Friendship Court, a Look Back at 2019

Friendship Court continued to see change during 2019! Residents on the Advisory Committee and Piedmont Housing staff worked together to provide benefit to the community. They are now preparing for the start of construction of Phase 1 of redevelopment in 2020. With that ahead, it’s important to take a look at some milestones achieved in 2019. Throughout the entire year, the Friendship Court Advisory Committee has continued to meet and discuss design-related issues as well as explore quality of life improvement opportunities, now and in the future.

March
Piedmont Housing Alliance and NHT Communities submitted the Phase 1 Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) application. We also welcomed Shawna Wells, as the Economic Opportunity Coordinator.

April
With the departure of Friendship Court Community Organizer, Claudette Grant, the Community Center saw shifted responsibilities, including larger roles and responsibilities for Community Center Coordinator, Jessica Eldridge, and Community Outreach Assistant, Sheri Hopper.

May
Courtyard Improvement project completed. The changes to the Courtyard were the Youth Leadership Team’s vision. Youth worked with a team of consultants (Studio O + Public Workshop) Community Center staff, Community Management and UVa Facilities to develop an attractive and welcoming outdoor space. It culminated in a Build Day for all youth and residents.

June
Awarded the requested amount of tax credits for Phase 1 of the redevelopment. Also in June, Piedmont Housing’s Community Management team took over management of Friendship Court from Edgewood Management.

July
In July, the Advisory Committee chose Grimm + Parker architects to design the new Community Services Center, which will include a new Community Center and an onsite Early Childhood Center.

August – November
To be ready for construction of Phase 1 of redevelopment to begin, the final building and site-related architectural drawings must be approved by the City. We got site-drawing approval in late November, with good progress on the building drawings.
Friendship Court Events and Ongoing Programs

ReadyKids, **Tuesdays (10 A.M. - Noon)**

PB&J, **Wednesdays, (Leaves Friendship Court @ 2:45 P.M.)**

Charlottesville Parks & Rec afterschool program and dinner **Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday Evenings 5 P.M.**

Snack served, **Monday - Friday, 2:30 - 4:30 P.M.**

Warm meals with Royal Eats served every, **Tuesday & Thursday, 5 P.M.**

English as a Second Language, **Wednesday and Fridays at 10 A.M.**

Clark PTO, **Monday, January 13, 5:30 P.M.**

Donor Diapers, **Sunday, January 19, 2:00 P.M.**

Food Bank, **Wednesday, January 29, 10 A.M.**

Bingo With Betty, **Wednesday, January 22, Noon - 2:00 P.M.**

Events To Come

**Be on the look-out for details about:**

- Early Learners United Way Scholarship Program and “How to apply for your child”
- February 15th, NAACP Health Fair
- Meditation Monday with Region 10 in January
- Young Men’s Group with Region 10 in January
- Girls Mentoring
- Front Porch Tuesday Music Group
- Friendship Court FSS Program

Financial Education and community Wealth Building Opportunities

- January Community Wealth Building Bingo
- January Job Board and Resource Table
- Onsite Network to Work Peer Connector, Schedule with Shawna
- Business Start Up and Development Connector, January 13 at 3pm