

THE HRHA NEWSLETTER

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



In this issue:

- Kelley Street Garden
2024.....1
- The Garden Grove of
Books.....2
- Executive Director's
Corner.....2
- New Staff
Members.....3
- Contact & Board of
Commissioners.....4

Kelley Street Garden 2024

HRHA is excited as the Kelley Street Garden gates open again this May. We are thrilled to welcome back its resident gardeners, whose dedication and enthusiasm drive the garden's success.

A vital feature of the Kelley Street Garden is the involvement of Master Gardeners, a group of experienced horticultural experts who volunteer their time to support the resident gardeners. These Master Gardeners offer invaluable guidance, from teaching best practices to providing hands-on assistance. Their expertise is instrumental in helping the resident gardeners overcome challenges and maximize their harvests throughout the growing season.

The reopening of the Kelley Street Garden signals more than just the start of a new gardening season; it represents a reconnection with nature, community, and sustainability. It's a place where people from all walks of life can come together, learn from one another, and take pride in the fruits of their labor.

In April, residents interested in having a garden bed met for a Kelley Street Garden Orientation event. The master gardeners educated residents about the process of successfully owning a garden bed. They discussed proper garden bed maintenance, how to read seed packets, and our area's climate, which impacts the time that vegetables can be grown.

Also, for the first time this year, HRHA has held a DIY Container Gardening Workshop. During this event, participants had the opportunity to select their own flowers and herbs to place into containers of soil either within their homes or outside in front of them.



The Garden Grove of Books

HRHA's youth and teen reading program opens again this summer for registration starting this June. Following a successful first year, participants read 225 books! We are excited to return a fun and enriching experience to the community!

Our program is not just about reading. It's about fostering a love for it among young people while honing their literacy skills. All participants also stand a chance to win a variety of exciting prizes, making the journey even more thrilling and rewarding!

We eagerly look forward to extending this wonderful opportunity to even more young readers this year, inspiring them to dive into the joys of reading and rewarding their efforts. Join us in making this summer a season of discovery, learning, and exciting rewards!

Executive Director's Corner



A strategic goal established by the Authority is increasing residents' opportunities and self-sufficiency. Achievement of this adaptive challenge is not possible without our community partners who assist us in supporting and creating ways for the families we serve to maximize their employment and academic success. These include providing funds to support scholarships, job training, and access to certification achievement; Master Gardeners who share their knowledge and time to support residents' access to healthy eating; VAIL, Strength in Peers, and Harrisonburg Rockingham Community Services Board for providing supportive services; and many more partners who touch and make a difference in the lives of the people we serve. Any and all success is directly related to our residents' perseverance and desire for improvement, commitment of the Authority's staff to support the residents, and our community partners who provide the avenues of success. We are extremely thankful for the community we live in.

In service,

Michael G. Wong
Executive Director
Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing
Authority

HRHA Welcomes New Staff Members!

The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Housing Authority (HRHA) is proud to share some exciting news! We are proud to announce not only a fantastic new occupancy special but also the addition of a dedicated CoC Administrative Coordinator to our team. Stay tuned for more details on our efforts as a team as we continue to strive for excellence in meeting the housing needs of our community.



Occupancy Specialist
Shea Mackie



Western VA CoC Administrator
Allison Henry



Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority

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

Website



Facebook



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, 2028
- + Amanda Leech - Commissioner
Term Expires: October 13, 2024
- + Janet Awkard-Rogers - Commissioner
Term Expires: April 25, 2027