



# News Release

## Department of Health and Wellness

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **Fulton Tackles Health Disparities**

*Renovated Neighborhood Union Health Center Will Serve as One-Stop-Shop for Healthcare*

The Fulton County Department of Health and Human Services will re-open the newly renovated Neighborhood Union Health Center on Monday, February 9, 2009. The health center is the first multidiscipline facility in the state designed to address health disparities experienced in the Vine City community. In addition to the Department of Health and Wellness services, the center will provide mental health and substance abuse counseling, career counseling and training and primary care services.

“We have a mission to provide health care to the residents of our County,” says Dr. Kim Turner, Interim Director of the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness. “Neighborhood Union will allow us to address the whole well-being of community residents and provide seamless service delivery of care. The partnerships we have forged will work together to improve healthy behaviors and healthy outcomes for all clients.”

Partnerships include:

- Fulton County - Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases (MH/DD/AD) will help residents with substance abuse and mental health issues such as depression.
- Fulton County - Human Services Office of Workforce Development will provide career counseling and training to assist residents with obtaining jobs.
- Morehouse School of Medicine will provide primary care to identify and treat diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and asthma that are common in communities with high rates of disparities.

“We are pleased that we are re-opening this health center with expanded services in order to address the disparities faced by our residents,” says Dr. Turner. “We believe that the new Neighborhood Union positions us to better assist residents and allow us to continue to provide the quality service they have come to expect from Fulton County.”

The Neighborhood Union Health Center, located at 186 Sunset Avenue in Atlanta, opened in 1955 in a predominantly African American community during a time of mounting racial tension across the nation. The re-design retains its historical exterior to signify the importance of the facility to the community. A 7,500 square foot addition links to the original building and a community meeting room is added for the community to use for neighborhood programs and meetings.

For hours of operation and more information on the services offered at the Neighborhood Union Health Center call (404) 612-7665 or log-on to [www.fultoncountygahealth.org](http://www.fultoncountygahealth.org).