

THE HRHA NEWSLETTER

News, announcements, and more from the
Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority



Lineweaver- 2019
Photo by Everett Brubaker

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Interested in subscribing? Questions?
Contact Sandy Loreda
HRHA Communications Coordinator
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Great Community Give

Look for us this year during the Great Community Give – all day on Wednesday, April 20, listed as Shenandoah Housing Corporation.

We are raising funds for scholarships for students of our housing choice voucher families. Help us launch this fund by promoting our efforts ahead of and on that day and enlisting any interested family and friends to spread the word.

Our goal for the Great Community Give is \$4,000. Any money we raise will help us establish this fund. Simply participating will raise awareness of our mission and funding needs and gain us friends and supporters.

If you want to promote our efforts, share our messages, raise funds for us, or donate matching funds, contact Kim Haines at khaines@harrisonburgrha.com.

To Check Out HRHA's
Community Give Profile Page
Please Use This QR Code:



Lineweaver Annex Renovation Funding

Later this year HRHA will renovate and increase the energy efficiency of the Lineweaver Annex in downtown Harrisonburg. HRHA received funding from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development in January. The funds come from the Affordable and Special Needs Housing Program, which provides low-interest financing to create and preserve affordable housing around the state.

The Lineweaver renovation project received \$900,000 from the Virginia Housing Trust Fund and \$230,000 from the Housing Innovations in Energy Efficiency fund.

The Lineweaver Annex was built in 1993 and contains 60 one-bedroom units designated for the elderly and persons with disabilities. The adjacent 61 units of the Lineweaver Apartments were renovated in 2011.

Planned improvements include a new roof; increased insulation; a more energy-efficient building exterior; an updated HVAC system and controls; dehumidification measures; elevator replacement; and upgraded security cameras. If funding allows, other possible enhancements are adding solar panels, tankless hot water heaters, and LED lighting.

HRHA will designate 20 apartments as permanent supportive housing units, where tenants experiencing chronic homelessness or who have special needs receive help coordinating needed services. Renovations are expected to begin in late summer and run through early next year.

Waiting List Reopens

In December of 2021, we announced our waiting list closed due to a software transition. Starting March 1, our waiting list will reopen. New applicants can apply through the new software and access it through our website.

The new software will provide residents, landlords, and service providers increased online access to apply, update their information, complete the application and certification process, and pay rent. The new software features will improve client access, increase communication, and enhance ease of use for all users.

Starting March 1, residents, landlords, and service providers can access the new software through our website. All users will be able to register and start using their accounts.

We want to thank everyone for their patience during our transition to this new software. We also recommend that those who haven't accessed the new software yet create an account today and use the new features.

Executive Director's Corner



The Authority is very excited about the many new initiatives we worked on last year, which are coming to fruition. HRHA is awaiting notification of HUD approval of its MtW plan; finalizing financing and developing construction documents for the Lineweaver Annex renovation; and wrapping up the final stages of data migration to the new software, scheduled for full implementation March 1, 2022.

These activities will significantly impact residents' self-sufficiency, improve the quality of housing at the Lineweaver annex, and enhance access for residents and landlords to apply and use services.

Any one of these initiatives could be defined as a legacy activity. Completing all three within one year demonstrates the commitment and understanding of staff and the board of commissioners' support on strategically repositioning the Authority to maximize available opportunities to address the needs of the residents and communities we serve.

- Michael Wong

Staff Highlight: Isaiah

HRHA manages a variety of programs, grants, and initiatives. We serve hundreds of families through housing vouchers, programs like Family Self-Sufficiency, and city-wide campaigns. Through 2022, we plan to highlight members of the HRHA team who make this work possible.

1. When did you start at HRHA and what brought you to the Housing Authority?

I joined HRHA in August of 2020. Prior to HRHA, I worked as Program Coordinator with an organization that advocated and supported individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to ensure they meet their full potential. I came to HRHA because I wanted to continue making a difference in our community.

2. What is your role with HRHA?

I am the Western Virginia Continuum of Care (CoC) Coordinator. I coordinate the CoC's administrative, policy, procedures, grants, and initiatives to end homelessness in Shenandoah Valley, an area covering two cities and six counties.

3. What benefits have come from working at HRHA?

I get to work with brilliant people from the housing authority, non-governmental organizations, and local governments to combine efforts to end homelessness. In addition to this, I appreciate the learning and growth opportunities from being able to attend conferences, take courses, and working on different projects that enable me to do my job better.

4. What do you love to do outside of work?

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, going for a run, gym and my favorite summer activity is playing soccer.

5. What do you wish more people in our community knew about affordable housing, our families, or the voucher program?

I wish people in our community were more concerned and interested in learning about homelessness and the housing crisis in our community and country. A fully engaged and accountable community can solve these systemic problems, and when we do, our community does better as a whole.



Welcome Stephany and Sandy!

HRHA is pleased to welcome Stephany Campbell and Sandy Loreda. Both joined HRHA earlier this year.

Stephany Campbell – *Housing Choice Voucher Specialist*



Stephany is a Harrisonburg native who currently resides in the county with her four kids and enjoys crafts and cooking. She is also a fluent Spanish speaker. Stephany working on her Associate degree in Psychology at Blue Ridge Community College. Stephany is excited for the opportunity to use her skills and experience to help current and future residents obtain affordable housing.

Sandy Loreda – *Resident Services & Communications Coordinator*



Sandy is a Harrisonburg native who attended school here in the valley. Sandy earned her Associate in Arts and Sciences at Blue Ridge Community College before transferring to Bridgewater College. At Bridgewater College, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Communication. Sandy is excited to bring her expertise in managing cases and communication to HRHA.



Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority

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Waiting List & Applications

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Website



www.harrisonburgrha.com

Facebook



[@harrisonburgrha](https://www.facebook.com/harrisonburgrha)

HRHA Board of Commissioners

HRHA is governed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners appointed by the Harrisonburg City Council. The Board establishes the Authority's policies and procedures and appoints the Executive Director.

Board of Commissioner meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 4:00PM. Meeting location/access will be posted prior to meetings and in line with local health guidelines.

+ Michael Wong, (Not a commissioner)
Executive Director/Secretary-Treasurer

+ Dany Fleming - Chair

Term Expires: November 29, 2023

+ Christine Fasching Maphis - Vice Chair

Term Expires: November 29, 2022

+ Jody Johannessen

Term Expires: November 29, 2022

+ Kevin Coffman - Commissioner

Term Expires: November 29, 2023

+ Luciano Benjamin - Commissioner

Term Expires: November 29, 2024

+ Gil Colman - Commissioner

Term Expires: November 29, 2021

+ Shonda Green - Commissioner

Term Expires: November 29, 2024

Kelley Street Garden

As Spring nears, preparation for the Kelley Street Garden has begun. We are excited to welcome returning resident gardeners and a few new participants. We want to thank our Master Gardeners, Karen Thomsen and Lisa Seymour, for returning to help the resident gardeners this year.

If you would like to support the resident gardeners, please visit our website at www.harrisonburgrha.com/donate.

