

Eviction Prevention Update

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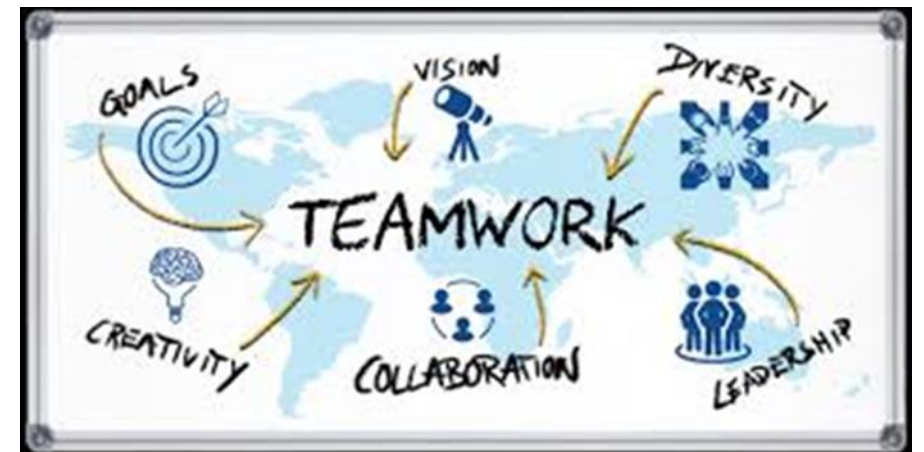
The Norfolk Eviction Mitigation Team

Working with City departments and community agencies to effectively reduce the number of evictions in Norfolk.

Human Services	Norfolk Redevelopment & Housing Authority
St. Paul's Transformation Office	Norfolk Sheriff's Office
Civic Lab	ForKids, Inc.
City Attorney's Office	The Salvation Army
Norfolk Public Schools	The Planning Council
Intergovernmental Relations Office	The STOP Organization
General District Court Mediation Program	Regent University Law Clinic (Norfolk)

Three subcommittees have been established:

- Outreach
- Legal
- Data



Norfolk's Eviction Rates

Percentage of Evictions Ordered vs. Executed			
Year	Ordered	Executed	Percent
2016	6,234	2,939	47%
2017	5,845	2,683	46%
2018	6,734	2,931	44%
2019	6,246	2,863	46%
2020	2,463	1,197	48%
2021	1,144	689	60.2%

Source: Norfolk Sheriff's Office, Civil Process Division

Eviction Prevention Funding Summary

Funding Source	Program	Amount	Status
Virginia Dept. of Housing & Community Development	Virginia Eviction Reduction Pilot (VERP) 1.0	\$560,000	Closed
Virginia Dept. of Housing & Community Development	Virginia Eviction Reduction Pilot (VERP) 2.0	\$200,000	Underway
Local Operating Funds	Eviction Prevention & Housing Services	\$800,000	Underway

Expenditure Summary

VERP 1.0

Virginia Eviction Reduction Pilot (VERP) 1.0 (Completed)

- \$560,000 grant award; total expended \$551,778
- Provided rental arrearage and utility payments for **297** households
 - Including NRHA public housing residents in the St. Paul's quadrant

Expenditure categories:

- **Rental Arrears**
- Rental Assistance
- Utilities
- Stabilization Services

VERP 2.0 and Local Investment

Virginia Eviction Reduction Pilot 2.0 (Underway)

- \$200,000 grant award
- Focus on court navigation and outreach
- Workforce opportunities for unemployed and underemployed individuals

State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (Underway)

- \$800,000 Allocation
- Focus on housing stability
- Workforce opportunities for unemployed and underemployed individuals



VERP 2.0 and Local Investment

Implementation:

- Partner with BankOn to provide financial literacy education
- Partner with Norfolk Works to offer job training and skill building
- Partner with Department of Human Services on the Norfolk Employment Pathways Program
- Community outreach and education efforts to target areas with the highest concentrations of eviction

Funding Criteria:

- Household funding limit is \$3,250 per household per 12-month period
- Rent is paid first, then utility payments are made
- Priority is given to households with documented monthly income
- Current RRP applicants are on-hold until they receive an application denial letter.



Resource Clinic

Saturday, May 21 | The Venue @

Eviction Prevention Accomplishments

- ✓ Held two (2) Eviction Prevention clinics
 - December 11, 2021 – 110 participants
 - May 21, 2022 – 72 participants
- ✓ Awarded 2nd VERP grant of \$200,000 to focus on court navigation and outreach
- ✓ Updated Eviction Action Plan goals
- ✓ Eviction data from the supreme Court of Virginia has been analyzed to support outreach efforts.
- ✓ Created the Norfolk Eviction Prevention Center

Short-term Outlook

- Current COVID-19 housing protections are set to expire on June 30th
 - 14-day pay-or-quit timeframe reverts to 5 days
 - A Virginia's Rent Relief Program (RRP) protection stipulated tenants could not be evicted within a 45-day period of the submission of a completed application; the RRP portal closed on May 15, 2022.
- Effective July 1, 2022, there are no barriers to prevent landlords from filing for eviction due to non-payment of rent.
- Once an eviction is ordered **and** occurs, we shift from an eviction prevention crisis to a homelessness crisis.



Moving Forward

- Establish a presence in Norfolk General District Court
 - Available on-site to provide assistance to households facing eviction
- Proactive Outreach to Landlords and Property Managers
 - Work to identify tenants behind on rent payments to avoid the legal process
- Explore opportunities for rapid re-housing immediately following an eviction

