

**The Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA)** has been at the forefront of community development for more than 68 years. In Richmond, RRHA has become synonymous with positive neighborhood growth since the Richmond City Council established the authority on October 3, 1940. RRHA has a strong commitment to exceeding its customers' expectations and providing Richmond citizens with quality affordable housing and effective community redevelopment services, through partnerships with the City of Richmond, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, and others. In total, RRHA's housing and community development programs directly serve more than 33,000 Richmond citizens.

## **Affordable Housing and Self-Sufficiency**

RRHA provides quality housing for low and moderate income families, the elderly, and the disabled. RRHA is Virginia's largest housing authority, with 4,100 units of public housing. Through RRHA's Housing Choice Voucher Program (also known as the Section 8 Assisted Housing Program), approximately 3,100 families have found affordable housing in privately owned dwellings.

But RRHA works to provide much more than housing for Richmond families. The authority extends a helping hand to families who are working to achieve self-sufficiency through partnerships that provide innovative educational and job-training programs. Children and teens living in RRHA housing take part in RRHA's educational and cultural programs, through the Youth Sports and Fine Arts Academy, after-school tutoring, and mentoring and athletic programs. RRHA even offers scholarships to enable residents graduating from high school to continue their education.

For residents of RRHA's housing for the elderly, on-site service staff provide counseling, and referrals for wellness programs, and social and recreational activities. Cultural and educational programs, including computer classes, also complement the active, independent lives of RRHA's elderly residents.

## **Community Revitalization**

The urban planners and architects of RRHA work closely with the City of Richmond to combat blight and revitalize and beautify the city through the construction and redevelopment of both new and existing housing and commercial properties. To revitalize Richmond's neighborhoods, RRHA works closely with neighborhood leaders, officials at all levels of government, lending institutions, and commercial developers. RRHA has given new life to historic buildings and has been the force behind the creation of new commercial centers, and a major partner with the city's Neighborhoods in Bloom Program.

## **Homeownership Programs**

RRHA's homeownership programs are an important part of its work in making affordable homeownership available in Richmond and revitalizing Richmond's neighborhoods. RRHA's Homeownership Programs, coordinated through the HomeCenter, are making ownership of both new and rehabilitated single-family homes available to low and moderate income buyers, as well as market-rate buyers. The program also helps public housing families become homeowners, and is revitalizing neighborhoods to help repopulate the City of Richmond.