

THE HRHA NEWSLETTER

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



In this issue:

The Community Give Back.....	1
Financial Resolutions Workshop.....	2
Executive Director's Corner.....	2
Staff Highlight.....	3
Contact & Board of Commissioners.....	4
Upcoming Events.....	4

The Community Give Back

On December 8th, HRHA gathered various toys, books, and winter clothing for 60 children in our FSS families. For the first time, HRHA collaborated with United Bank to have volunteers during this event and to have 60 winter coats donated and available for the children in our Family Self-Sufficiency program!



See United Bank volunteers pictured above.

Interested in subscribing? Questions?
Contact
vhill@harrisonburgha.com



HRHA would like to extend its thanks to community partners, organizations, and community members for making contributions to this event's success. Your participation brought a brighter holiday season to families in need.



Pictured above is a portion of the winter coats that were donated by United Bank during their Coat Drive.

Financial Resolutions Workshop

As 2024 rolls in, so do new goals for the new year. HRHA collaborated with United Bank to bring our Family Self-Sufficiency program participants a financial resolutions workshop.

FSS participants worked with speakers from United Bank to identify their 2024 goals like saving for a down payment on a home or creating an emergency fund. From there, they used "SMART Goals" worksheets to visualize and identify steps to make their goals achievable. Participants also were given tools to create in-depth budget. FSS participants will continue to work with the FSS coordinators throughout the year to update their budgets and work towards meeting their financial goals.

Executive Director's Corner



Happy New Year!!

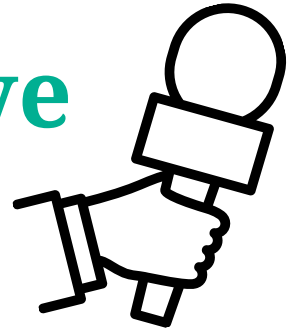
As we start the new year, I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to HRHA's staff and Board of Commissioners for their service in providing housing for more than 1,000 families on a nightly basis this past year. I also appreciate our community partners who supported us in 2023. Without your collaboration, many of our initiatives to increase housing opportunities would not have been successful.

As we turn our focus to the next year, we will continue to implement and complete projects and activities that increase housing opportunities and improve resident outcomes and services. An exciting initiative is the development of a community advisory board to ensure residents' voices are incorporated into improving health and safety in the properties we manage. I appreciate the residents who have volunteered to serve in that group.

With appreciation and gratitude,

Michael Wong

Staff Highlight: Steve Bradfield



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 2024, we plan to highlight members of the HRHA team who make this work possible.

1. What is your role in HRHA?

Procurement & Inventory Specialist

2. What is one of your favorite aspects of working with HRHA?

I enjoy knowing that what we do helps people who are struggling. It gives my job a better sense of purpose.

3. Do you have any goals or aspirations in your position?

Every day is a learning experience. Regulations and laws are constantly changing, so just trying to learn the position and keep up is a challenge in itself.

4. What is the best career lesson you've learned so far?

Everything is temporary. Life and work are always in a state of flux, so it's best to remember that change can bring about new opportunities and experiences.

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

I wish more people in the community realized how many need assistance with basic housing and how the need is growing exponentially.



Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority

Contact Us

+ *HRHA Main Office*
286 Kelley St
PO Box 1071 (22803)
Harrisonburg VA, 22802
Fax: (540)-432-1113

+ *HRHA Reservoir Office*
FSS Program, HMIS, COC
143 Reservoir St
Harrisonburg VA, 22801
Fax: (540)-432-1113

+ *HRHA Commerce Village*
21 Elon Rhodes Lane
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
Fax: (540)-615-5558
+ *HRHA JR "Polly"*
HRHA Lineweaver and Lineweaver Annex
265 N. Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22802



To reach all HRHA offices, call: (540) 434-7386

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

- + Kevin Coffman - Commissioner
Term Expires: November 29, 2027
- + Luciano Benjamin - Commissioner
Term Expires: November 29, 2024
- + Gil Colman - Commissioner
Term Expires: November 29, 2025
- + Shonda Green - Commissioner
Term Expires: November 29, 2025
- + Kenneth Kettler - Commissioner
Term Expires: February 1, 2024
- + Amanda Leech - Commissioner
Term Expires: October 13, 2024
- + Janet E. Awkard-Rogers- Commissioner
Term Expires: April 25, 2027

Upcoming Events:

During the upcoming months, HRHA will be introducing its first youth financial literacy program called The Money Smart Club. This program is designed to make learning financial literacy both fun and engaging through online videos and video games! HRHA is excited to help provide the tools and resources needed to develop this knowledge with our participants.

