

Featured Events

September 16

SWaM Certification Webinar for entrepreneurs and aspiring business owners at 10 a.m. Learn more about this opportunity for economic growth.

September 19

Come out and share your thoughts on the revitalization of Ridley Place from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. More details on p. 2.

September 30

This is the last day to complete the 2020 Census! There are three ways to complete the census. **BE COUNTED TODAY!** More details on p. 2.



Your Choice

A Newsletter for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood

SEPTEMBER | 2020 | ISSUE 45

Hampton Roads Community Action Program: Serving Ridley Place Residents

Ridley Live: A Chat Line for Residents

Ridley Live is a free service provided by the Hampton Roads Community Action Program (HRCAP). It connects residents with the information, resources, and support they need to make informed decisions for their families. Ridley Live also offers a forum for Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) staff, community partners, and service providers to talk about their activities and upcoming events.

You can join Ridley Live Monday through Thursday from 3:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. The toll-free telephone number is 1-844-992-4726. Please enter Webex meeting number (access code): 129 238 4512.

If you'd like to be a featured guest, please call 757-247-5105.

The Lift and Connect EnVision Center: A One-Stop Resource Center

The Lift and Connect EnVision Center (LCEC) has evolved into a one-stop resource for Ridley Place residents. Residents seeking information, resources and assistance with their transition have easy access to family, financial, and workforce specialists through coordinated on-site programs, phone calls, individual coaching, and other customized services. CNI Program Navigator Anita Abrams is the single point of contact for the center, coordinating and helping with daily activities, resident contact, and support services. With a focus on customer service and responsiveness, Ms. Abrams works closely with staff and the Ridley Tenant Council to ensure LCEC activities and programs are aligned with resident needs and interests.

HRCAP continues to provide food to Ridley Place families after the partnership with the World Central Kitchen ended in early July. Fresh produce is provided to Ridley residents each week thanks to a partnership with Mercy Drops Dream Center.

For more information on the support available through the LCEC, contact Anita Abrams at 757-759-5335 or anita.abrams@hrcapinc.org.





Contact Us

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- newportnewschoice@nnva.gov
- 757-928-2620

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

PLEASE JOIN US!

FOR A DESIGN WORKSHOP

FOR THE MARSHALL-RIDLEY CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD



SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19, 2020
 10 AM TO 3 PM

THE LAWN AT RIDLEY PLACE

LYNNE CARRUTH, CNI PROJECT MANAGER,
 NNRHA 757.928.2655
lcarruth@nnrha.org

Come share your ideas for the revitalization of Ridley Place!

Join us for a socially-distanced, fun event that will include an exhibit about the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative and what’s happening next. Enjoy refreshments and take part in small-group workshops.



Please share photos of a family event, special memory or place in the Southeast Community. Email: lcarruth@nnrha.org



Contact Us

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Progress and Updates

Housing

Housing development activities are moving forward

The Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NNRHA) continues with housing development activities. Phase 1 includes two multi-family buildings located on Jefferson Avenue between 27th and 29th Streets. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in late 2020.

Planning for Phase 2 development of the Ridley Place site has begun. Two design workshops will be held this fall to give residents an opportunity to ask questions and participate in discussions about the new housing. The first is on September 19, 2020. See p. 2 for details.



Relocation

In preparation for new development on the Ridley site, current residents are relocating to new apartments. Vouchers are provided to families who will relocate in several groups. Here is the status of the relocation:

- Group 1: Nearly all 60 families living north of 16th Street, as well as families requesting early relocation due to medical issues, have found new housing.
- Group 2: 88 vouchers have been issued, so far, to families living south of 16th Street. 27 families have leased new apartments; 13 are in the process of leasing; 16 families have used their vouchers to leave the area and 32 are searching for new housing.
- Group 3: Vouchers will be distributed in fall 2020 to families living in the area bounded by Ivy Avenue, 16th Street and Ridley Circle.

For more information and assistance, call Starr Lane: 757-928-6076.

Housing Finance

NNRHA continues to secure funds for the new housing. NNRHA has received two low-income housing tax credit awards, a grant from the state Vibrant Community Initiatives program and pre-development funds from Virginia Housing. Three applications for Federal Home Loan Bank funding are pending.

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

The next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, September 15 at 5:30 p.m. For more information and updates, please email Lynne Carruth at lcarruth@nnrha.org.

Ridley Tenant Council Meeting

The next Ridley Tenant Council meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, September 17 at 4:00 p.m. For more information and updates, please email Lynne Carruth at lcarruth@nnrha.org.

Community Bulletin Board

SWaM Certification Information Workshop

Are you a small, women-owned, or minority-owned (SWaM) business who wants to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia? Small business owners who are looking to participate in Virginia's specialized procurement and contracting opportunities are encouraged to become SWaM certified. This free workshop on September 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. will cover the SWaM Program, certification process and on-line application portal (live demo), required documents needed to apply, and how to use the certification to do business with the Commonwealth. You must [register](#) to attend.

The 2020 Census

The 2020 Census is happening now! Please respond by visiting www.my2020Census.gov, calling 1-844-330-2020, or returning the Census envelope that came in the mail. For educators, the Census has developed Statistics in Schools (SIS), which provides free educational material using Census data. This resource can be customized to enhance the learning experience or be added to lesson plans. You are invited to visit the SIS website at www.census.gov/schools.