



July 1, 2021

CRHA News and Recent Developments



CRHA is currently in transition.

Some may not be aware, but CRHA recently said "Farewell" to Executive Director, Justin Brooks. Mr. Brooks has been called to serve as Executive Director for the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII.

Mr. Brooks' recent departure would normally have left a void in the leadership transition. However, as with anything Mr. Brooks did, he planned well in advance and the CRHA Board of Commissioners has selected Ms. Nancy Tarkenton to serve as Interim Executive Director until a permanent replacement can be identified.

During this transition period, Ms. Tarkenton will be working diligently with the CRHA team and community partners to continue building the strongest communities possible within the City of Chesapeake. As Ms. Tarkenton becomes acclimated with the duties and demands of Executive leadership, the "Open Door" policy implemented by Mr. Brooks will continue. Feel free to share your thoughts and concerns with Ms. Tarkenton, and she will work with her team to mediate those concerns. Now that the Executive leadership transition is underway, it is important to take a look back at what we accomplished despite the challenges presented during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Although Covid-19 limited our ability to assemble throughout the majority of FY 2020/early 2021, the community service never waived. Sadly, many CRHA residents were severely impacted by the loss of employment, shortage of basic necessities, lack of support for homeschooling/virtual learning assistance, the inability for children to participate in youth activities, and other social events. However, CRHA was able to aid residents by offering Community Food Drives, Covid Vaccine Clinics, complimentary community Wi-fi, virtual homework guidance, technical assistance, and so much more. Among our proudest accomplishments was applying for the Rent Relief Program (collecting \$137,000 in rental assistance for our valued residents). Millions in funding remains available for Virginia residents in need of rental assistance. An overview of the Rent Relief program can be found [here](#).

During the Winter of 2020, CRHA celebrated the 2020 Graduates of the Resident Services Family-Self Sufficiency Program. A resolution was adopted by the CRHA Board of Commissioners in January 2021 acknowledging the accomplishments of current and former graduates, with special acknowledgement for the eleven (11) 2020 graduates who persevered despite the challenges presented during Covid-19. CRHA is extremely proud of its program participants, FSS Coordinators, and the Resident Services Team.

CRHA also released its [2020 Community Impact Report](#) in January 2021. It is important for us to highlight the various methods CRHA utilizes to positively impact the City of Chesapeake on a regular basis. If you haven't done so already we encourage you to review the report, which is an excellent demonstration of how our work impacts so many lives on so many levels, and just how much we accomplished in 2020 despite ongoing challenges.

In late April 2021, CRHA was notified that its 2020 Jobs Plus Grant Application was successfully funded in the amount of \$2.3 million. This grant will allow CRHA to establish a satellite Workforce Development Center within CRHA's Geneva Square Community Center (and possibly other CRHA sites) that will exclusively serve our public housing participants with job training, education, rent assistance, transportation and other vital services. CRHA is currently in the preparation phase of the services rollout period.

CRHA recently hosted its 2021 HUD Strong Families "Family Fun Day" in the MacDonald Manor Community. Our dedicated Resident Services team and numerous volunteers worked in extreme temperatures to provide a fun-filled day for all of our families. Resident turnout assured us we are moving in the right direction. As we approach the Fourth of July holiday weekend and gear up for some much needed rest, we are reminded of how fortunate we are to return to a sense of normalcy.

If you would like an opportunity to participate in furthering our efforts to elevate the community, please contact us via email at serve@crhava.org. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas, and begin putting them into action.

"I am truly honored to serve this City and the residents supported by Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority. I have had the distinct pleasure of working with the exemplary and talented team of individuals that make up CRHA for twenty-six years. I am intimately familiar with the good works done and the real difference this agency has made in the lives of so many. With the enthusiastic CRHA team backed by a dedicated Board of Commissioners, a caring City, and overwhelmingly supportive community partners, we continue to assist and support the underserved with dignity and grace."

Sincerely,

Nancy Tarkenton
Interim Executive Director

HAIR CUT & WELLNESS DAY

On Monday, June 14th, CRHA hosted a "Hair Cut and Wellness Community Day" in the MacDonald Manor Community.

The event was the culmination of several Community-based organizations collaborating to provide complimentary haircuts and other resources to aid in improving the quality of life. The event was open to all residents and those in the surrounding communities. A second event was held on June 21st in the Huntington Park Shelter in Newport News. The turnout exceeded our expectations by far.

FAREWELL TO MR. BROOKS

On Wednesday, June 26th, the CRHA Board of Commissioners hosted a "Farewell Social" in honor of Justin Brooks, Executive Director.

The social event was limited to CRHA Commissioners and Staff. While we wish him well in his next endeavor, the parting was bittersweet. The event was to show appreciation for the many efforts and achievements accomplished under his watch.

Light refreshments were served and a Resolution of Gratitude was presented to Mr. Brooks on his last evening with the agency.



HUD STRONG FAMILIES "FAMILY FUN DAY"

On Monday, June 28th, CRHA hosted the Annual "HUD Strong Families Initiative" (Family Fun Day) in the MacDonald Manor Community.

A number of vendors joined us on this sunny June day to support our families while attendees enjoyed catering by Captain Bob's, lively music, preventive medical screenings, free Ice Cream service, free haircuts, and free raffle giveaways. Many thanks to our community partners, and for the support we received from our Community.

Please join us next month for the annual National Night Out event scheduled for August 3, 2021. Details to follow next month.



UPCOMING EVENTS



HOUSING AUTHORITY HIRING EVENT



JULY 1, 2021 | 10 AM - 2 PM
SCOPE ARENA
201 E BRAMBLETON AVE
NORFOLK, VA 23510

INTERVIEW AND APPLY ON-SITE!
Dress for success and bring your resume!

Local Housing Authorities are looking for qualified applicants for the following positions:

- ✓ Accountants
- ✓ Administrative Assistants
- ✓ Building Maintenance Mechanics
- ✓ Grounds Keepers
- ✓ Occupancy Assistants
- ✓ Property Managers

JOIN US VIRTUALLY AT:
<https://bit.ly/3qghp9i>

- 10 am - 11 am CRHA, Chesapeake
- 11 am - 12 pm NRHA, Norfolk
- 12 pm - 1 pm PRHA, Portsmouth
- 1 pm - 2 pm SRHA, Suffolk



SCAN ME!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER/PROGRAM
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD: VA Relay Center: 711 or 800.828.1120
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OSCAR SMITH HIGH SCHOOL
1994 Tiger Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320
July 18, 2021
1pm - 4pm



A GAME CHANGING EXPERIENCE!
Kids & Pros will be at Oscar Smith HS for a FREE football clinic! NFL alumni will teach safe tackling techniques and position fundamentals training while incorporating life skill lessons into a 1-day 3-hour non contact skills clinic for athletes ages 7-13

PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT!



PARENTS:
A "Game Changing" Parent Information Session by Certified Master Trainer Buddy Curry will be held at 1:30pm and will cover Youth Football Safety and Sports Parenting 101

TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THE CLINIC GO TO WWW.KIDSANDPROS.COM
Sign up today! Space is limited, registration is required, no equipment necessary. WEARING A FACE COVERING TO PARTICIPATE IS OPTIONAL.

Developing Character and Skills Through Athletics



THE BEGINNING OF FOOTBALL KIDSANDPROS.COM @KIDSANDPROS

South Hampton Roads area Housing Authorities will be hosting a hiring event at the Norfolk Scope Arena on July 1, 2021 from 10 AM - 2 PM.

Please join us!

CRHA will support the Kids and Pros 2021 Football Clinic on July 18th at Oscar Smith High School from 1-4 PM. The FREE Clinic and Safety camp will teach football fundamentals from NFL alumni and include an informative Parent Information session sponsored by CHKD Sports Medicine. You can register for the event [here](#).

HOLIDAY CLOSURES



In observance of Independence Day, all CRHA offices will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2021. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, July 6th.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday!

COMMISSIONERS CORNER

PUBLIC
MEETING
NOTICE

The July 2021 CRHA Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 28th at 5:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the CRHA Central Office located at 1468 S. Military Highway, Chesapeake, VA 23320.

This month we also welcome our newest Board Commissioner, [Mr. Camron Phillips](#)!

