Virginia LISC Celebrates 25 Years

Pictured: U.S. Senator Tim Kaine surprised guests, showing up at the 25th anniversary event and speaking during the program. Photo Credit: Taylor Dabney

Virginia LISC staff and Local Advisory Committee celebrated Virginia LISC’s 25th anniversary with more than 200 people from the private, philanthropic, neighborhood and political sectors on Thursday, October 1, 2015.

Despite the dreary weather, guests came as far as Petersburg, Washington D.C. and New York. U.S. Senator Tim Kaine made a surprise appearance, catching a train from Washington D.C. to Richmond’s Hippodrome Theater for the festivities.

Virginia LISC honored The Cameron Foundation, Capital One and Better Housing Coalition for their longstanding partnership.

Awards were accepted on behalf of these organizations by Todd Graham, President, John Finneran, Corporate Secretary and General Counsel, and Lynn McAteer, Vice President Planning, respectively.

The program also included remarks from Richmond Mayor Dwight C. Jones and Richmond Councilwoman Dr. Cynthia Newbille. (continued on p.3)
Athletic Field Dedication at John Marshall High School

John Marshall High School students, faculty and staff celebrated their renovated athletic field on Saturday, October 11, with a field dedication ceremony followed by a football game. Virginia LISC, the NFL Foundation, Richmond Public Schools board members and the City of Richmond were all on site as well to join in the festivities of a much-anticipated project that they helped bring to fruition.

"John Marshall is a diamond in the rough and this field is a chance for it to sparkle," said Stefanie Ramsey, Ph.D. Richmond Public Schools Instructional Specialist, Health and P.E./Driver's Ed.

The field project began in 2013, when the NFL Grassroots Program awarded John Marshall a $100,000 grant for capital field improvements. The NFL Grassroots Program is a partnership between the NFL Foundation and LISC.

Former JMHS Principal Beverly Britt secured the support of Richmond Public Schools. "This has been a wonderful partnership," said Principal Britt. "They saw the passion in us and we will forever be indebted for the opportunities they have given our students."

Northside Brookland Park Plaza Senior Apartments Groundbreaking

The renovation of the old Highland Park High School building into the 77-unit Highland Park Senior Apartments is officially underway. Community Preservation and Development Corporation held a groundbreaking ceremony on October 14, 2015. Virginia LISC Executive Director Candice Streett was among the speakers for the event since Virginia LISC provided a capacity building grant.

"These apartments are pivotal in the cohesive community development that Virginia LISC has been working on in Highland Park on Richmond’s Northside for the past three years” said Candice Streett, Executive Director of the Virginia LISC office.

Virginia LISC was instrumental in attracting Community Preservation and Development Corporation to this project, bringing the DC area nonprofit to Richmond. CPDC has also bought two lots across the street from the apartments and will be meeting with community members to discuss design plans.
Virginia LISC 25th Anniversary Celebration Continued

As we move into the next 25 years, Virginia LISC will continue to strive to fulfill all of those acronyms—helping neighbors build strong communities.

Special thanks to our Lead Sponsor Virginia Housing Development Authority; our Gold Sponsors Capital One and Wells Fargo; our Silver Sponsors Dominion Resources, Padilla/CRT and Purcell Construction Corporation; our Bronze Sponsors Fulton Bank, Richmond Association of Realtors and Woodforest National Bank; and our Supporting Sponsors Williams Mullen and Winks-Snowa Architects. And thank you to our partners as well for making this event a success!

VHDA’s Executive Director Susan Dewey presented Virginia LISC’s Executive Director Candice Streett and VA LISC LAC Chair Mike Mulvihill with a 25th anniversary plaque. Photo Credit: Taylor Dabney

as well as by Oramenta Newsome, Program Vice President, LISC, and Ryan Rinn, Executive Director of Storefront for Community Design.

“We were so pleased to have such a great lineup of speakers at our event,” said Virginia LISC Executive Director Candice Streett.

In Rinn’s speech he poked fun of LISC’s complex acronym, offering other creative suggestions,

From Left to Right: first VA LISC Executive Director, Orlando Artze, former VA LISC LAC member John Finneran and former VA LISC LAC chair Jim Ukrop. Photo Credit: Taylor Dabney

“LISC - Local Initiative Support Corporation or Lasting Impact Serving Communities or Longstanding Investment Supporting Culture or Leveraging Ideas Strengthening Creativity or Leading Involvement Seeding Change.”

Above: The Honorable Mayor Dwight C. Jones, City of Richmond provides congratulatory remarks during the anniversary program. Photo Credit: Taylor Dabney.

Below, a crowd of more than 200 fills the Hippodrome Theater venue as Candice Streett, Executive Director of Virginia LISC thanks guests and partners. Photo Credit: Taylor Dabney

Thank you to SunTrust Bank, Capital One, The Cameron Foundation, Bank of America, The Robins Foundation, The Dominion Foundation, Wells Fargo, Bon Secours Richmond Health System, United Way, Corey Lane, Oliver Way, WoodForest National Bank and all of the event sponsors mentioned above for giving to Virginia LISC in the third quarter!
Virginia LISC Welcomes the 2015 Ukrop’s Scholars

Ryan Rinn, Executive Director of Storefront for Community Design is the 2015 Leadership Metro Richmond Ukrop’s Scholar. Rinn manages Storefront’s Community Engagement programs, design education and the mOb + Storefront design studio collaboration with VCUarts. He received his Bachelors degrees from the University of Richmond and his Master’s Degree in Urban and Regional Planning at Virginia Commonwealth University. Prior to returning to graduate school, Rinn spent four years working as the Director of Grassroots Education for the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy where he learned the importance of community organizing. In 2013, Rinn was named one of Greater Richmond’s “Top 40 under 40” by Style Weekly Magazine. Rinn resides in the Byrd Park neighborhood of Richmond and can be found spending his down time swimming and fishing at the James River.

Natisha Knight is the 2015 Ukrop’s Scholar recipient for the Emerging Nonprofit Leaders Program. Knight is the Director of Education at the Peter Paul Development Center in Church Hill.

The Peter Paul Development Center is an outreach and community center, giving children a safe, consistent, structured, and loving environment in which to thrive, where staff and volunteers establish long-term relationships of trust and support for the children and their families. Knight has worked at PPDC for the past three years, focusing on youth programming, but also introducing a parent volunteer program in 2014. The James E. Ukrop Scholarships were created by the Virginia Housing Development Authority and LISC in 2010 as a way to support both the Leadership Metro Richmond and the Emerging Nonprofit Leaders Program, by offering an annual scholarship for each.

Local Advisory Committee

Chair: Michael Mulvihill, Executive Vice President, Padilla/ CRT
Vice Chair: Cindy Mims, Community Development Officer, WoodForest National Bank
P. Rodney Blevins, Vice President, Dominion Virginia Power
Regina Chaney, Housing Education Specialist, H.O.M.E., Inc.
Peyton Cox, Director of Development, Purcell Construction
Susan Dewey, Executive Director, Virginia Housing Development Authority
Chad Eisele, VP and CFO of US Branded Partnership Card, Capital One
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Laura Lafayette, Chief Executive Officer, Richmond Association of Realtors
Corey Lane, Account Supervisor, the Martin Agency
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Beth Merchent, Vice President Health Services, Bon Secours Richmond Health System
Brian Rountree, Senior VP & Market Manager, Bank of America
Brent Smith, Associate Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University
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Oliver Way, Central Virginia President, Fulton Bank
Edward Winks, President, Winks & Snowa Architects
C.F. Younger, Jr., Distribution Channel Marketing Specialist—Mid Atlantic Region, Nationwide

Virginia LISC Staff

Candice Streett
Executive Director

Ebony Walden
Program Officer, Neighborhoods

Killeen King
Public Relations Coordinator

Schirra Hayes
Loan Officer

LISC Address
One Monument Avenue
413 Stuart Circle, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23220