



THIS MONTH  
IN ST. PAUL'S

FEBRUARY/  
MARCH  
2021

## PEOPLE FIRST

**Build your business with a MICRO GRANT!**

YES..... We are OPEN WELCOME

People First is offering a one-time grant to small, community-based organizations who want to serve Tidewater Gardens residents in one of USI's Key Pillars of Education, Economic Mobility or Health & Wellness.

You can get up to \$7500 for staffing, benefits, program & office supplies and more!

**PEOPLE FIRST**  
A DIVISION OF URBAN STRATEGIES, INC.

Call 390-4625 or contact Nicole Todd at [nicole.todd@urbanstrategiesinc.org](mailto:nicole.todd@urbanstrategiesinc.org) to apply before **Friday, March 19.**

**Micro Grant Opportunity:** People First launched a rolling Micro Grant opportunity for small, community organizations interested in providing services to meet identified needs within the key pillars of education, economic mobility, and health and wellness. Grantees will build capacity through the program working towards eligibility for larger contract opportunities in the future. Applications for the first quarter grant cycle are due March 19<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be accepted and grants awarded every quarter.

**Economic Mobility:** People First and Dominion Energy are partnering to streamline EnergyShare program resources to assist relocating families with account balances and deposits. Dominion will also provide outreach materials and attend group mobility counseling sessions to ensure families have the support and information needed to be successful clients.

**Health & Wellness:** EVMS is offering an art therapy program for Tidewater Gardens families with children ages 5-18. The open art studio allows participants to share their experiences while engaging in artmaking (some of the artwork is pictured here). Program participants also receive lunch and a book.

**Education:** In March, People First distributed school supplies, masks, and books to Tidewater Gardens families in preparation for the phased in-person learning transition at Norfolk Public Schools.

**Relocation:** 120-day relocation notices are being issued to just over 100 households in Tidewater Gardens in March. People First continues to hold several group mobility sessions during the week and on Saturdays to distribute notices and review important information with these households.



### Tidewater Gardens Resident Services and Engagement Snapshot (as of 2/28/21)

- Signed up for services so far: 1,429 People (includes children)/ 524 Households
- Total number of household assessments completed: 470
- Service linkages since August 1, 2019: 573
- Housing Stability Interventions: 61
- Relocations: 298 (159 of which utilized Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV))

## REDEVELOPMENT

### Economic Inclusion

#### Tidewater Gardens Redevelopment M/WBE Virtual Vendor Fair



On March 11<sup>th</sup>, the Brinshore-led Development Team hosted a virtual vendor fair for minority and women-owned businesses to learn more about upcoming contract opportunities related to the construction of the first new housing developments on Blocks 19 & 20. Over 230 people attended the virtual meeting. A recording of the meeting and more information about how to connect to contract opportunities can be found online at [www.norfolktidewater.com](http://www.norfolktidewater.com).

**Contractor Certification:** It is important that businesses have the appropriate certifications in place that identify them as a small, minority, or women-owned organization to be supported by this project's economic inclusion efforts. Certifications include SWaM, MBE, WBE, DBE, and Section 3 and different aspects of the project may require different certifications based on varied federal, state, and local regulations. Please help support our economic inclusion efforts to engage more small, women, and minority-owned businesses by sharing our [new economic inclusion website](#) with your networks and encouraging them to review their certifications based on the type of work they are interested in doing.

**City Infrastructure:** Construction will begin on Wood Street & Posey Lane at the end of April to support Blocks 19 & 20 with new infrastructure. This year-long project includes all new roadway, streetscape, stormwater, and utility infrastructure. This project is a coordinated effort with the new pump station that will also support the new housing with wastewater treatment services. Blocks 19 & 20 are adjacent to Norfolk Fire-Rescue Station #1 and directly north of the HRT Downtown Transit Center.



**St. Paul's Cultural Trail & Art Committee:** The committee will help design a conceptual plan for a cultural trail that will be an important part of the neighborhood transformation work in Tidewater Gardens. The trail will be interwoven in a network of green streets and will strive to honor the history, culture, and character of the neighborhood. This committee is led by Norfolk Arts and comprised of local artists, historians, educators, St. Paul's residents, and community organizations. The committee will also provide feedback on public art, placemaking, and other relevant projects in the redevelopment. This committee will have their first meeting March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SPAC) Next Virtual Meeting:** March 16<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. Tune in [here](#) and review previous meeting minutes [here](#).