



**THIS MONTH
IN ST. PAUL'S**

**NOVEMBER
2024**

PEOPLE FIRST

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL!

Teaching a child to read at a young age opens a myriad of opportunities for exploration, wonder and excitement! In October, People FirstUSI hosted Little Lights for Literacy, a program designed to help young children develop strong reading skills.

At the event, children received a bedtime box, each containing four age-appropriate books, bath essentials, dental care, pajamas, a stuffed animal, an alarm clock, a Teach My Baby Learning Kit, and a routine log.

Parents and guardians were encouraged to create a healthy bedtime routine that includes nightly reading to their kid(s).



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The holidays are coming, and People FirstUSI needs your help! We want to make sure that former Tidewater Gardens teens have a very merry Christmas.

Purchase gift cards, or age appropriate items and drop them off at People First— 259 Granby Street, Suite 300 between now and December 1, 2024. No need to wrap the gift, we'll take care of it.

Contact Gabrielle Robinson at 757-390-4625, or by **email**, for a wish list.

FULFILLING YOUR STAFFING NEEDS

Business owners – are you tired of wading through applications trying to find qualified employees? Let People FirstUSI help you! We are a great resource for finding qualified applicants for your job openings. We provide soft skills training, job coaching and mentoring, transportation assistance, and bonding for new hires if needed. Use us as your #1 resource for applicants ready to work!

PEOPLE FIRST
EMPOWERED BY
URBAN STRATEGIES, INC.

WORKFORCE PROGRAM



Urban Strategies Workforce Program:

People First, empowered by USI (Urban Strategies, Inc.), is effectively supporting the residents of Tidewater Gardens during the community's redevelopment. The City of Norfolk is committed to this revitalization initiative. To this end, our economic mobility pillar will equip participating residents with the essential workforce tools needed to succeed both now and in the future.

Who are we?

Urban Strategies Inc. Founded in 1978, USI is a leader in community development, supporting more than 30,000 families and approximately 100,000 individuals in 63 communities in 41 major metropolitan areas.

Our Services Include:

- Direct support from USI staff
- Soft skills training
- Job Coaching
- Mentoring
- Transportation Assistance
- Bonding
- Tax Credit

5 GREAT REASONS TO HIRE OUR RESIDENTS

- 1) You Only Get the Best People: We conduct an extensive prescreening and pre-interview process, so we only refer you to our best candidates with good attendance and punctuality.
- 2) Prepared: We provide technical assistance so residents are aware of the pre-screening protocol.
- 3) Insurance at No-Cost: We can bond new hires if needed.
- 4) Save Money: You can save money and do less paperwork! Plus, you can save additional money by not having to pay for want ads
- 5) Save Time: Why keep wasting man-hours on reviewing applications and have the hassle of prescreening candidates? – Let us do it for you!

For more information:

Michael Marshall
WORKFORCE SPECIALIST -Urban Strategies, Inc.
259 Granby Street / Norfolk, VA 23510
Office: 757-972-7653 /Michael.Marshall@usi-inc.org

ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 6 pm at the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, 800 Tidewater Drive in Norfolk. You can find the presentations and meeting minutes of previous meetings [here](#).

Questions?

Please email us at stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov.



**THIS MONTH
IN ST. PAUL'S**

**NOVEMBER
2024**

DEVELOPMENT NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL

Construction on St. Paul's Blvd enters another phase with the testing of a new traffic signal at St. Paul's Blvd and Freemason Street. Throughout the month of December, the new traffic light will operate 24 hours a day to test for any installation issues.



Please drive safely and pay attention to all traffic signals in the area. For more information, please contact **Keith Darrow** with the City's Transportation Department.

ASPIRE AT CHURCH STREET GRAND OPENING



The ribbon-cutting ceremony for Aspire at Church Street will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 1:00 PM at 645 Church Street.

This newest apartment home community in the St. Paul's area of Norfolk has 85 affordable apartments now available for leasing. There are 21 apartment homes reserved for former Tidewater Gardens residents interested in living in this new development.

Enjoy a virtual tour of Aspire [here](#).

ST. PAUL'S TRANSFORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Get Certified!

With Virginia's SWaM and DBE certification programs

FREE SWaM (small, women- and minority-owned) and DBE (disadvantaged business enterprises) in-person sessions to help you **certify your business and file an application.**



JOIN the St. Paul's Transformation initiative to compete for the next contract opportunity by getting your SWaM and DBE certifications!

Economic Inclusion is Our Commitment



1. Certification Information

The SWaM and DBE certification information sessions cover:

- Understanding the SWaM and DBE programs
- Types of certification
- Eligibility
- The online application process
- How to navigate the eVA Procurement Portal, and more



2. Application Assistance

The two-hour SWaM and DBE Application Assistance Sessions offer hands-on help completing SWaM and DBE certification applications.

No cost to file an application.

See requirements when you register.



SWaM Certification Workshop
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
[REGISTER HERE](#)



SWaM/DBE Application Assistance One-on-One Sessions

SWaM Certification: Angela Barber - angela.barber@sbsd.virginia.gov

DBE Certification: Nina Britton - Nina.Britton@sbsd.virginia.gov