



PEOPLE FIRST



Development Naming Outreach: This year’s National Night Out in Norfolk was about more than community safety – it was also a chance for resident feedback on a theme and name of the transformed Tidewater Gardens St. Paul’s area. Staff from the Department of Housing and Community Development and People First were on hand to talk with community members and collect surveys.

During these late-afternoon events promoting police-community partnerships, dozens of the Tidewater Garden Naming Surveys were completed by families who were also entered into a raffle for their chance to win one of four \$100 Visa gift cards.

Back-2-School Bash!

With inflation on the rise and over 90% of Tidewater Gardens residents relocated to new neighborhoods, People First^{USI} has taken a different approach to their annual school supply giveaway for students. This year People First^{USI} hosted Back-to-School events over 5 days and in 5 Norfolk neighborhoods easily accessible to relocated residents. Along with bookbags and school supplies, this year’s events included an emphasis on providing school uniforms, easing the cost burden for residents. The goal is to alleviate some of the financial pressure and make sure that students are well prepared for school.

HEALTH & WELLNESS SUCCESS STORY:

WHO

Self-motivated, determined, and resilient, Andre Glenn is a participant of People First^{USI} who relocated out of Tidewater Gardens with a housing choice voucher and worked diligently to get a position with the City of Norfolk.

WHAT

Mr. Glenn worked closely with a People First support specialist and workforce specialist, along with Norfolk Works, to enhance his resume and employment experience. He was hired by the City’s Department of Utilities and has been employed as a Maintenance Worker II for the past eight months.

THE WIN

Mr. Glenn is incredibly happy with his new career and excited to see where it will take him. His advice: “Be encouraged, do not give up!” He proves that even when barriers present themselves, if you keep going you will inevitably succeed.

RESIDENT SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT (AS OF 08/31/2022)

- 599 Households signed up for People First services
- 578 Households (unduplicated) completed household assessments
- 193 Service Linkages¹ in June and 62 Housing Stability Interventions²

RELOCATION UPDATES (AS OF 08/31/2022)

- 579 Households or 93.7% have transitioned out of Tidewater Gardens (294 utilizing Housing Choice Vouchers)
- 54% expressed a desire to return to the new community
- 87% moved to neighborhoods with a poverty rate of less than 40%

¹Intentional connection to a supportive service resource for which a family has demonstrated need in housing stability, economic mobility, health and wellness, or education. People First tracks referral, waitlisting, enrolled, connected, and completed.

²Rent and utility relief, mobility and landlord-tenant counseling, barrier removal support to ensure families remain stably housed.



THIS MONTH IN ST. PAUL'S

September
2022

REDEVELOPMENT



Developer meets with local vendors:

On August 9th, the lead housing developer— Brinshore Development—hosted small, minority, women, and disadvantaged owned businesses at the Tidewater Gardens Redevelopment M/WBE Vendor Fair. The event was held at the Kroc Center of Hampton Roads and enabled business owners to meet one-on-one with prime contractors.



Attendees learned firsthand how they can participate in housing contract opportunities on the St. Paul's Transformation project with Primes Marlyn Development and Breeden Construction. The City of Norfolk was also in attendance to share contracting opportunity information for the public infrastructure work, VA SWaM Certification assistance and local Bonding support.

Transformation Update:

Phase II of the Tidewater Gardens building demolition is well underway, with 50% of the buildings demolished. Thirty-six buildings are complete, with the most recent work focused in the E. Charlotte and Chapel Street block. This phase of the project is moving forward with the abatement and demolition of the remaining 18 buildings with anticipated completion this winter.

This Fall, the team anticipates construction of housing on the corner of Church Street and Brambleton Avenue, as well as construction of Phase II public infrastructure work. There has been significant progress in this portion of the St. Paul's Transformation, with the start of construction on the temporary sediment basin, public and private utilities, and Church Street realignment.

Coming soon—an update on the creation of the new Blue/Greenway Park!

ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

This month's meeting is on September 20th, 2022, from 6-7:30pm at St. Mary's Basilica. Missed the last meeting? You can find the meeting minutes [here](#).

Questions?

Please email us at stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov for more information.

ST. PAUL'S TRANSFORMATION

Monthly Update