sam Tsemberis’s Pathways to Housing, and Wendover Housing Partners will launch programs over the next three years to provide housing and support services for 140 of the most vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness and mental health conditions in the greater Atlanta, GA metro area.

The partnership will secure 70 Section 8 vouchers (rent subsidies) from Atlanta and DeKalb County, along with funding from the John & Polly Sparks Foundation, to provide support services for 140 individuals. The supportive housing will initially be provided by existing rental units owned by community landlords, known as the “scattered site” housing first model. Then, Step Up and Wendover will develop and build a new 70 unit permanent supportive housing community over the next three to four years.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING & PLACEMENT
Productivity and social connectedness...

Representatives from Catalyst Kitchens recently visited Step Up on Second to observe the Vocational Training Program. Catalyst Kitchens, an initiative of Seattle’s non-profit Farestart, is a collaborative network of over 50 impact driven organizations and social entrepreneurs whose mission is to end joblessness, poverty, and hunger in communities around the world.

Catalyst Kitchen’s Chef Ray, representing Maslow’s, one of Seattle’s most popular restaurants, observed the working relationship between Step Up’s Meal Program and the Culinary training in the Step Up kitchen.

“I could not be more impressed with the staff and the mission of Step Up. I will educate more people about the important work that Step Up does,” stated Chef Ray. “I will spread the word in Seattle. We need Step Up in more cities.”

SENSE OF BELONGING
Mutuality, safety, respect...

Vickie M. Mays, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor at UCLA, will oversee Civic Engagement students at Step Up on Second every Friday in May.

From 11 am to noon each Friday in May, the Client Run Center at Step Up on Second will host Dr. Mays’ students from UCLA’s Civic Engagement program. The students chose to engage and work with Step Up members to design information on addressing health habits and will design an online booklet on how to eat healthy on a budget by pointing out healthy options at local fast food and chain restaurants. Her students will design a fun, low impact dance routine to get members moving.