

September 2022

Housing Choice Voucher Newsletter



Suffolk Redevelopment
& Housing Authority

Changing Housing, Changing Minds, Changing Lives

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM

The HCV Department is looking to enroll new families in its Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program. The program is a voluntary and helps families become financially independent. In addition to become free from government assistance. The program is designed to help participants meet their short & long term personal, educational, and professional goals.

The program will also assist in building an escrow savings account which is then given to the participants upon successful completion of the program. The program is free to join. To learn more about the program

JOIN US ON MICROSOFT TEAMS FOR AN FSS ORIENTATION SESSION

September 20, 2022, 4:00pm

To attend virtually, you can **Join on your computer or mobile app.**

[Download Teams](#) Or [Join on the web.](#)

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 291 179 841 519
Passcode: yfX8K8

Who is Eligible?

Families who receive assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher or Public Housing Programs

How Does Program Work?

The Head of Household enrolls by completing an application, assessment, service plan and signs a contract. The Participant works with the FSS Coordinator to establish self-sufficiency goals and receives service coordination throughout the duration of the program. The Program is for 5 years or longer.

The Participant is eligible to receive funds that have accrued in the escrow saving account once goals are accomplished.



Interested? You can contact

Dinah Lewis HCV Resident Services
FSS Coordinator dlewis@suffolkrha.org
(757) 925-6550



530 Pinner Street
Suffolk, VA 23434

Back 2 School Bash 2022 Giveaway

**Suffolk HCV Participants & Public Housing Residents
Only**

**Thursday September 1st
3-6PM**

**First Come, First Serve
While Supplies Last**



Important Dates

Our offices will be closed on :

Each Wednesday thru 9/30

September 5th— Labor Day



Affordable Connectivity Program

The Affordable Connectivity Program is a \$14.2 billion program that supports eligible low-income households struggling to afford monthly internet service. This critical program ensures that households have the connections they need for work, school, healthcare, and more. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

The Affordable Connectivity Program is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household.

Who Is Eligible to Receive ACP Support? A household is eligible if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines;
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations;
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program in the current or immediately preceding school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or

How Does an Eligible Household Enroll in the Program? There are two steps to enrolling in the ACP:

Complete and submit an online or mail-in application available at [ACPBenefit.org](https://www.acpbenefit.org).



Suffolk Workforce Development Center



Community Health Series

DARS Information Session

Date: September 26, 2022

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Suffolk Workforce Development Center
157 North Main Street 2nd Floor Training Room C
Suffolk, Virginia 23434
(757) 517-7742

Presented By: Ms. Amorita Clark-Jeter and
Christine Marschall
Vocational Placement Counselors

How DARS Can Help You:

- Learn All Of The Services Provided
- Importance Of Getting Resources and Technology Needed
- Advocating For Yourself
- Help Navigating The Applications



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FINANCIAL FRIDAY

78% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck. It doesn't have to be that way.

Stop Living from Paycheck to Paycheck

Finances Freedom don't have to be frightening.

Winning with money is 80 percent behavior and 20 percent head knowledge.

Get some Knowledge to change your habits.

Join us on Microsoft Teams. On Fridays to get some tools to manage your money!

1st Session starts October 7, at 11:00am

Budgeting

To attend virtually, you will need to download the Microsoft Teams platform. It does not cost anything to download the software click [here](#) or to login click [here](#).



Safety Back to School tips for attending school during COVID-19 and Monkeypox:

COVID-19

- **Wearing face masks**—School policies vary when it comes to face masks. However, whether or not you're vaccinated, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends wearing a face mask in indoor public spaces if you're in a community with a high number of new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. Wearing the most protective face mask that you'll wear regularly, fits well and is comfortable while indoors can limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The CDC recommends that students and staff who have been exposed or think they've been exposed to COVID-19 wear a mask around others for 10 days after their last exposure.
- **Screening test**—Screening identifies people with COVID-19 who don't have symptoms and who don't have a known, suspected or reported exposure to COVID-19. This can help keep COVID-19 from spreading further.
- **Handwashing**—Schools and parents should encourage students to frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Children should cover their mouths and noses with an elbow or a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- **Cleaning and disinfecting**—Cleaning once a day is usually enough to lower the risk of germs spreading from surfaces in schools. The CDC suggests schools have procedures for staff to follow after meals, after exposure to fluids such as blood or saliva, and after changing diapers.



Monkeypox tips:

- Avoid skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox.
- Don't share eating utensils or cups with people who have monkeypox.
- Don't touch the bedding, towels, or clothing of people who have monkeypox.
- Wash your hands often, making sure to use soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Vaccines used against smallpox may also help prevent monkeypox. Currently, these vaccines are in very limited supply nationwide. The federal government is distributing to the most affected communities as supply becomes available based on cases and proportion of the population at risk for severe disease.



Events for the month of September:

September 1-7, 2022: Tuesday - Spice of the Month: Mint [KIT]

Looking to cook something new? Give SPL Spice of the Month Club a try with a free sample of the spice, recipes for a main course and smaller dish or dessert to fit your needs or diet, and learn a little about the spice. This month the SPL is cooling off with a native plant: mint! This square-leaved herb, while used for chilled drinks and sweet desserts, can also bring a bright flavor to savory dishes. **Spice of the Month kits can be picked up September 1-7 during the Library's regular hours at our Morgan Memorial and North Suffolk locations. Kits available on a first come, first served basis. No registration required.**



September 10, 2022— Saturday: Taste of Suffolk Downtown Street Festival on Saturday, 11am until 5pm in Historic Downtown Suffolk. Taste of Suffolk is in its 16th year and attracts attendees from across the region. The 2022 event site will stretch down Main Street from Finney Avenue to Washington Street, and along West Washington Street to Saratoga Street. Main Street will be lined with Suffolk's independent restaurants presenting their signature menu items. Eateries offer smaller portions at nominal prices, allowing event attendees to sample an assortment of culinary creations.

September 13, 2022—Tuesday: Cookies and Canvas [IN-PERSON] Create small masterpieces on canvas with your little Picasso! All supplies provided. Registration required. For ages 2-5. Registration is required. SPL events are free to attend and open to people of all abilities. If you or someone in your party will require accommodations in order to participate, please call 757-514-7323 and ask to speak with the Community Learning Manager. Please contact the Community Learning Manager if you are a facility bringing a group of 5 or more. You do not need to be a library member in order to attend.

September 17, 2022—Saturday: Suffolk Handicrafts: Meetup [IN-PERSON] Drop in and join Suffolk Handicrafts to show off your handicrafts, share your handicrafts knowledge, and craft together! All handicrafts welcome, from sewing, knitting, quilting, weaving, and more. Meetups occur every third Saturday of the month. For teens and adults.

September 29, 2022—Throwback Thursday: 90s Party [IN-PERSON] Nostalgic for the 90s? If you have ever twisted your ankle wearing moon shoes or earned a personal pan pizza during summer reading, then this program is for you! Join The Suffolk Public Library at the Suffolk Art Gallery for a night of 90s pop culture. There will be fun trivia, music, and crafts for adults and a cash bar for adults 21 and up. It's going to be a totally radical time! **From 7:00pm - 9:00pm Address: Suffolk Art Gallery: 118 Bosley Ave, Suffolk**

EVENTS ARE **NOT** SPONSORED BY

SUFFOLK REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY