



THIS MONTH IN ST. PAUL'S

March
2023

PEOPLE FIRST

Engagement that puts people first! !

Resident and community engagement are hallmarks of the staff of People First, empowered by Urban Strategies, Inc., and March was a busy month. Here are some highlights –



People First staff spent March 10th providing supportive services to seniors living in Franklin Arms. Seniors received one-on-one coaching and were provided with community resources. Each senior who participated received a goodie basket filled with essential household items!



On March 15th, the attention turned to our youngest residents. People First staff hosted a community event about early childhood education at the Jordan Newby Library. Parents received valuable information on the importance of starting the education process for kids ages 0-5, along with pre-K enrollment steps. A special thank you to CHIP, our community partner specializing in early childhood development.



Our community partner, the UP Center, is now on-site at the People First office! Residents can take advantage of financial counseling and other services every Wednesday and Friday without having to go to another location. The People First offices also now include a computer lab for onsite use by residents for employment and training opportunities.



DATA AT A GLANCE:

- There are currently 593 (97.1%) households receiving family support services from People First- USI, and a total of 846 recorded Family and Individual Development Plans.
- USI has worked diligently to ensure 75.8% of the assessed work-able residents are employed.
- 100% of the assessed children have medical insurance.
- Presently, there are 26 Tidewater Gardens 12th grade students enrolled in family support services, that are all projected to graduate in June 2023.



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REDEVELOPMENT

RE-CONNECTING ST. PAUL'S TO THE REST OF DOWNTOWN NORFOLK



The I-264 freeway was designed to make travel easier into downtown Norfolk, but it came with an unfortunate consequence – it cuts off low-income and predominately Black neighborhoods from downtown opportunities that include job centers, educational hubs, transportation resources and cultural institutions.

The City of Norfolk's Department of Housing and Community Development partnered with the City's Transit Department to apply for a Reconnecting Communities planning grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Norfolk was awarded \$1.6 million for the project which will be used to figure out the best options to solve the 14-lane wide I-264 "spaghetti bowl" of

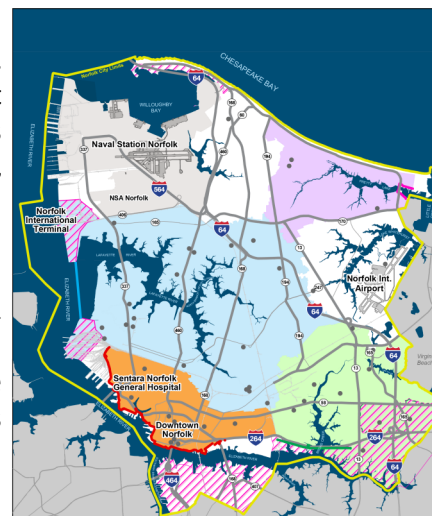
ramps and interchanges that keep neighborhoods in St. Paul's and near Norfolk State University disconnected from the rest of the City. This planning grant will consider traffic studies, surveys, an Interchange Access Report, a feasibility analysis, preliminary design and engineering, a permitting analysis, and cost estimation, all of which will be informed by extensive community engagement. To find out more about the grant and how you can get involved, visit <https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2023-02/RCP%20Fact%20Sheets%202022.pdf>

KEEPING NORFOLK DRY!

When it rains, it pours – and today many of Norfolk's neighborhoods can count on flooding. But soon that will change thanks to the work of the Coastal Storm Risk Management Project (CSRM). This project, a partnership with the City of Norfolk and the US Army Corps of Engineers, will protect the city from coastal flooding and damage from nor'easters, hurricanes, and other significant storm events. This is especially important for the Kindred community where flooding has been a major challenge.

The \$2.6 billion project features storm-surge barriers, nearly 8 miles of floodwalls, nearly 1 mile of levees, 11 tide gates, and ten pump stations, along with a series of nonstructural projects that include home elevations, basement fills, and commercial floodproofing. The flood walls will protect Kindred and other neighborhoods from flooding risks, thus strengthening our coastal city now and in the future.

More information can be found at <https://www.resilientnorfolk.com/>.



ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

This month's meeting is on March 21st, 2023 from 6-7:30pm at the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, 800 Tidewater Drive in Norfolk. Missed the last meeting? You can find the meeting minutes at <https://stpaulsdistrict.org/home/about/advisory-committee/>.

Questions? Please email us at stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov

ST. PAUL'S TRANSFORMATION
Monthly Update