# THIS MONTH IN ST. PAUL'S

October 2022

# **PEOPLE FIRST**

### YEAR THREE DATA SNAPSHOT

During the past three years, People First<sup>USI</sup> made strides toward success in these five strategic goal areas:\*







Job skills and



Early childhood



Youth development



Financial education and asset building



"This data is for the enrolled and assessed population.
""HUD defines a Neighborhood of Opportunity (NoO) as any neighborhood with less than 40% powerty and less than 62% minority concentration.

# **Year 3 People First** USI

## Impact Report is out now!

For the third consecutive year, we are pleased to report that the City of Norfolk, the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and Urban Strategies through the People First initiative continue to achieve the commitments we made to residents in the St. Paul's Tidewater Gardens community. Our collective resolve to help transform lives while we transform the neighborhood is evident in the Year 3 People First Impact Report. People First Empowered by USI is deepening relationships with families, partners, staff, and stakeholders. See the full report to read inspiring stories of resident and partner successes as well as to see the positive outcomes from the work at www.stpaulsdistrict.org/people-first.

# **September Resident Engagement**

People First<sup>USI</sup> host community engagement events during the month of September at the Jordan Newby library. USI staff were also on-hand on September 22nd, to answer resident questions involving right-to-return, homeownership, Housing Choice Voucher benefits, and more. On September 27<sup>th</sup>, USI staff hosted Tidewater Gardens seniors (60+) for several rounds of Bingo, line dancing, refreshments and prizes.



#### **HEALTH & WELLNESS SUCCESS STORY:**

#### **WHO**

Tidewater Gardens resident and single mom Kaiya Arps faced difficulty finding a home to fit her needs, primarily because she had a past-due account on a former lease which counted against her in the eyes of a potential property owner.

#### WHAT

A People First<sup>USI</sup> lead mobility specialist (LMS) worked with Ms. Arps to lease the unit by contacting the previous landlord and settling the old account balance. This unit is also located in a Neighborhood of Opportunity, where she has now lived for two successful years with her children, who are attending high-performing schools.

#### THE WIN

Ms. Arps loves her new neighborhood. She also received a job promotion since relocating and doesn't mind late hours since she feels safe in her new home.



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# REDEVELOPMENT

## **BE ALERT!**

More Street Closures due to improvements to the roads and infrastructure in Tidewater Gardens! Street closures now encompass both Mariner Street (Fenchurch to Chapel), and Fenchurch Street (Mariner to Charlotte). These streets will remain closed for the foreseeable future as utility work takes place in these areas followed by roadway installation.

To access St. Mary's Basilica and/or the Hunton YMCA, please enter from Tidewater Drive by turning right onto E. Charlotte Street. Step by step directions to St. Mary's Basilica are as follows:

- ⇒ Turn left onto Walke St.
- ⇒ Turn right onto Mariner St.
- ⇒ Turn left onto Reilly St.
- $\Rightarrow$  Turn right onto Holt St.



Over the next several months, Norfolk's Department of Transit will install extensions of Church Street and E. Freemason Street as a part of the Phase 1 road redesign. These new roadways will include traffic and pedestrian signals, wider sidewalks, bike lanes and other enhancements as well as underground power, water, sanitary sewer and stormwater infrastructure. The City of Norfolk also has a 24-hour construction hotline at (757) 664-7220 for questions and concerns.

# First Two Buildings Under Construction! Watch Live Feed of Construction

The first two buildings—a senior and multifamily buildings are under construction. You can watch a time lapse video of the construction to date or a live feed of the construction in real time here. Watch feed for "Blocks 19 and 20" at https://app.oxblue.com/open/tfigroup/allcams

# RESIDENT SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT (AS OF 09/30/2022)

- 598 Households signed up for People First services
- 580 Households (unduplicated) completed household assessments
- 224 Service Linkages<sup>1</sup> in September and 62 Housing Stability Interventions<sup>2</sup>

## **RELOCATION UPDATES (AS OF 09/30/2022)**

- 597 Households or 96.6% have transitioned out of Tidewater Gardens (301 utilizing Housing Choice Vouchers)
- 54% expressed a desire to return to the new community
- 90% moved to neighborhoods with a poverty rate of less than 40%
- 84% selected housing options in Norfolk

#### ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

This month's meeting was October 18th, 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 <a href="mailto:stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov">stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Intentional 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rent and utility relief, mobility and landlord-tenant counseling, barrier removal support to ensure families remain stably housed.