

### CEO Corner

Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney has recently declared an affordable housing crisis in the city of Richmond. RRHA continues to be an important part of the solution by providing income-based housing to Richmonders in need, while preparing our residents to transition into their own self-sufficient housing once they're ready. But we can only make progress on these goals when residents honor their responsibility to pay their rent.

As CEO, I've started the "Compassion Action" Initiative, which offers residents who are behind on their rent a new, last chance repayment agreement for all unpaid tenant charges. This agreement is available starting July 1, 2024, and monthly charges will be based on a resident's adjusted monthly income. Missing two consecutive payments will cancel the agreement and force RRHA to move ahead with lease enforcement as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

RRHA's budget and the resources we are entrusted with are dependent on the rent our residents pay. With approximately 60% of households behind on some form of payment, the Authority is hamstrung in its ability to help other struggling Richmonders with this housing crisis. If you are behind on any payments, I urge you to ask your management office about this repayment agreement opportunity before it's too late.

Compassion for those in our communities is why everyone at RRHA gets out of bed in the morning. I'm optimistic that the "Compassion Action" Initiative will get residents back on the right track going forward.



**Steven B. Nesmith**  
RRHA CEO

### LAST CHANCE for a Repayment Agreement



Sign up between July 1, 2024  
and August 30, 2024

Starting September 1, 2024, RRHA will no longer offer this agreement, and will **move forward with lease enforcement** for any unpaid charges.

 **All residents with any unpaid tenant charges are eligible**

Residents are eligible **even if they defaulted on a previous repayment agreement**, or are currently in a repayment agreement.

Monthly payment amounts will be based on adjusted monthly income and will be in addition to rent. Missing any payments while in the agreement will cancel the agreement and lead to lease enforcement.

Please contact your property management office if you have any questions.

Read FAQs and learn more about lease enforcement at ► [rrha.info/le](https://rrha.info/le)

# WAITLISTS OPEN

Week of  
June 24



## RRHA-managed Public Housing Communities

- Family Sites | 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 bedrooms
- Elderly (55+) | 1 bedroom

**OPENS:** Monday, June 24, 2024 at 8:30 AM  
(last opened April 2023)

**CLOSES:** Friday, June 28, 2024 at 5:00 PM

## Project Based Voucher Communities

- Watermark Gardens (55+) | 1 bedroom
- Blackwell Senior Cottages, (62+) | 1 bedroom
- Winchester Forest | 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms

**OPENS:** Monday, June 24, 2024 at 8:30 AM

**CLOSES:** Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 5:00 PM

## Housing Choice Vouchers

a.k.a. Tenant Based Vouchers

**OPENS:** Monday, June 24, 2024 at 8:30 AM  
(last opened April 2020)

**CLOSES:** Friday, June 28, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Read the press release at ► [rrha.info/wl24](https://rrha.info/wl24)



Earth Day playground cleanup event at Hillside Court



▶ Hiring event with 20+ employers and service providers hosted by J&G Workforce Development Services at Fairfield Court



Dogwood Meet and Greet Summer Program registration event in early June



RPD gun violence prevention pop-up event at Hillside Court in late April



Follow @VibrantRRHA on social media to keep up with the latest happenings!



# RRHA STAFF SOLIDARITY ON NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

Friday, June 7 was National Gun Violence Awareness Day, dedicated to the memory of Hadiya Pendleton, a girl shot and killed on a Chicago Playground. Her friends commemorated her life by wearing orange, and the Wear Orange movement has continued annually as a way to raise awareness of and stand against gun violence.

This year, RRHA staff wore orange to work in solidarity with the movement and the victims of gun violence. Richmond has been making progress in reducing gun deaths, but there's plenty of work still to be done in all of our communities. One unnecessary death is too many, which is why RRHA prioritizes gun safety in our communities. Check out our new video about gun safety:



[youtube.com/shorts/t3BlG06i-pg](https://youtube.com/shorts/t3BlG06i-pg)

➔ If something you see makes you feel unsafe, or you have any kind of security tip, please anonymously report:

- Unsolved Crimes
- Illegal Activity
- Violence
- Illegal Weapons
- Drug Activities
- Robberies

**RRHA Tip Line:**  
**804-780-4244**

[rrha.info/safety](https://rrha.info/safety)

We take tips seriously and investigate all reports.

## Youth Leadership & Employment Academy Welcomes Students

On June 10, RRHA welcomed our first cohort of students for the 4th Annual CEO Youth Leadership and Employment Academy (YLEA). This workforce training program helps develop professional skills, gain work experience, and even earn an hourly wage over their summer vacations.

**Cohort 1 Youth Customer Service Specialists**  
ages 16-18

**Cohort 2 Youth Grounds Work Technicians**  
ages 13-17

**Cohort 3 Community Beautification Projects**  
ages 8-12

**Cohort 4 Youth Grounds Work Technician**  
ages 13-17

We're also excited to welcome our **college summer interns**, who are helping lead the YLEA programs. RRHA college students are spending their summer developing valuable real-world leadership skills by designing and supervising the Academy's training and work experiences.

## 5TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE CELEBRATION



2023 Open House in the Village Event

Since 2020, RRHA's annual "Open House in the Village" Scholarship Program honors students from "our house:" students from RRHA-managed public housing communities. This program is an opportunity to honor these students' spirit, creativity, and perseverance in overcoming the obstacles of a

challenging environment to thrive academically. Graduating high school and attending college are key steps in improving the life trajectory of students who grew up in low-income communities.

Thus far, 43 students supported by the program have attended colleges and universities. They've achieved great things at prestigious institutions like Virginia Tech, Radford, Hampton,



Mary Washington, Mary Baldwin, Virginia State, Virginia Union, Old Dominion, and Ferrum. These students have studied a wide range of subjects, including nursing, psychology, medicine, business, and technology.

2024 is a milestone year, because we'll be celebrating the college graduation of the very first recipients of the Open House in the Village Scholarship, all the way back in 2020. We couldn't be more proud, and we're excited to see where their degrees take them.

### GIVE THE GIFT OF EDUCATION!

Support our high school graduates with a tax-deductible donation today at [rrha.info/sd/](https://rrha.info/sd/)!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ► **Wanda Daniel**  
[Wanda.Daniel@rrha.com](mailto:Wanda.Daniel@rrha.com), 804-780-4832





# \$5,000 Terese L. Walton Scholarship Available to RRHA Students

Applications are open for this year's \$5,000 Terese L. Walton Scholarship Program. Applicants must be a current RRHA Public Housing resident or a Voucher recipient who graduated from high school in 2024.

MORE DETAILS AVAILABLE HERE ► [rrha.info/tlw24](https://rrha.info/tlw24)

**The application deadline is July 5, 2024.**

**TO APPLY**  
fill out the application form online at

► [rrha.com/residents/scholarships](https://rrha.com/residents/scholarships)



# Important Resident Survey Coming Soon



**RRHA wants to hear from you!**

Within the next month, we'll be asking you to respond to a survey about how residents prefer to receive news, updates, and other information from RRHA. The survey will be quick and completely anonymous, even if you provide your contact information to be signed up for RRHA updates and a raffle for one of three **\$50 VISA gift cards!**

In the meantime, please visit the resident portal and make sure your contact information is up to date:

► [rrha.info/resident-portal](https://rrha.info/resident-portal)

# RRHA Celebrates Juneteenth

Richmond celebrated the end of slavery with our Emancipation Day on April 3, 1865, at the end of the Civil War. Two and a half months later, emancipation finally came to Texas on June 19th. The anniversary of that day was celebrated the next year as "Juneteenth," which has grown into a nationwide holiday since then.

RRHA offices will be closed Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

► An Emancipation Day parade in Richmond, April 3, 1905  
(Source: [thehenryford.org](https://thehenryford.org))



**VISIT**  
[rrha.com/calendar](https://rrha.com/calendar)  
for upcoming events



804-780-4200 | [info@rrha.com](mailto:info@rrha.com)

@VibrantRRHA

