



NEWS AND NEIGHBORS

Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority

MONTH OF FEBRUARY

February 14

Valentine's Day

February 21

President's Day

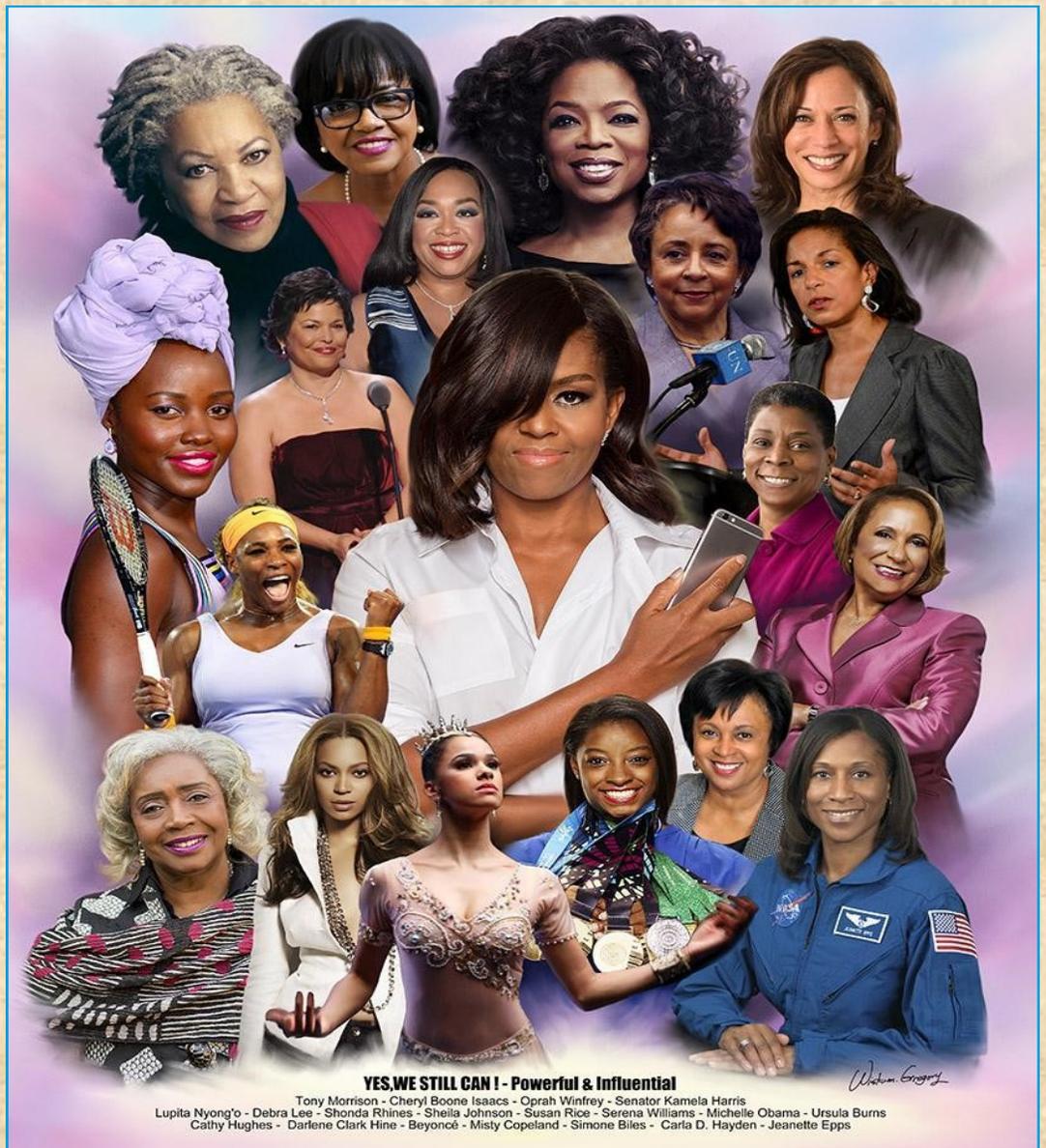
FEBRUARY 2022

Volume 29, Issue 2

Black Women In History Yes, we still can!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Black History Information	2
Great African Americans-Men	3
Student and Adult Learners	4
Scholarships Available	5
Virginia Rent Relief Program	6
Programa de Alivio de Aiqiler de Virginia	7
Information for Tenants	8
Coronavirus Information	9
Family Investment Center	10
Newport News YouthBuild	11
Neighborhood Leadership Insti-	12
Manager's Corner	13
Rehabilitation Assistance	14
Mission Statement	15
Free Tax Preparation	16

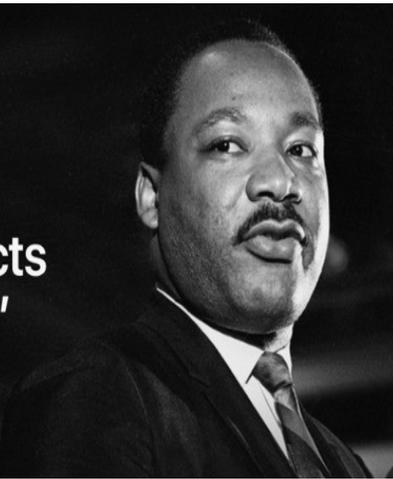


QUOTE: "Let nothing dim the light that shines from within."

Maya Angelou

"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

Today and every day, we honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Who Started Black History Month?

Black History Month began as "Negro History Week," which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted **African American** historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. It became a month-long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

BLACK HISTORY QUOTES



Our motto is: When they go low, we go high.

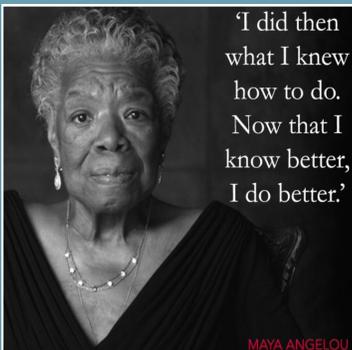
- Michelle Obama

“

But while I may be the first woman in this office, I won't be the last.



Kamala Harris



'I did then what I knew how to do. Now that I know better, I do better.'

MAYA ANGELOU

However, February has much more than Douglass and Lincoln to show for its significance in black American history. For example:

February 23, 1868: W. E. B. DuBois, important civil rights leader and co-founder of the NAACP, was born.

February 3, 1870: The 15th Amendment was passed, granting black citizens the right to vote.

February 25, 1870: The first black U.S. senator, Hiram R. Revels (1822-1901), took his oath of office.

February 12, 1909: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded by a group of concerned black and white citizens in New York City.

February 1, 1960: In what would become a civil-rights movement milestone, a group of black Greensboro, N.C., college students began a sit-in at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter.

February 21, 1965: Malcolm X, the militant leader who promoted Black Nationalism, was shot to death by three Black Muslims.

FAMOUS BLACK HISTORY MAKERS



Althea Gibson



Harriett Tubman



Rosa Parks



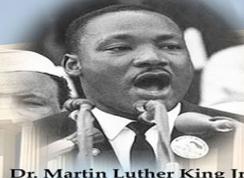
Gen. Colin Powell



Mae Jemison



Shirley Chisholm



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Sojourner Truth



Thurgood Marshall



Toni Morrison



Zora Neale Hurston



President Barack Obama



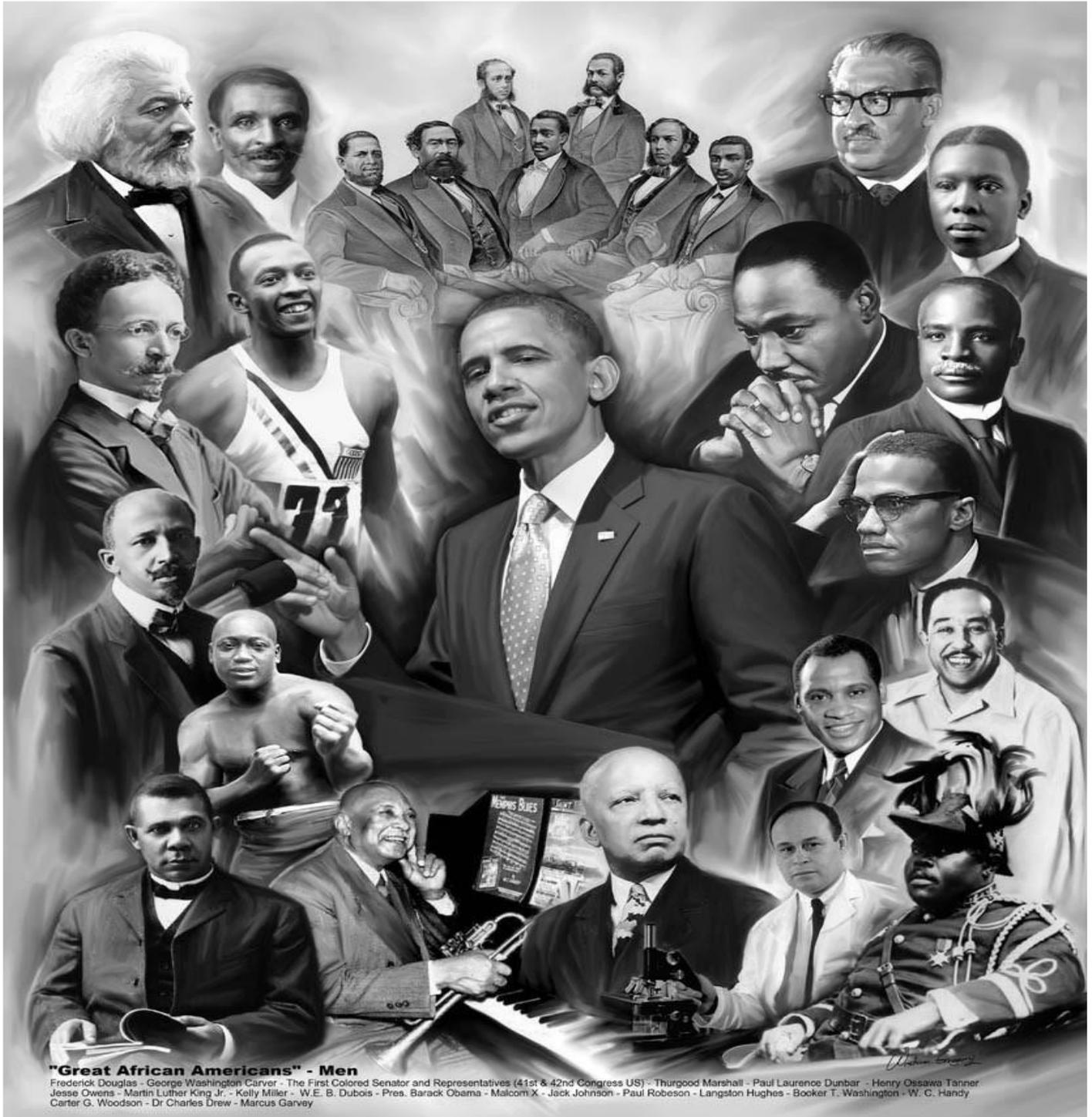
W.E.B. DuBois



Ronald McNair



Great African Americans- Men



"Great African Americans" - Men
Frederick Douglas - George Washington Carver - The First Colored Senator and Representatives (41st & 42nd Congress US) - Thurgood Marshall - Paul Laurence Dunbar - Henry Ossawa Tanner - Jesse Owens - Martin Luther King Jr. - Kelly Miller - W.E. B. Dubois - Pres. Barack Obama - Malcom X - Jack Johnson - Paul Robeson - Langston Hughes - Booker T. Washington - W. C. Handy - Carter G. Woodson - Dr Charles Drew - Marcus Garvey



Scholarship Information

STUDENT AND ADULT LEARNERS

NNRHA SCHOLARSHIP INTEREST FORM

Student Name _____

Student Address _____

Housing Community _____

Student Contact Number _____

High School _____

Current GPA (Grade Point Average) _____



All interest forms are due by **Friday, March 18, 2022.*

Please return the completed form to your rental office or contact Mrs. Charlene Bowser at 757.928.6170 by Friday, March 18, 2022.



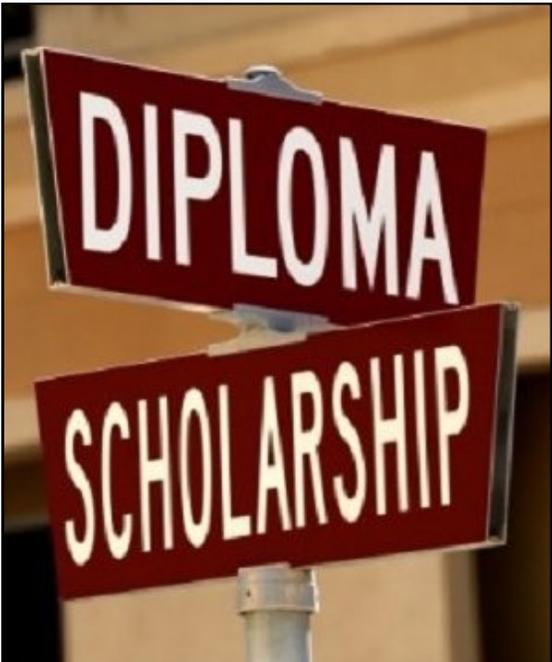
Are you a high school senior in need of money for college? Applicants must expect to graduate from an accredited high school in June 2022 with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better in overall academic courses.



Are you an adult interested in going to college, but lack the resources? Well, look no further, NNRHA may have money for you.



Simply complete the Scholarship Interest Form and return it to your rental office. A Scholarship Consultant will contact you.





**NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING
AUTHORITY**

227 27th Street
Newport News, Virginia 23607

APPLY NOW!

**SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE 2022!!!**



**You have the power to turn a few minutes into MONEY
STARTING NOW...**

APPLY! APPLY! APPLY!

**For a list of Scholarships Available
Contact: Mrs. Charlene Bowser
at
Phone: 757.928.6170
Monday — Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm**



GOOD LUCK!





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:

- Have a valid lease agreement in their name or other documents confirming the landlord-tenant relationship, and live in the unit at time of application
- Have a rent amount that is at or below **150% Fair Market Rent**
- Have a gross household income at or below **80% of the area median income**
- Have experienced a financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the coronavirus pandemic including but not limited to:
 - 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 landlord-tenant 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 dhcd.virginia.gov/rrp.



¿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:

- Tener un contrato de arrendamiento válido a su nombre u otra documentación que confirme la relación entre el propietario y el inquilino y ocupar la unidad en el momento de la aplicación
- 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 estar dispuesto o no poder 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 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.



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 FAQs, 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 FAQs for PHAs and HCV landlords, PIH clarified that this assistance can include rent arrearages and utilities owed over the utility allowance. The FAQs 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:**
<https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/rmrp> 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 Treasury's website using the link "Find rental assistance in your area."

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

Coronavirus 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 grab-and-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 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.

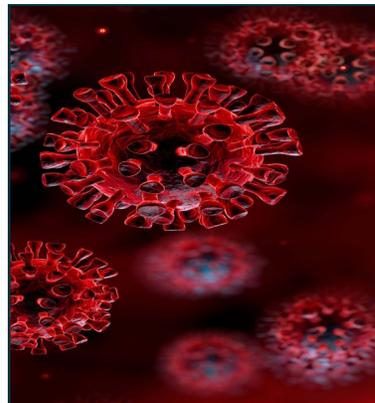
NEWPORT NEWS HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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 the COVID 19 to your loved ones and friends.

Keeping you informed
Coronavirus:

Family Investment 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.

The Family Investment Center

Monday thru Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
757.928.3680

PROGRAMA LIBRE DE INSTRUCCION

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

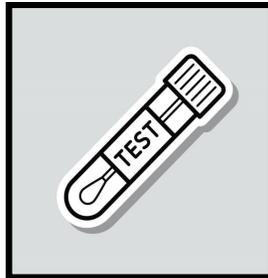
- Mecanografía;
- Habilidades de obrero;
- Ayuda consu resumen y su entrevista;
- Como se encuentra trabajo;
- Como encontrar y poseer una casa.

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

Do You Want to Place Your Order for Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests?



Residential households in the U.S. can order one set of 4 free at-home tests from USPS.com. Here's what you need to know about your order:

- ◆ Limit of one order per residential address
- ◆ One order includes 4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests
- ◆ Orders will ship free starting in late January

Order online by going to covidtest.gov

* If you don't have internet access, ask a friend or family member for their assistance.



NEWPORT NEWS YOUTHBUILD

- Free CPR and OSHA 10 Certifications
- Free Trades Training
- Free GED Classes
- Free Transportation and so much more!

NEED TO EARN AN EXTRA

\$600 A MONTH?
Plus possible bonuses

*Come Apply to
Newport News
YouthBuild*

**BETWEEN 18-24?
NEED YOUR GED?
WANT TO LEARN A TRADE?**

PLEASE CALL 757-386-6113 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Newport News YouthBuild is a program of Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas, with grant funding provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration. The total cost of the Newport News YouthBuild program is \$1,760,090. \$1,408,072 (80%) is funded through a U.S. Department of Labor - Employment and Training Administration grant. The other \$352,018 (20%) is funded through State and Local resources.



SAFETY CORNER

Although Suicide Prevention Awareness Month is recognized annually in September, we should attempt to take notice of family members, friends, and co-workers that may be showing signs of depression and other negative behavior as a possible cry for help. If you know anyone who has, or is beginning to show any of these signs, you should seriously consider this an opportunity to start a conversation on available resources for help.

Signs of depression and or suicide may consist of, but are not limited to the following:

- Sadness
- Guilt
- Irritability
- Loss of energy
- Loss of interest in activities
- Sleep changes
- Appetite changes
- Suicidal thoughts

For further information, please visit the Every Day Matters Foundation website to help you find information and resources to help someone who may be showing any of the above behaviors.

<http://www.everydaymatters.com/images/NC-Suicide-Prevention>

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



NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

- Do you live in the Newport News?**
- Are you interested in sharpening and developing your leadership skills?**
- Do you want to be an influential leader in your neighborhood?**
- Do you want to learn more about the City of Newport News?**

If so, you're invited to participate in the **Neighborhood Leadership Institute!** The mission of the Neighborhood Leadership Institute is to help Newport News residents become influential leaders, advocates, and agents of change in their neighborhood and the broader community. This mission is accomplished through educational sessions that provide valuable information, enhance personal strengths, encourage civic engagement, and prepare participants for service on local boards and commissions. Formerly called the Neighborhood Leadership Series, we've upgraded the series and are excited to start a new session **February 23, 2022!**

Go to newportnewschoice.com/nli or scan the QR code below for more information and to register.

REGISTRATION CLOSES FEBRUARY 14, 2021.

YOU MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND.

As we work together to stay safe during the COVID 19 pandemic, note that, sessions will be held via Zoom (with some in-person classes).

Questions? Call 757.926.8081



Manager's Corner

General Overtime Guidelines

Maintenance staff will respond to the following calls:

1. Gas Leaks;
2. Electrical Problems;
3. Smoke Detector;
4. Power Outages (only at Pinecroft, Ashe Manor, Spratley House and Marshall);
5. No Heat between 5:00 pm 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.;
6. Floods and Sewer Problems;
7. 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.



All Tenants should contact their rental office about proper installation of cable and satellite tv before being installed by the company.

After Hour Guidelines

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**



**Beautiful
things happen when
you distance yourself
from the negative.**

REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE



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

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

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 management and coordination services for prenatal abuser	Sliding fee Scale Medicaid
Al Anon/Alateen 1-888-425-2666	Support group Alcoholism-friends/relatives and teens.	No fees
AA Hotline 595-1212	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

FILING A COMPLAINT...



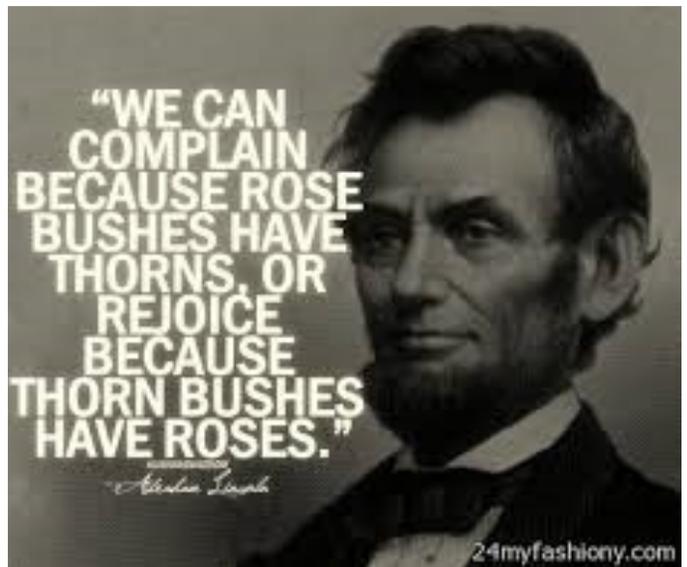
Here is the Customer Service

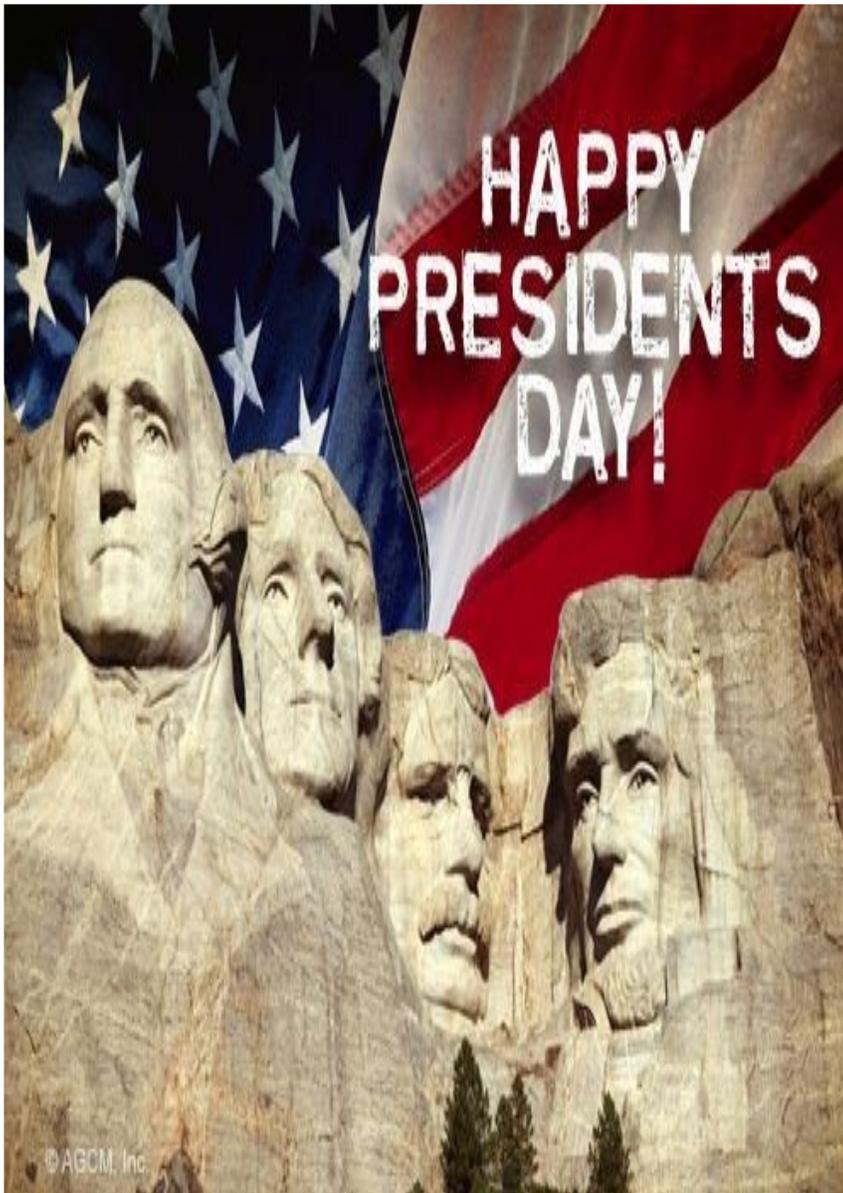
Hotline Number:

757-928-6060 or 757-928-3680

A TENANT HOTLINE IS A FREE SERVICE FOR TENANTS LIVING IN PROPERTIES OWNED AND MANAGED BY THE NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY. WHEN FILING A COMPLAINT, YOU MUST STATE YOUR FULL NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER AND SPEAK AS SLOWLY AND CLEARLY AS POSSIBLE.

WE WILL CALL YOU BACK WITHIN 72 HOURS REGARDING YOUR CONCERNS.





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.

Happy Valentine's Day

OPEN

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





**★ FREE TAX
★ PREPARATION
★ SERVICES**

TIRED OF PAYING HIGH TAX PREPARATION FEES?

College Students

Teenagers

**NEED HELP COMPLETING YOUR
TAX RETURN?**

FREE Tax Preparation will begin in February 2022

Part-Time Employees

Seasonal Employment



For more details on tax preparation, please call FIC at 928-3680