## January 2022 Housing Choice Voucher Newsletter

2022

### **Important Dates**

Our office will be closed the following dates :

Hello January

- January 1: New Year's Day
- January 17: Martin Luther King Day





## FREE TAX PREPARATION

Prepare for the upcoming 2022 tax season with C.E.B. Financial Accounting & Tax Services

Free Tax Preparation is available for the "2022 Tax Season" Every Tuesday & Thursday Starting – Tuesday, January 18, 2022, through Thursday, October 13, 2022

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$56,000 or less Services will be provided at

C.E.B. Financial Accounting & Tax Services 533 E. PINNER STREET SUFFOLK, VA 23434

They will be taking Scheduled **APPOINTMENTS ONLY** – Call Tammy McClinton for more information -

(757) 925-6550

Starting: January 4, 2022

No Walk-Ins



Redevelopment & Housing Authority

**Changing Housing, Changing Minds, Changing Lives** 

## The Portal on SRHA Website

All program participants and applicants are to if not have already register on our website (www.suffolkrha.org) for the online portal. Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions, this is an awesome way to update your information for annual reexamination, interim changes, and upload documents.



We strongly encourage you to register at our website **www.suffolkrha.org./pay-online** to register for an account. Once, registered you will be able to upload document to your caseworker as well as make changes to your application. Please keep in mind you must first register with a valid email address to be granted access. Please remember your user ID and password. In addition, you can communicate directly with your caseworker and there is a record of any documents you upload. This will eliminate the need to visit the office. We are streamlining things making the process contactless and safe. This is a reliable method of doing business considering Covid-19 restrictions.

## Free Virginia Housing Homeownership Education Classes

Are you thinking about buying a home, but not sure where to start? Attend a free class to



learn about the buying process and how to prepare for homeownership.

The course, developed by the Virginia Housing, teaches the key steps to homebuying. Industry experts — such as housing/ credit counselors, real estate agents, lenders, home inspectors,

and closing agents — volunteer their time and share their knowledge to make you a more informed buyer.

The class covers personal finances and credit, loan types, the loan process, working with a real estate agent, the home inspection, the closing process and more. Suffolk Redevelopment & Housing Authority facilitates classes throughout the year.

For more information, **contact Rosie James**, Housing Counselor, SRHA at 757 925-6506, or register at virginiahousing.com/free class.

**Location and Date of class:** Saturday, February 5, 2022: 8:45-3:30 – To Be Held at: East Suffolk Recreation Center 138 S. 6th St. Suffolk.

# **FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

The FSS Program with Ms. Tammy McClinton

Family Self-Sufficiency is a program which offers housing assistance as part of a coordinated linkage to other programs and services to include child care, transportation, personal and career counseling, adult basic or college education, job training and job placement assistance.

FSS

The goal of the FSS Program is to assist highly motivated persons to become economically self-sufficient (i.e., self-supporting by obtaining employment and/or education without receiving city, state and federal assistance). Any SRHA Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) client and/or Public Housing residents. The FSS Program Staff will help you access your needs and direct you to those resources that will enable you to move forward in becoming self-sufficient.



To find out more on how to become successful and establish an escrow account please reach out to Ms. Tammy McClinton at 757-925-6550 or tmcclinton@suffolkrha.org to find out more about the program and sign up.





Events for the month of January: January 5, 2022

Wednesday at

**6pm : The Great Oreo Taste Off** — It's a tasting event with assorted flavors of Oreos and, of course, milk as the chaser! Registration required. For ages 12-17 (Register on the SPL website https://suffolkpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/8471292 )

January 7, 2022 Friday at 11am : Encore -Winter Door Hanger—Create a winter-themed door hanger to celebrate the season and spruce up your door! All materials are provided, but you are welcome to bring any materials you would like to include in your creation. Registration required on SPL website. (Adults)

January 12, 2022 Wednesday at 4pm Suffolk Public Library : Family Food Fun—Join the SPL staff at Morgan Memorial Library to make a family-friendly recipe together. All supplies are provided. Registration required. For families.

January 25, 2022 Tuesday at 10:30am Suffolk Public Library:

**Sleepy Storytime**—Families with kids of all ages are welcome to join us twice a month at Morgan Memorial Library for bedtime stories! Wearing pajamas

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FOR THE ENTIRE

FAMILY

and bringing stuffed animals is encouraged. Registration required for families.

#### Staying Safe During the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Limited Contact : Due to the COVID-19
   Pandemic we are preventing limited contact , staying 6 feet apart, and washing
   your hands. Make sure you are still practicing social distancing and staying masked
   up. Our office is still closed for walk ins
   but if you have an appointment with a
   caseworker then please make sure you are
   masked up when entering the building.
- Groceries: Have at least a two-week supply of household items and groceries on hand so that you will be prepared to stay at home. Consider ways of getting medications, food, and mail brought to your house



by family, friends, or businesses. Have a plan for someone to care for your dependents and pets if you get sick .

• Wash your hands: Wash your hands often with soap and

water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Soap and water are always preferable, but if soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together

until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

