

Housing & Neighborhood Programs

Keeping Our City Beautiful Neighborhood by Neighborhood

A Newsletter of the Department of Housing and Neighborhood Programs

May 2020

A Message from the Director

On behalf of the Department of Housing & Neighborhood Programs (HNP), Happy New Year! Our goals and expectations for 2020 will enable us to have an effective and productive year. Although we have many challenges ahead, our staff is excited and ready to serve the citizens of Little Rock with common courtesy and a great attitude. It is our mission in the Housing and Neighborhood Programs Department to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Little Rock by encouraging quality, affordable development and redevelopment while working closely with neighborhood organizations to identify resources needed to strengthen and make improvements in their areas; and to protect the health and safety of the citizenry through the efficient implementation and enforcement of environmental and animal services.

"What is Courtesy? Courtesy is when we act with consideration for others – not pushing in a line, but letting someone else go first; thanking someone for what they have done for us; requesting something politely. Courtesy is important because it enables people to interact with each other so that each person ad their actions are valued, acknowledged and respected. Courtesy improves the quality of our lives by eliminating much needless stress and friction – it makes life more enjoyable. (Please & Thanks)

Kevin D. Howard





Housing and Neighborhood Programs Department participated in the LRPD Professional Development Day.

Each division manager with H&NP presented a power point presentation to give 12th Street Station LRPD a better look at how each division operates. These include: Animal Village, CDBG, Code Enforcement, and Neighborhood Resource Centers.

Little Rock Animal Village

On March 18, 2020, we had to reevaluate everything we had been doing at the Animal Village for years. We had questions on how we would continue to run a successful operation. We looked at everything we had been doing to reinvent ways to enforce the animal ordinance and to develop a way to find our animals homes.

We soon developed ways to continue to answer calls for service (complaints), take care of the animals in our custody but how do we continue to find homes for animals?

Brain storming with staff we decided we will have virtual adoptions. Staff will assess animals and score them for friendliness, getting along with other animals, energy level, how they react to being touched while eating as well as breed descriptions and overall appearance.

Soon we developed a plan to describe the animals and we started taking pictures and getting them ready to display for adoption. We had to quickly develop a format for citizens to fill out an application to adopt an animal. Working with one of our volunteers we had an online application that was not only easy to use but linked to our shelter software to make the process faster for staff.

Since then we have not stopped finding homes for animals. In the last month and a half we have adopted over 150 animals.

Our need to find a way to continue adopting animals while we have been closed to the public has created another avenue for us to expand our adoptions even after we reopen to the public. Our virtual adoption program will be a wonderful new tool for years to come as another way for animals to live happily ever after.



Casey was our first Virtual Adoption!

Community Development Divison





During the National Community Development Association's Legislative Meeting, City of Little Rock Staff met with Congressman French Hill to encourage his support of increased funding for CDBG and HOME.

PROCLAMATION

Know Ye All People By These Presents Greetings:

WHEREAS, the week of April 13 - 17, has been designated as National Community Development Week by the National Community Development Association in celebrating of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program; and

WHEREAS, since 1975, the CDBG Program has provided annual funding and flexibility to local communities to provide decent, safe and affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities for low- to moderate-income people; and

WHEREAS, since 1992, the HOME Program has provided funding to local communities to create and preserve decent, safe, and affordable housing opportunities for low-income persons; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, our community has received a total of \$6,704,621 (million) in CDBG funds and \$2,795,287 (million) in HOME funds; which has made a direct impact to the public infrastructure, public services and addressing housing needs for our citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I. Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, do hereby proclaim the week of April 13 - 17, 2020, as

NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK

in the City of Little Rock and I encourage all citizens to join together in expressing support for these two valuable programs that have made tremendous contributions to the viability of the housing stock, infrastructure, public services, and economic vitality of our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress and the Administration to recognize the outstanding work being done locally with CDBG and HOME funding by providing increased funding for both programs in Federal Year 2021.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Little Rock to be affixed on this 14th day of April, in the year of our Lord, 2020.

Frank Scott, Jr. Mayor

Every year our Community Development Division participates in National Community Development Week. The week celebrates the success of Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Programs and urges our legislatures and citizens to support these programs that have made tremendous contributions to the viability of the housing stock, infrastructure, public services, and economic vitality of our community. This year National Community Development week was April 13-17th. As we adhered to City guidelines, a large portion of our scheduled events had to be cancelled due to the targeted audience being greater than 10. We thank our partners who work diligently with City of Little Rock citizens to ensure the success of the programs.

Code Enforcement Division Congratulations



Karla Williams accepted the position of Director-Code Enforcement for the City of Pine Bluff on April 10, 2020. Ms. Williams joined the City of Little Rock on August 8, 2016 as a code enforcement officer. She was promoted shortly after joining the Code Enforcement Division to Senior Code Enforcement Officer, supervising a staff of 5 officers.

During her tenure with the city, she consistently performed her job at a level indicated by her elevation to director. One of my most enjoyable memories of Karla is her constant questioning me about "WHY YOU SO HARD ON ME"?

She finally admitted, I get it, you wanted me to never put boundaries on my potential and always strive for excellence.

Ms. Williams is a graduate of the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff, married and has a one son.

It is with great pleasure on behalf of the Code Enforcement Division that I say CONGRATS to you both, and never stop climbing.







Oscar Cervantes accepted the position of "Interim" Senior Code Enforcement Officer on April 24, 2020. Oscar joined the City of Little Rock on February 20, 2018 as a code enforcement officer within District 5. Mr. Cervantes quickly established himself as an outstanding performer as indicated by his 311 statistics. Oscar spent a significant amount of time with his Senior Officer learning and understanding the many challenges officers face daily while doing their jobs.

Mr. Cervantes is a graduate of Hall High School and previously worked for the Consulate of Mexico-Little Rock. He is married and has 2 kids.

Resource Center Division

Neighborhood Associations we care about you and look forward to seeing you soon. As you may have noticed Resource Specialist who are working as essential workers are sharing important information with community to keep them connected.

HBCU College Fair Awareness held at West Central Community Center

The HBCU Fair was a great turn out. Resource Specialist were instrumental in getting the information out to High Schools churches neighborhoods.



The year started out with annual gatherings like the ones below where seniors came together to share songs and dance. Also Heal a Heart Symposium and Recognition Luncheon. All that has changed as we distance ourselves and practice the new normal.

Southwest annual Valentine Event was held at the Southwest Community Center. There were 18 in attendance. The King and Queen were selected by the group. Each of the citizens were given gifts. There was ice cream and cupcakes that were donated by Valeria Tate and Linda Williams. The citizens danced, song, played games and had great fun.





The Center for Healing Hearts and Spirits and The Family Service Agency Presented Heal A Heart Symposium & Recognition Luncheon on Thursday February 13, 2020. They talked about wellness program for Police Officers. It was said that 75% of the homicides in Little Rock last year the victim knew the suspect. The presenters knew their subject matter. The symposium was well attended. This event is attended each year by Resource Specialist.



Land Bank Division

The real estate market has seemingly hit a the pause button during the coronavirus pandemic, however, the City of Little Rock's Land Bank Division is still thriving with their most recent sale.

The Land Bank Division sold the property below for \$25,000.00 8312 Colonel Glenn Road



CATCH Support Guide

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CENTRAL ARKANSAS HOMELESS SUPPORT GUIDE													
SHELTERS	SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS	1		Territor		Peer le	ALL ST	COLUMN T	Sal Sal	Career Person		ADDRESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
Abba House	Pregnant women & new mothers; no drug problems or mental illness											1002 S. Oak Street	501-666-9718
Compassion Center	Beds are first come, first served; must be physically and mentally able	•	•	•			•			•	•	Women: 4210 Asher Ave. Men: 3618 W Roosevelt Rd.	501-296-9114 Ircompassioncenter.org
Dorcas House	Faith based, 9 - 12 month program; cannot work or go to school during		•	•			•				•	823 S. Park St.	501-374-4022 urmissionlr.org
Family Promise	Serving households with minor children		•	•								222 E. 6th St.	501-372-0733 familypromisepc.org
Gaines House	Must have a mental health diagnosis or physical disability		٠				٠		•		•	1702 Gaines St.	501-376-4015 thegaineshouse.org
GYST House, Inc.	Chemical free	•	•				٠			•	•	8101 Frenchmans Lane	501-568-1682 gysthouseinc.com
Immerse Arkansas	Serves youth ages 14 - 21			•							•	5300 Asher Ave.	501-404-9890 immersearkansas.org
Lucie's Place	LGBTQ+ ages 18-25; drop in center available											300 S. Spring St. Suite #715	501-508-5005 luciesplace.org
Our House	Must be willing and able to work; Career Center open to community		•	•		•	٠			•	•	302 E. Roosevelt Rd.	501-374-7383 ourhouseshelter.org
Salvation Army	Women & children with exceptions for single fathers		•	•						•	•	1111 W. Markham Street	501-374-9296 salvationarmyusa.org
St. Francis House	Must be a veteran		•	•								2701 S. Elm Street	501-664-5036 stfrancisministes.com
Women & Children First	Can work with fathers and their children as well				•	•		•		•		Call for more information wcfarkansas.org	Office: 501-376-3219 Victims: 501-332-4443
Substance Abuse & Mental Health		Homeless Outreach				Rapid Rehousing				g	Day Centers		
The Centers 501-666-8686 centersforyouthandfamilies.net		The Van 501-955-3444 Finding & loving our unshelterd neighbors				Pulaski County Housing 501-340-3374 201 S. Broadway St.				ina	Jericho Way 501-619-9859	VA Day Treatment Center	
Harbor House Inc. 501-690-1547 recoveryhhi.org										č	3000 Springer Blvd. Mon - Fri, 7:30a - 2:30p	501-244-1900 1000 S. Main Serving miliary veterans	
Recovery Centers of AR 501-372-4611 rcofa.org			Street Ministry									Our House Career Center	River City Ministry
Wolfe Street Foundation 501-372-5662 wolfestreet.org			501-860-1180 Providing for homeless					River City Ministry 501-376-6694				501-374-7383 302 E. Roosevelt Road	501-376-669 1021 E. Washington Ave.
Nehemiah House 501-374-4022 urmissionlr.org			camps in Pulaski county						21 E. Washington Ave.			Mon - Thurs 8a - 8p, Fri 8a - 12p	Mon - Fri, 8a - 3p
Additional Resources													
Central AR Family Stability Institue (CAFSI) Reentry Program 501-374-7383 302 E Roosevelt Road (Our House) CAFSI serves homeless & near-homeless families with children in the household for a 1 to 2 year commitment Young adult reenty program provides services to ages 18 -24 with justice involvement			Better Community Development 501-663-7221 3604 W. 12th St. Programs for persons with disabilities					Arkansas Food Bank 501-565-8121 Distribution center, call for more information Mon - Fri, 8a - 5p				Goodwill Industries of AR 501-372-5100 7400 Scott Hamilton Dr. Adult education, job training, and employment	AR Division of Workfroce Services 501-682-2121 Unemployment insurance, employment assistance, TANF Mon - Fri, 8a - 4p
Partners Against Human Trafficking (PATH) 501-993-1641 Victims call 501-301-4357 Day center, emergency transportation, and referrals for aged 18+ rescued victims/survivors of sex trafficking, sexual assault, and prostitution			Free Will Baptist Ministries 501-663-3129 3600 W 11th St. Serving ages 12-17 in the custody of DHS/DCFS					Potluck Food Rescue 501-371-0303 621 W Broadway St. Saving good food from being wasted				Safe Harbor 501-374-5399 4800 Springer Blvd. Recovery support, housing, job placement, and education	Every effort is made to ensure accuracy to this guide Please email resources@ ourhouseshelter.org with any updates or changes. Updated April 2020

For Your Information

Solid Waste Collection Crews Begin Near-Normal Staffing Levels; City Projects Return to Regular Schedule by Early June

LITTLE ROCK – The City of Little Rock announced Monday that Solid Waste crews are beginning to phase back to near normal staffing while continuing distancing and safety practices made necessary by the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Since the onset of the pandemic response, Solid Waste crews were reduced in order to introduce distancing and safety measures to continue to provide service and keep employees as safe as possible. During this time, City leadership has continued to review and make adjustments to best provide service while maintaining safety. Crews will be working diligently during the month of May to return yard waste collection to normal schedule by the first week of June.

Yard waste collection has been one of the most impacted Solid Waste services during the coronavirus pandemic. The City of Little Rock would like to thank residents for their patience during this difficult time.

Reasons to Call 3-1-1 - City Services

To request information or report a non-emergency item, for example:

- General City Service Information of Phone Numbers
- City Event Information
- Locations and Hours of Operation of City Properties
- Potholes that Need Repaired
- Street Sweeping Requests
- Sidewalk Repairs
- Missed Garbage Pick-ups
- Missed Recycling Pick-ups
- Garbage and Recycle Bin Issues
- Dumpster Requests
- Report High Grass and Weeds
- Request Bulky Item Pick-up
- Tree Trimming on Public Property
- Taxi/Limo Complaints
- Report Graffiti
- Parking Enforcement Issues
- Traffic Light Outage
- Street Light Outage
- Stray Animals

- Aggressive Animals and Trap Requests
- Golf Course Maintenance
- Trail Maintenance
- Trash in the Park
- Operating a Business Without a Permit
- Working Without A Permit
- Violations on a Commercial Property
- How to Dispose of Hazardous Materials and Medications

Conditional Use Permit

The development of the Little Rock School District- McClellan K-8th grade school Campus hearing to be held on May 14, 2020 by the L. R. Planning Commission in the William Grant Still Ballroom of the Robinson Center, 426 West Markham.

Little Rock Police Department

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Safety at your home:

- Have lights at all entrances.
- Lock doors at all times (home, garage and storage, etc.).
- Replace standard screws in your door lock w/ 3 inch screws.
- Check who is at your door before you open it. Do not open the door to a stranger.
- Always make your home look as if you are home (using light timers, leaving TV or radio on).
- Do not use your name on your mailbox.
- Do not leave your schedule on your voicemail or social media.
- Always lock your gates into your back yard.
- Post "Beware of Dog" signs on fence/gates/or in windows.
- Use "dummy cameras" if possible (great for carport areas).
- Post an "alarm sign" in your yard (you can purchase them on GOOGLE).
- Keep all valuables out of view of any windows.
- Never give personal information over the phone.
- Shred all confidential mail.
- Do inventory of your home and list all of your belongings "serial numbers" and "model numbers" (reportit.leadsonline.com).
- Place your house numbers so they can be easily visible from the street.
- Keep attic door locked (carport areas).
- Keep shrubs trimmed lower than you windows (plant "holly shrubs" if possible).
- Always lock your car doors.
- Always empty your cars of anything valuable.
- Get to know your neighbors and network anytime you see something suspicious and call 911.

DRUG DROP BOX (all prescription drugs) 700 W. Markham Street Little Rock, AR 72201

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

LRPD Non Emergency 501-371-4829 (Vacation home report)

Downtown Patrol 501-918-5130

Northwest Patrol 501-918-3500

Southwest Patrol 501-918-3900

Crime Prevention Officer Michelle Hill mhill@littlerock.org 501-918-5369

Narcotics Tip Line 501-376-6683

Crime Stoppers Tip Line 501-371-INFO



Little Rock Police Department 700 W. Markham Street Little Rock, AR 72201

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