



**JON ABERCROMBIE**

Jon is the past Executive Director of FCS Urban Ministries and the founder of Charis Community Housing in Atlanta, Georgia. Currently Jon is the Director of ***Common Focus***, which designs and leads organizational and community dialogues.

**Community Building and Facilitation Experience:**

Jon's experience in community building and facilitation includes planning and visioning retreats for nonprofit and for profit organizations. He also does leadership development and facilitation for urban neighborhoods.

He has facilitated training and planning for a wide range of state, county and city governmental groups. He has also worked with international and community-based nonprofit organizations. He has led work retreats of the DeKalb County Commission and of the City Council of Marietta among others.

He developed a grass root community development course for Oglethorpe University and for the School of City Planning at the Georgia Institute of Technology. The course has been taught to groups that include community development grass root leaders. He also leads a statewide course for the Department of Community Affairs.

With Civic Strategies, Jon led the citizen engagement of the Hall County visioning process and Forsyth County's Envision 2030. In June, he initiated a one-day course on citizen engagement for the Georgia Municipal Association.

**Decatur Study Circles: Building Community Wide Participation**

Jon initiated and led the Decatur Round Tables; a series of small group sessions intended to build community and civic involvement. It was the basis of Decatur's ten year strategic plan in 2000. He also recently led the City of Decatur schools in a similar dialogue. More than 400 people were involved. Jon is now a Senior Associate with Everyday Democracy in E. Hartford, Connecticut. He trains facilitators and leads community-wide conversations for citizen engagement across the country.

Further information may be found at the Common Focus web site [www.commonfocus.org](http://www.commonfocus.org).