

THE HOUSING HORIZON

RESIDENTS FIRST!



CRHA Responds to Coronavirus

While health officials are currently taking steps to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 ("Coronavirus") across the United States, the Housing Authority is committed to doing everything we can to ensure the health and well-being of our residents. We want to keep you informed about CRHA's response to the presence in Charlottesville. Please visit us at www.cvillerha.com to learn how our organization and the community are coordinating efforts to provide for resident needs during the sheltering-in-place.

The spread of COVID-19 is a public health issue. To stay informed or ask questions, you should contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 or call the Virginia Department of Health's Thomas Jefferson Health District hotline at (434) 972-6261.

While you are exploring our new website, check out Today's Parent magazine article "87 Family Activities to Help You Avoid Coronavirus Cabin Fever," to help your family deal make the best of being stuck inside.

And – as always – Thank You! Thank you for your support of CRHA. Thank you for giving us the chance to be of service to you. And Thank You for choosing to call CRHA home.

Residents First!

Business Hours:

500 South 1st Street
Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm; EXCEPT
Wednesday 10am-5pm
(434) 326-4672

801 Hardy Drive
By appointment only.
(434) 326-4672 ext. 9308

Maintenance:

(434) 227-2107

Reminder: Please place rent payments in the drop box at the rental office. Receipts will be mailed out to confirm payment.

Meet Our Staff



Kathleen Glenn-Matthews joined the CRHA family as the Relocation Coordinator in June 2019. In that role, she is responsible for assisting and directing the relocation plan for public housing residents during the renovation process. Ms. Glenn-Matthews was recently appointed Interim Executive Director, effective February 2020.

A little about Kathleen: Kathleen has spent over 15 years in the housing field working with the CRHA and other human services organizations.

She has many years of experience with public administration, state and federal compliance and program development. She is a realtor and has also done consulting for nonprofit and community-based businesses. Kathleen has been volunteering in various capacities with public housing residents for over a decade and is excited to work on getting programs set up to help residents meet their goals. *...continued on pg. 2*

Relocation Update – New Faces



Kristen Davis Singh has been hired as our Assistant Relocation Coordinator and will be based at Crescent Halls.

Kristen grew up in Arnold, Maryland and lived in Ithaca, New York; Trenton, New Jersey; New York, New York; Baltimore, Maryland; Boston, Massachusetts; Durham, North Carolina; and Hartford, Connecticut before moving to Charlottesville in 2013.

Since then, Kristen has continued to move a lot, so relocation is right up her alley!

She has spent hundreds of hours planning moves, adjusting those plans, packing and unpacking, loading and unloading moving trucks, parallel parking moving trucks, talking with utility companies, and endlessly changing addresses.

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Meet Our Staff cont'd.

Her experience will be invaluable in helping the CRHA team with their redevelopment process.

A few fun facts about Kathleen: Kathleen spent six years working in Virginia to rebuild a winery business and a grass-fed cattle program on an organic farm. In her free time, she can often be found bicycling or hiking.

Kathleen is working out of the exercise room at Crescent Halls. You can reach her at 434.987.9639 or matthewsk@cvilleaha.com. Please take a moment to say hello when you have the chance.

Relocation Update – New Faces cont'd.

Kristen has a Master of Social Work from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has extensive experience in social work settings, mostly health care and community development.

She came to know the work of CRHA through her involvement in planning Westhaven Community Day with the Public Housing Association of Residents. She is happy and grateful to be joining the CRHA community and looks forward to working with all of us.

Maintenance & Work Orders

To place a work order for routine maintenance issues, please call **(434) 227-2107** between 8am-5pm, M-F. Only emergencies should be called in after 5pm and on the weekend. Please DO NOT contact maintenance staff directly for non-emergency work orders.

REMINDER: No Smoking Policy

The smoke-free policy has been in effect since of July 1, 2018. If you have not signed the Non-Smoking Lease Addendum, please see your Asset Manager immediately. Smoking in HUD properties is a lease violation.

Safety: Who Are You Going to Call

It is appropriate to call 911 when someone is hurt, when something is on fire or when a crime has been committed. If you have questions or concerns that are non-emergency in nature, please use the Non-Emergency Police line at (434) 970-3280.

Beware of Tax Time Scams

Find information on common scams and frauds and how to avoid becoming the victim of a scam by visiting the VA Attorney General's home page at www.oag.state.va.us/ and clicking on **consumer protection**.



Home to Hope is an initiative of the City of Charlottesville that addresses the needs of those who have been incarcerated. As part of this initiative, the City trained and hired four individuals with previous lived experience. These individuals now serve as staff to the Home to Hope program, which is part of the Office of Economic Development.

Their experiences give them the ability to relate to those whom they serve. Staff address the needs of program participants by providing one-on-one peer support, helping them navigate resources, facilitating support groups, encouraging self-sufficiency, and advocating for fairness in the community.

Home to Hope looks forward to building relationships and working with individuals on their road to recovery. For more information about Home to Hope, please visit www.charlottesville.org/hometohope or call 434-970-3933.

Announcements:

- April is National Fair Housing Month.
- **NOTE:** Due to COVID-19, some of the VITA sites and all TCE sites are closed for an undetermined period. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$56,000 or less. To locate the nearest VITA or TCE site near you, use the VITA Locator Tool at irs.gov/https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/ or call 800-906-9887. FREE is worth the wait! **The IRS has delayed its tax filing deadline from April 15 to July 15.**
- Charlottesville Parks & Rec is working to install an A.D.A compatible and bicycle/stroller/ramp access from the end of Madison Avenue into Washington Park. The anticipated completion date is the end of summer 2020. For more information, contact Chris Gensic at the Parks Department, 434-970-3656 or email gensic@charlottesville.org.
- Interested in serving on a Charlottesville Board or Commission? Want to advise the City Council on important community-related issues? Visit <https://www.charlottesville.org/departments-and-services/boards-and-commissions> to apply.
- Been bitten by the entrepreneur bug? The Community Investment Collaborative offers a 16-week entrepreneur workshop that meets on Tuesday evenings from 6pm – 9pm at CitySpace. The workshop helps individuals determine business viability of a concept and explore launching a business. Contact Shannon Beach, 434-260-5166 or shannon@cityville.org.
- Advancing Charlottesville Entrepreneurs Program (ACE) – The City of Charlottesville Office of Economic Development (OED) offers assistance to existing City-based businesses through one-time grant funding to acquiring new equipment, products, or services. For questions, please contact ACEprogram@charlottesville.org.