



PEOPLE FIRST

2021 Summer Blast

People First Empowered by USI hosted a Summer Blast event for Tidewater Gardens families (current and former) on Saturday, July 10th. 40 service provider partners participated in the event to connect residents to programming and services available in the areas of education, health and wellness, and economic mobility. People's Pharmacy administered COVID-19 vaccinations on-site. During the event, two residents who lived in the neighborhood for over 50 years were recognized and presented with placards containing their home numbers to honor and celebrate their legacy and memories. Their stories will be shared soon on our [website](#). Additionally, 9 high school graduates were recognized for their achievements and families enjoyed performances by the Beautiful Barbies dance team, singer/songwriters with Teens with a Purpose, and rapper Trin Setta. Councilwoman Royster attended and provided remarks. The team was elated to engage with 217 residents (80 households) during the Summer Blast!



Economic Mobility

People First is partnering with the Hampton Roads Workforce Council and Tidewater Community College to engage Tidewater Gardens residents in the Dignity of Work program. This free 5-week program includes training on construction fundamentals and provides OSHA10, forklift, and flagger certifications to prepare participants for construction careers. Residents that complete this program will be connected to construction jobs associated with the redevelopment. Additionally, People First supported 21 residents to secure employment in June.

Resident Services and Engagement Snapshot (as of 6/30/21)

- Signed up for services so far: 1,502 People (includes children)/ 570 Households
- Total number of household assessments completed: 493 (unduplicated)
- Service linkages in June: 86
- Housing Stability Interventions: 62
- Relocations: 359 (190 of which utilized Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV))

REDEVELOPMENT

Economic Inclusion Engagement Events

The city is hosting a series of virtual economic inclusion events this summer to engage minority and woman-owned businesses to support the project’s economic inclusion goals. On June 30th, the city hosted a business opportunity forum to share information on upcoming contract opportunities related to the transformation project associated with demolition, housing construction, roadway, utility, and stormwater infrastructure. The forum also included information on the city’s procurement process and certifications required to participate in these opportunities. The recorded presentation can be found on the city’s economic inclusion website [here](#).



On July 14th, the city hosted a lunch and learn on SWaM, DBE, and Section 3 certifications. Representatives from the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, HUD, and People First-USI presented the certification processes and answered questions. The team is planning two more sessions for this summer, so stay tuned for more information. Please encourage minority and woman-owned businesses who are interested in participating in the project to visit our website www.norfolk.gov/stpaulsopportunity or call our hotline 757-664-6800.

Tidewater Gardens Housing Design Survey



The CNI Development team is designing new family housing for the Tidewater Gardens area and engaging the community to inform this work. The team developed a survey that can be accessed online, and paper copies will be available at the People First main office, Basilica of St. Mary’s, and the Hunton YMCA for convenient neighborhood access. The survey will be open for 30 days. To access the survey, [click here](#) or use the QR code below. Additionally, the development team attended the Summer Blast to discuss the designs with residents and are planning another in-person engagement session for this month.



ST. PAUL’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE Next Meeting: July 20th, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s Basilica. All meetings will be in-person moving forward. Missed the last meeting? You can find the [meeting minutes here](#). There will be no meeting in August due to City Council recess.

