

THIS MONTH IN ST. PAUL'S

MARCH
2025

PEOPLE FIRST

BUILDING COMMUNITY IN KINDRED

Building a community is much more than bricks and mortar – it's about residents engaging and creating meaningful connections to create and maintain a safe, active, vibrant neighborhood to call home. So, while new structures are being built in Kindred, residents are creating new perceptions and perspectives on what truly defines a community.

Kindred residents recently participated in a four-week pilot program called "Building Community", facilitated by People First staff. The program highlights key characteristics and qualities of a strong community, such as embracing a new environment, effective communication, self-advocacy, conflict resolution and effective leadership.

Three residents graduated from the program, now empowered change agents and leaders dedicated to making Kindred truly the place to call home. This program will become an ongoing part of the People First initiative's support for families.

Congratulations!



ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The next meeting will be held on April 15, 2025 from 6-7:30pm 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.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY!

In celebration of Black History Month, Teens with a Purpose, in collaboration with People First and Crestar Health, hosted "Everything Is Beautiful: Celebrating Our Black Culture", featuring poetry, spoken word performances, and an open mic session.

The highlight of the February 17th luncheon event was a special interview with Mrs. Margie Coefield, who attended Princess Anne County Training School, the first and only school for "colored



children" during segregation. The county's African American parents, communities, teachers, churches and community organizations raised money to purchase property to build a high school to provide better educational advantages for



African American children in the county. Princess Anne County Training School later expanded in size and in 1962 the facility was renamed Union Kempsville High School. In 1969, the high school closed after city-wide integration of schools started in

Virginia Beach.

Mrs. Coefield shared how the City's black churches provided space for students to learn until the "high school for Negro students" was completed in 1953. Young people in the audience asked questions and expressed their gratitude for her pivotal role in our local history.

Families also enjoyed fun games, giveaways, and a delicious lunch while gaining valuable knowledge about an important event in our local history.



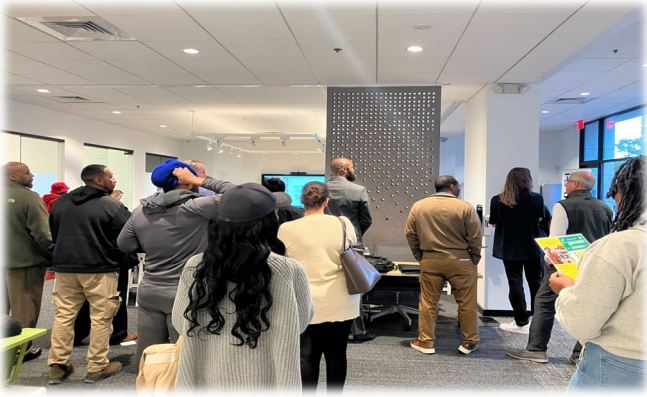


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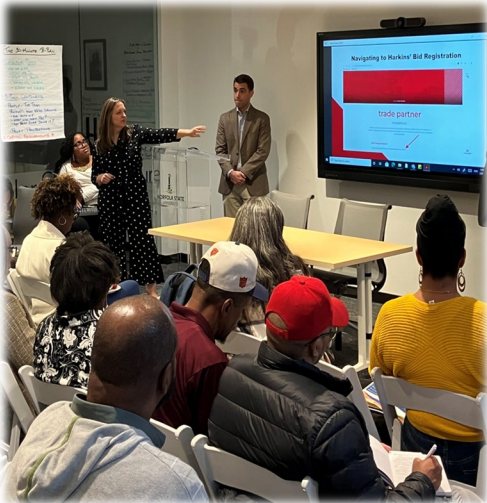
MARCH
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DEVELOPMENT

MBE, SWaM VENDOR FAIR A SUCCESS!



The City of Norfolk, NRHA and the Brinshore-led Development Team recognizes, and believes in, the importance of economic inclusion in the redevelopment of the Tidewater Gardens community. One outreach effort to minority and women owned businesses was the Tidewater Gardens Vendor Fair, held on February 26th at the Black Brand Offices.



Seventy contractors attended the event to learn about contracting opportunities for the \$120 Million in construction projects for upcoming phases of redevelopment in the former Tidewater Gardens community. Potential subcontractors had the opportunity to network with Harkins Builders, the general contractor, and have their questions answered.

Dinner was provided by Options Eatery, LLC, a certified SWaM business.



CONTRACTOR SYMPOSIUM ON APRIL 8!

If you are interested in contracting opportunities in the city of Norfolk, then be sure to register for the Norfolk Housing & Neighborhood Infrastructure Contracting Symposium, Tuesday, April 8th, 9am-3pm at the Kroc Center in Norfolk.

At the symposium local businesses will:

- Understand Norfolk's housing and neighborhood infrastructure needs,
- Learn about the City's economic inclusion contracting commitments,
- Navigate the business credentialing process,
- Gain insight into Norfolk's procurement methods,
- Explore bonding basics and working capital management,
- Enhance estimating and bidding strategies, and
- Develop key strategies for business growth and scalability

Norfolk
HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD
INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACTING
SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday, April 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Kroc Hampton Roads, 1401 Ballentine Blvd.

Prepare your business for housing and neighborhood infrastructure projects in Norfolk!
What to Expect:

- Understand Norfolk's housing and neighborhood infrastructure needs
- Learn about the City's economic inclusion contracting commitments
- Understand the Qualifications for Contracting Participation
- Navigate the City's Procurement Process
- Stay Competitive with Estimating and Bidding
- Get insights on Bonding requirements
- Gain key strategies to Level Up Your Business

For more information, email ha.chau@norfolk.gov or angela.barber@sbsd.virginia.gov

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SBSD
SMALL BUSINESS & SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

REGISTER
HERE

THE CITY OF
NORFOLK
norfolk.gov/ContractingSymposium

Plus, you'll have plenty of time to network with City representatives, industry professionals and key stakeholders, over a complimentary lunch!

To register, you can easily sign up and grab your tickets through our Eventbrite page. Simply scan the QR code above or click [here](#) to find all the details and secure your spot.

The Norfolk Housing & Neighborhood Infrastructure Contracting Symposium is presented by the Norfolk Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD).