



# HOLIDAYS OBSERVED DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

May 8

Mother's Day

May 30

Memorial Day



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#### NEWS AND NEIGHBORS

Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority

May 2022

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# How do I Register to Vote?

ntormation Who can register to vote?

More can I get a registration form?

### Registration Deadlines?

Virginia Welcomes You



To be eligible to register to vote in Virginia a person must:

- Be a resident of Virginia (A person who has come to Virginia for temporary purposes and intends to return to another state is not considered a resident for voting purposes);
- . Be a U. S. Citizen;
- Be 18 years old (Any person who is 17 years old and will be eighteen years of age at the next election shall be permitted to register in advance and also vote in any intervening primary or special election;
- Does not claim the right to vote in any other State;
- Not currently declared mentally incompetent by a court of law;
- If convicted of a felony, your right to vote must have been restored.

Persons eligible to register can obtain a registration application at any of the following locations:

- Local voter registration office: Newport News City Hall-2400 Washington Avenue-6th Floor-Newport News, Virginia 23607. Telephone number: 757.926.8683
- Online: www.nngov.com/voter-registrar.
- State or local government offices when applying or recertifying for Aid to Dependent Children, Food Stamps, WIC, Medicaid, or Rehabilitation Services;
- Government offices in the State that provide State-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to person with disabilities;
- Armed forces recruitment offices;
- Public Libraries: Pearl Bailey-2510 Wickham Avenue, Newport News, VA 23607
   Grissom-366 DeShazor Drive, Newport News, VA 23608
   West Avenue-2907 West Avenue, Newport News, VA 23607
   Main Street-110 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601
- · State Board of Elections office;
- · Department of Motor Vehicles offices;
- Voter Registration Drives.

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 by 5:00 p.m. (in person)

If registering online, must be submitted by 11:59 p.m.





Karen R. Wilds Executive Director

You can resolve to make your neighborhood a safer place. A Hot Spot Card with a pre-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed in each newsletter this month. If you know about any past criminal, any potential violence or any activity you suspect is illegal anywhere in our City, please use this card. It is completely anonymous. It can be dropped off at your rental office or mailed.

If you would like to talk to someone about any concerns you have, you can call NNRHA Safety and Security Officer at (757) 928-2660.



#### **Information for Tenants**

The U.S. Department of Treasury's ("Treasury") Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program makes funding available to assist households that are unable to pay rent or utilities. The funds were provided directly to states, U.S. territories, local governments, and (in case of the first program, ERA1) to Indian tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities, as applicable, and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Grantees use the funds to assist eligible households through existing or newly created rental assistance programs.

In guidance and <u>FAQs</u>, Treasury advised that participants in HUD-assisted rental programs (including the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), Public Housing, or Project-Based Rental Assistance programs) are eligible for the ERA program and may receive assistance for the tenant-owed portion of rent or utilities that is not subsidized. In <u>FAQs</u> for PHAs and HCV landlords, PIH clarified that this assistance can include rent arrearages and utilities owed over the utility allowance. The <u>FAQs</u> include additional guidance on interim reexaminations, income calculations, and additional considerations for private landlords participating in the HCV program.

To learn more about how to apply for ERA go to: Virginia Rent Relief Program by visiting: <a href="https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/rmrp">https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/rmrp</a> or calling 703-962-1884

You may contact 2-1-1 Virginia to determine the availability of any additional rent relief programs by visiting: https://211virginia.org or calling 211.

You may wish to contact your local legal aid program for free legal assistance to low-income people by visiting: https://www.valegalaid.org/find-legal-help or calling 1-866-LEGALAID (1-866-534-5243).

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible for temporary protection from eviction under the laws of your State, territory, locality, or tribal area, or under Federal law. Visit http://www.cfpb.gov/eviction or call a housing counselor at 800-569-4287 to learn more.

State and local ERA grantees can also be accessed from <u>Treasury's website</u> using the link <u>"Find rental assistance in your area."</u>

Leases may not be terminated due to nonpayment of rent until at least 30 days have passed after a tenant receives this notice.



# Struggling to pay your rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

The Virginia Rent Relief Program may be able to help

Virginia is administering relief for renters experiencing a negative financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic through the Virginia Rent Relief Program (RRP). Through this state program, you can apply (or your landlord may apply on your behalf) to receive funds to pay delinquent rent arrear payments back to April 1, 2020, and up to three months of payments into the future to maintain housing stability. The total payments may not exceed a total of 15 months of rental assistance per household.



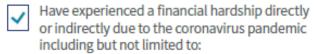
#### Eligibility

The Virginia RRP will provide financial help on behalf of renters who meet the following criteria:









- Being laid off
- Place of employment has closed
- Reduction in hours of work
- Loss of spousal/child support
- Inability to find work due to COVID-19
- Having to stay home with children due to distance learning / closure of day care or school
- Increase in expenses due to COVID-19, such as child care, medical bills, etc.
- Unwilling or unable to participate in previous employment due to the workplace's high risk of severe illness from COVID-19



#### Required documents

You'll need the following as proof of eligibility:

Proof of income (for example: pay stubs, bank statements, letter from employer, Social Security documents, pension)

Valid lease or other documentation of landlordtenant relationship

✓ Rent ledger (landlord provides)

Completed application and agreements

✓ Virginia W-9

#### Learn More & Apply:

Contact your landlord today to apply on your behalf. This is the quickest way to access rent relief.

Or apply for yourself. Get started on DHCD's website: dhcd.virginia.gov/eligibility



The Virginia Rent Relief Program is administered through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. Virginia Housing is the grantee for landlord-initiated applicants. For more information, visit <a href="https://dhcd.virginia.gov/rrp">dhcd.virginia.gov/rrp</a>.



# ¿Luchando para Poder Pagar su Alquiler debido a la pandemia de COVID-19?

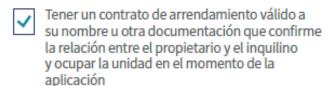
Usted podría ser elegible para recibir asistencia financiera a través del Programa de Alivio de Alquiler de Virginia.

Virginia está administrando fondos de alivio para inquilinos que estén experimentando un impacto financiero negativo debido a la pandemia de COVID-19 a través del Programa de Alivio de Alquiler de Virginia (RRP). A través de este programa, usted puede aplicar (o su arrendador puede aplicar a su nombre) para recibir fondos para cubrir los pagos atrasados de su alquiler a partir del 1 de abril de 2020 y hasta tres meses de pagos en el futuro para mantener la estabilidad de la vivienda. Los pagos totales no pueden exceder un total de 15 meses de asistencia para el alquiler por hogar.



#### Elegibilidad

El RRP de Virginia brindará ayuda financiera a nombre de los inquilinos que cumplan con los siguientes requisitos:



- El pago total del alquiler del hogar es igual o menor al 150% del alquiler justo del mercado
- Tener un ingreso familiar bruto igual o menor al 80% del ingreso medio del área
- ✓ Haber experimentado dificultades financieras (directa o indirectamente) debido a la pandemia de coronavirus, incluyendo, entre otros:
  - Haber sido despedido
  - Su lugar de trabajo ha cerrado
  - Reducción de horas de trabajo
  - Pérdida de la manutención del cónyuge / hijos
  - Incapacidad para encontrar trabajo debido a COVID-19
  - Tener que quedarse en casa con sus niños debido al cierre de la guardería / escuela
  - Aumento en gastos debido a COVID-19, como cuidado de niños, facturas médicas, etc.
  - No estár dispuesto o no pueder participar en su empleo anterior debido a que su enfermedad lo hace ser considerado de alto riesgo al contagio de COVID-19



#### **Documentos requeridos**

Necesitará lo siguiente como prueba de elegibilidad:

- Comprobante de ingresos (por ejemplo: recibos de pago, estados de cuenta bancarios, carta del empleador, documentos del seguro social, pensión)
- Contrato de arrendamiento válido u otra documentación que compruebe la relación propietario-inquilino
- ✓ Libro de contabilidad de alquiler
- ✓ Solicitud y acuerdos completados
- ✓ W-9 de Virginia

#### Aprenda Más y Aplique:

Comuníquese con su arrendador hoy para que presente una solicitud a su nombre. Esta es la forma más rápida de acceder al alivio del alquiler.

O aplique usted mismo.
Comience visitando el sitio
web de DHCD: dhcd.virginia.gov/eligibility



El programa de alivio de alquiler de Virginia es administrado a a través del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de Virginia. Virginia Housing es el administrador para las solicitudes iniciadas por el propietario. Para obtener más información, visite dhcd.virginia.gov/rrp.

# THE FAMILY INVESTMENT CENTER HAS MOVED FROM RIDLEY TO MARSHALL COURTS RECREATION CENTER

# FREE TRAINING PROGRAMS

The Family Investment Center offers free training in the following courses:

CNA:

Self-Paced Typing; Employability Skills Workshops; Resume and Interviewing Prep; Job Lead Assistance; Homeownership.

Call 757-928-3680 if you have questions

#### PROGRAMA LIBRE DE INSTRUCCION

Centro de Trabajo Para la Familia ofierte los Cursos que sigue:

- Mecanografia;
- · Habilidades de obrero;
- · Ayuda consu resumen y su entrevista;
- · Como se encuentra trabajo;
- · Como encontrar y poseer una casa.

Centro de Trabajo Para La Familia

Lunes - Viernes 8 de le mana - 4:40 de la tarde

> 757.928.3680 ingles 757.928.6146 espanol

# Same great training opportunities... come to our new location.

### The Family Investment Center

~ NEW LOCATION ~

Marshall Courts Recreation Center
3301 Marshall Avenue•Newport News, VA
Monday thru Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm



#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Marshall	757-928-6181
Ashe Manor	757-928-6187
Spratley House	757-928-2680
Aqueduct	757-833-5700
Pinecroft	757-269-4300
Orcutt Townhomes	757-928-6187
Community Resources	757-928-6063
Family Investment Center	757-928-3680
Facilities East	757-247-0484
Facilities North	757-247-0485



#### Gov2Go: Hous Virginia Rent Relief Program's New Landlord and Tenant Portal

Dear RRP Stakeholders:

As noted in previous communications, the Virginia Rent Relief Program (RRP) will be transitioning to a combined landlord and tenant portal for rent relief applications on December 1, 2021. The new portal, Gov2Go, will offer an updated, secure and user-friendly portal that will allow you to access RRP on virtually any web-enabled device.

Landlords and tenants now have the ability to apply for rent relief – and confirm their eligibility – quickly and easily. The new platform will improve communications for both landlords and tenants on applications initiated by each party, as well as streamline and expedite the processing of rent relief applications.

Please note in order to protect your privacy, all landlords will need to securely upload their W-9 and banking information into the new application platform, Gov2Go. If you have any issues uploading your W-9, please contact the RRP Support Center at 1-833-RENT-RELIEF or 1-833-736-8735(433).

## Reminder: New phone rule



Hampton Roads residents are reminded that the Virginia State Corporation Commission has approved a new 948 area code for the Hampton Roads region. Beginning May 6, 2022, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 948 area code. The new code, or overlay does not require customers to change their existing area code or telephone number, but it will require using a new dialing procedure to

complete calls.

Area residents are encouraged to practice dialing phone numbers using all 10 digits (area code and phone number), and to reprogram telephone contact lists, life safety systems, medical monitoring systems, and other devices so they include both the phone number and the area code. You will still be able to dial just three digits to reach 911 and similar numbers.

All local calls made in the 757 area code will not be connected if only seven digits are dialed.



### NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY



### SECTION 504 REQUEST FOR A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

#### **PUBLIC HOUSING**

RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR MANANGEMENT OFFICE

Tanant'a Nama	
Tenant's Name:	
Complex Name:	
Address/Apt. #:	Zip
Telephone #:	
The Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authorservices, transfers or modifications to apartments, buildi disabilities. These are called reasonable accommodation a claim for a reasonable accommodation. The information NNRHA will work with you to determine how to fulfill your	ings or grounds to meet the needs of tenants with ns. NNRHA may require documentation to support n supplied will be kept confidential pursuant to law.
Tenant's Signature	Date
No one in my household has a disability.  (I do not need to complete the rest of this form)	
I am not requesting NNRHA to provide an accomm	nodation at this time.
The following person (s) in my household has/have a dis commodations below:	ability and need one or more of the reasonable ac-
Uses a wheelchair	Uses a walker
Vision impaired	Hearing impaired
Grab bars	Audio visual smoke Alarm
Door bell light signaler	Alaim
Other accommodations, please explain:	

# What You Need To Know About Section 3

#### Section 3 Act

Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u)(as amended), requires that economic opportunities generated by certain HUD financial assistance for housing (including Public and Indian Housing) and community development programs shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be given to low and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and to businesses that provide economic opportunities for these persons.

#### Who Are Section 3 Residents?

Other HUD programs covered by Section 3 (to distinguish between HUD Public and Indian housing programs) are those that provide housing or community development assistance for housing rehabilitation, housing construction, or other public construction project.

Public housing residents including persons with disabilities.

Low and very low income persons who live in the area where a HUD assisted project is located.

#### What is a Section 3 Business?

A Section 3 business is one:

That is owned by Section 3 residents; Employs Section 3 residents or; Subcontracts with businesses that provide opportunities to low and very low income persons.

#### ► What types of Economic Opportunities are available under Section 3?

- Jobs and Employment opportunities
- Training and Educational opportunities
- Contracts and Business opportunities

#### ► Who will provide the Economic Opportunities?

• Recipients of HUD financial assistance and their contractors and subcontractors are expected to develop a Section 3 Plan to assure that economic opportunities to the greatest extent feasible, are provided to low and very low-income persons and to qualified Section 3 businesses. One element of that Plan is the use of a Section 3 clause which indicates that all work performed under the contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3.

#### ► Who receives Economic Opportunities under Section 3?

#### For training and employment:

- persons in public and assisted housing;
- persons in the affected project neighborhood;
- participants in HUD Youth-build programs;
- homeless persons.

#### For contracting:

- businesses which fit the definition of a Section 3 business
- How can individuals and businesses find out more about Section 3?

#### For contracting opportunities contact:

The Office of Human Affairs Representative: Emmagene Slade 392 Maple Avenue, P.O. Box 37 Newport News, VA 23607

Phone: 757-247-6747 Fax: 757-380-1269

#### For training and employment opportunities contact:

Representative: LaSandra Wingate

Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority

P. O. Box 797

Newport News, VA 23607-0797

Phone: 757-928-2628

# Get Your Child Tax Credit & Earned Income Tax Credit





Thanks to President Biden's American Rescue Plan, there is **more money available** to families and/or people with low to moderate incomes. Filing your taxes is how you can claim benefits like the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Whether or not you received stimulus checks or monthly payments in 2021, additional money may be available to you. While individuals who won't owe taxes have longer to file, filing by **April 18, 2022** is how you may get your full benefits the soonest.

# A Historic Increase

Families can enjoy an increased Child Tax Credit (\$3,000 or \$3,600, depending on a child/dependent's age), and more people with low incomes can receive a larger Earned Income Tax Credit.

#### These Tax Credits Are Not Income

Receiving these benefits will not impact eligibility for other federal benefits such as UI, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, SDI, TANF, WIC, Section 8 or Public Housing.

# Not a Frequent Tax Filer?

Even if you didn't earn enough to be required to file taxes, you are eligible for the Child Tax Credit and potentially thousands of additional dollars in benefits. See what you can receive by filing a 2021 tax return!

Find out how to get assistance and file your taxes for free at

**ChildTaxCredit**•gov



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

#### **SPRING IS HERE...**

After a long winter, spring has finally sprung! Open the windows and let that fresh spring air in...but first Spring Cleaning! Spring cleaning the safe way will help you. Setting aside time each year to deep clean your home is important to keep your home healthy, organized and happy. Through spring cleaning, you can remove dust, mold and mildew before it becomes an issue.







Should you have any questions or concerns, contact Safety & Security at 757-928-2660.



### Requested Work Orders

#### **Public Housing**

Marshall	(757) 928-6154
Spratley House	(757) 928-6187
Ashe Manor	(757) 928-6187
Aqueduct	(757) 833-5700
Pinecroft	(757) 269-4300
Orcutt Townhomes I	(757) 928-6187



\*Marshall

(757) 928-6181

#### **Tax Credit Properties**

Oyster Point/Brighton	(757) 269-4307
Brighton	(757) 591-3280
Cypress Terrace	(757) 833-5720
Orcutt Townhomes III	(757) 928-6187
Lassiter Courts	(757) 928-2690
Great Oak	(757) 592-7448
Jefferson Brookville	(757) 928-2690

#### \*USE ONLY AS AN ALTERNATE NUMBER

Please use this number ONLY after 5:00 pm (757) 247-0484

#### **General Overtime** Guidelines

Maintenance staff will respond to the following calls:

- Gas Leaks:
- Electrical Problem
   Smoke Detector; Electrical Problems;
- Power Outages (only at Pinecroft, Ashe Manor, Spratley House, Ridley and Marshall);
   No Heat between 5:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:00 am
- on Sunday or holidays if the next day is a working day. If the next day is not a working day, accepts calls until 6:00 p.m.
- Floods and Sewer Problems;
- Broken Windows;
- 8. Collapsed ceiling or damaged roofs;
- 9. Commode stopped up (if two in apartment hold to next day if that is a normal business day);
- 10. Lock Out/Lock Change:
- 11. Damaged Exterior Doors;
- 12. Fire.

Note to Residents: If you believe the situation can wait until the next day, call first thing in the morning.

#### FILING A COMPLAINT...



#### Here is the Gustomer Service Hotline Number: 757-928-3680 or 757-928-6060

A TENANT HOTLINE IS A FREE SER-VICE FOR TENANTS LIVING IN PROP-ERTIES OWNED AND MANAGED THE NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY. FILING A COMPLAINT, YOU MUST STATE YOUR FULL NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER AND SPEAK AS SLOWLY AND CLEARLY AS POSSI-BLE.

WE WILL CALL YOU BACK WITHIN 48 HOURS REGARDING YOUR CONCERNS.

THANK YOU

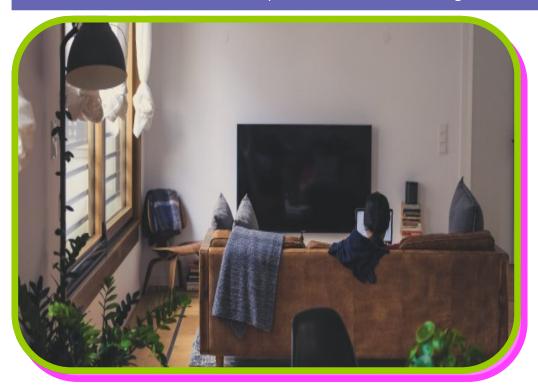


YOU need Renter's Insurance if your apartment is damaged by a fire, flood, or burglarized. Your personal property is not replaced unless you have rental insurance. Sofas, beds, toys and clothes are covered only if you buy this type of insurance.

Renter's Insurance can also help if you move out of your apartment temporarily due to a fire. It can help you even if the problem is not in your apartment.

Look under "Insurance" in the yellow pages of the telephone book for companies located in the Newport News area. Don't take chances with your belongings.!

According to Section II, 9-C of the Resident's Lease "Management will not be responsible for any of Tenant's personal belongings which are damaged or destroyed by natural disaster or other circumstances which are beyond the control of Management".



Protect your items with affordable renter's insurance.

# Conronavirus Update from the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank

During times of crisis, the Foodbank plays an important role in meeting community needs. In response to the coronavirus, the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank has been working to provide food to people who might otherwise go hungry.

The Foodbank's Mobile Food Pantry Program is distributing food in high-traffic spots across the peninsula and they are working with partner agencies to ensure people receive the food they desperately need. The team from the Foodbank's Culinary Training Program is preparing breakfast and lunch graband-go bags for children throughout our local area. The Foodbank has also hosted several large-scale public food distribution events to help individuals and families struggling to locate healthy meals. During a distribution event in Newport News last week, they provided food to support 500 households.

If you are struggling to get the food you and your family need, please visit the Get Help page on the Foodbank's website to locate a mobile food pantry or partner agency that can help. Please call (757-596-7188) prior to visiting to confirm hours of operation, as distribution plans change quickly and without much notice.

Due to the increased demand for food in grocery stores, the Foodbank has seen a significant decrease in food pick-ups and store donations, which means personal donations are even more important. You can still drop food donations off at their Hampton headquarters at 2401 Aluminum Avenue. All donations are quarantined for 72 hours before they are available to be distributed. You can make a monetary donation to help purchase truckloads of supplies, donate through YouGiveGoods or purchase through online retailers to ship items directly to the Foodbank's doors. For additional information on any of these options, you can contact Tracy Hansbrough at thansbrough@hrfoodbank.org.





#### **Virtual Programs**

The website for programs and our Facebook page is below.

#### Website:

https://library.nnva.gov/264/Events-Calendar

#### **Facebook Page:**

https://www.facebook.com/ nnlibrary/



## Virginia Medicaid Updates Policies to Fight Coronavirus

Virginia Medicaid will cover all COVID-19 (coronavirus) testing and treatment for members and eligible Virginians. They have also updated other policies to fight the spread of coronavirus and protect members. Updated policies include:

- No co-pays for any Medicaid or FAMIS covered services;
- No pre-approvals needed and automatic approval extensions for many critical medical services;
- Outreach to higher risk and older members to review critical needs;
- 90-day supply of many routine prescriptions;
- Ensure current Medicaid members do not inadvertently lose coverage due to lapses in paperwork or a change in circumstances;
- Encourage use of telehealth resources.

#### NEWPORT NEWS HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Call center is open 8 AM - 6 PM

Please call 757•594•7069

If you have questions about where to get tested if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.



We encourage you to self-report illness or quarantine if you are not feeling well. This will prevent spreading COVID 19 to your loved ones and friends.





We all know the heartache and devastation that drugs can bring to our families.

If you or anyone you know and love is affected by substance abuse help is available.

Program Name	Services	Payment
Tidewater Area Hot Line 459-8467	Narcotics Anonymous	No fees
Narcotics Anonymous VA Regional Hot Line 1-800-777-1515	Support group for recovering substance abusers.	No fees
Hampton Roads Clinic Reflections 827-8430	Outpatient Counseling I.V. Methadone Maintenance 30-45 day Residential Facility	Sliding fee Scale Medicaid
Project Link 245-0217	Case manage- ment and coordination services for pre- natal abuser	Sliding fee Scale Medicaid
Al Anon/Alateen 1-888-425-2666 AA Hotline 595-1212	Support group Alcoholism- friends/relatives and teens.  12 Step Program	No fees
Peninsula Area Help Line 875-9314	Narcotics Anonymous	No fees
Advanced Recovery Systems 1-888-338-1433	Alcohol, Eating Disorders and Substance Abuse	Private Insurance



The waiting list for housing assistance at the Warwick SRO is open for single room occupancy only.

Please call (757) 928-6060, Monday-Friday, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. to schedule an appointment.





This newsletter is published by the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority.



News Coordinator and Layout Lisa Artis

Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority



P. O. Box 797 Newport News, VA 23607



#### **MISSION STATEMENT**



The mission of the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NNRHA) is to create affordable housing, viable neighborhoods, and opportunities for self-sufficiency that enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Newport News.