

News from Virginia LISC

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Neighborhoods Rising

The Virginia Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is dedicated to helping community residents transform distressed neighborhoods into healthy and sustainable communities of choice and opportunity — good places to work, do business and raise children. LISC mobilizes corporate, government and philanthropic support to provide local community development organizations with:

- loans, grants and equity investments
- local, statewide and national policy support
- technical and management assistance

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Neighborhoods will hold Celebration



On Thursday, October 20, Virginia LISC will join with its partners the Neighborhood Resource Center (Greater Fulton's Future) and Pathways (Battersea Rising) for a celebration of their neighborhood quality of life plans. The plans will be formally presented to both Richmond and Petersburg's mayors at the Hippodrome in Historic Jackson Ward of Richmond. The event will bring together city officials, business

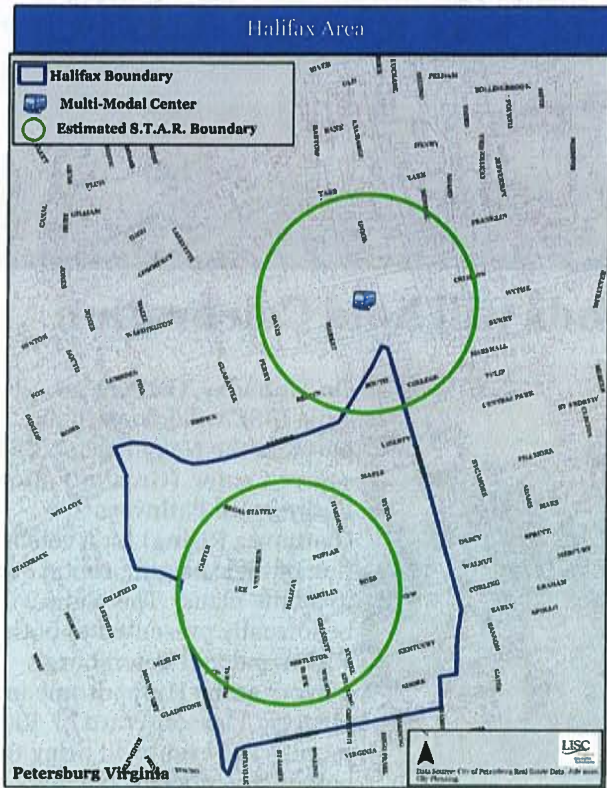
and philanthropic leaders, and nonprofit partners.

At the event each of the communities will present their plans and priority goals. Greater Fulton's Future's priority goals include: revitalizing the built environment with housing that permits aging in place and a more vibrant business corridor; improving access to health services; and focusing on connecting residents with jobs. Battersea Rising's priority goals include: improving job readiness and financial literacy; revitalizing older structures to create quality housing on High Street; and improving the quality of life for residents with increased health care services and access to the nearby Appomattox River.

What is planned for the future? Both of the communities are now moving into the implementation phase. This phase will require both the Neighborhood Resource Center and Pathways, their neighborhood steering committees, and the Virginia LISC staff, working with other partners to secure resources for projects in the community.

For further information about the event contact Frances Stanley at fstanley@lisc.org or 804.358.7602 ext 13.





Convening the Halifax Partnership

One year ago, Virginia LISC was having multiple meetings with different organizations interested in the revitalization of the Halifax area in Petersburg. One year later, Virginia LISC is convening the Halifax Partnership and the partners are in the process of signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to work in unison in the Halifax neighborhood.

The Halifax Partnership mission is the commitment to the revitalization of the Halifax community through advocacy, education, quality of life enhancements, and the development of quality housing choices for a wide range of incomes and lifestyles. There are several principles guiding the Partnership, for example, the Partnership promotes:

- The development of high quality, mixed income and work force housing for all income groups, which are critical to the growth and development of a vibrant community
- Recognize market opportunities for quality homeownership and rental housing
- Linking housing, employment, commercial and transportation initiatives through the alignment of land use priorities and incentives, and
- Proactively engaging the neighborhood voice.

Members of the Partnership propose to collaborate by sharing information and opportunities, finding resources, tracking best practices and identifying and using tools to implement neighborhood revitalization. The Partnership believes that they can achieve greater success for the Halifax neighborhood and its residents collectively than they can individually.

Currently at the table with Virginia LISC are the Better Housing Coalition, Petersburg Community Development Corporation, Restoration of Petersburg Community Development Corporation, Triangle Center for Development, the City of Petersburg, the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority and Tabernacle Baptist Church.

6 AM ON OCTOBER 5TH – 6 PM ON OCTOBER 6TH

THE AMAZING RAISE

RICHMOND'S 36-HOUR ONLINE GIVING CHALLENGE

Virginia LISC is participating in GIVERICHMOND's 36-hour online giving event.

WHAT IS THE AMAZING RAISE? The Amazing Raise 2011 is a unique online giving event that challenges our community to raise as much money as possible for local charities in a 36-hour period. The goal is to expand and increase charitable giving to local nonprofits that are an essential part of the health and vibrancy of our region. All donations must be made via credit card through GiveRichmond.org. The Community Foundation, which administers the GiveRichmond website, has committed an initial \$100,000 incentive pool to help leverage donations received during The Amazing Raise.

Hull Street Corridor Revitalization Planning Team Holds Successful Meeting with Community



Virginia LISC, with staff from Richmond and Chesterfield, facilitated another successful meeting with residents, business owners and others interested in the Hull Street Revitalization Planning process.

The meeting was held at the Elkhardt Elementary School on Monday, September 19. Close to 50 stakeholders were in attendance to share their views on the existing corridor and ideas for improvement.



John Taylor, Senior Planner and the project leader for Richmond, gave an overview of the project, Frances Stanley, LISC's GIS Analyst, gave an overview of the demographic composition of the area and Veronica Jemmott, LISC's Community Partnership Manager, gave an overview of the citizen engagement process and lead table discussions. Citizens had the opportunity to use dots on the map of the area to show where problem areas existed and where the area should have investment.

Before the year is over, the City of Richmond and County of Chesterfield will issue an RFP to hire a consultant team to work with citizens across the jurisdictions to create a plan for the area.



Financial Stability & Family Strengthening

Sharon Taylor, Goodwill's Director of Strategic Partnerships, recently asked Frances Stanley to give a presentation on LISC's Neighborhood Rising Initiative and the role of community engagement in that process. Frances spoke at the Financial Stability & Family Strengthening in Our Community conference held by Goodwill and United Way of Greater Richmond and Petersburg at the Virginia Credit Union on September 13. Over Fifty people were in attendance. Speakers included not only Frances but also Rebecca Tippet from the Weldon Cooper Center and Benjamin Evans from VCU's Center for Human Needs.



SEED's "Blue Ribbon" Selection Panel



Members left to right: Candice Streett, Diana Cantor, Matt Illian, Sister Anne Marie Mack, Dr. Leonard Edloe, Jane Watkins, Dr. Brent Smith, Secretary Lisa Hicks-Thomas (Not Pictured Mary Thompson)

The Supporting East End Entrepreneur Development (SEED) program, an initiative of Bon Secours Richmond Health System and Virginia LISC, received 17 applications for the inaugural award competition. The Panelist selected 6 entrepreneurs for awards up to \$10,000 under the SEED program. Winners of the funding will be announced shortly.

Local Advisory Committee

Chair : Michael Mulvihill, President
CRT/Tanaka

Vice Chair: Susan Dewey, Executive Director
VHDA

Ryan Ammann, Community Development Specialist
BB&T of VA

John Benesole, Enterprise Chief Architect
Capital One Bank

Rodney Blevins, Vice President
Dominion

Regina Chaney, Housing Education Specialist
H.O.M.E., Inc.

M. Maxine Cholmondeley, Interim Director
RRHA

Susan Genovese
Philanthropist

Dougal Hewitt, Senior Vice President
Bon Secours Health System of VA

Tom Jacobson, Director of Revitalization
Chesterfield County

Laura Lafayette, CEO
RAR

Penny J. McPherson, VP & Senior CDO
Wells Fargo

Brent Smith, Associate Professor
VCU

S. Mark Strickler, Director of Community Revitalization
Henrico County

Harry Turton, Regional President
Union First Market Bank