



OUR HEART IS IN THE EAST END

Peter Paul eNews - May 2021

Dear Sarah,

Looking forward to what the future holds for Peter Paul and our community is critical, and no more so than in this current moment. With spring in the air and the sense of a new beginning on the horizon after such a long and challenging year, we are filled with hope and excitement as we think to the future for Peter Paul. **We ask for your partnership in this next phase of service to the East End, which includes the following important components:**

- We are thrilled to share that over the course of April and May we have been hosting a series of **COVID-19 vaccine clinics at our Coleman Center**. By helping the Richmond City Health District extend its reach into the East End and providing our community members with information, resources, and an accessible spot to get vaccinated, we are even more confident about resuming in-person activities this summer and fall.
- Peter Paul's [Summer Promise Academy](#) **begins on July 6th at the Coleman Center** and we cannot wait to welcome our students back in person! We will serve approximately 70 students to maintain a COVID-safe ratio, with a focus on academic remediation, recovery, and enrichment.
- **Starting in the fall, three out of five Promise Centers will open in-person;** expanded operations will depend upon updated health and safety protocols, enrollment, and demand.
- The family and community engagement team will begin offering a hybrid of in-person and virtual programs, with **advocacy and community voice at the forefront as programming continues to develop.**

We know that the last year has been challenging in all communities and in all families, regardless of circumstances, and we are incredibly grateful that you have faithfully supported this community. We could not respond to the call of our neighbors without people like you, and we humbly ask for your continued support as we confront the new and unique challenges to come.

Check out more of our updates below, and connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for the latest announcements. Thank you for your continued passion for Peter Paul and our purpose to Educate the Child, Engage the Family, and Empower the Community.

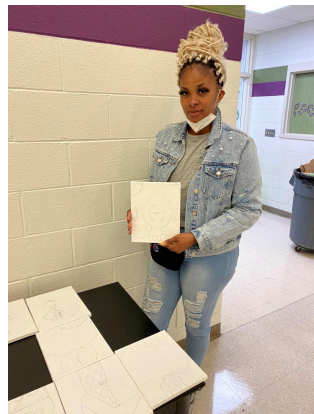


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Check out what's happening at Peter Paul!

Last week, our Family and Community Engagement Team hosted an in-person [Parent and Caregiver Hangout](#) at Peter Paul - our first since this series began! Participants were invited to join us for a special parent and caregiver Paint Night hosted by Canaan Coleman (mother and artist!)

Our next Parent and Caregiver Hangout will be back on [Zoom](#) next Wednesday, but stay tuned for more in-person hangouts to come in the future!



[Here's what we're hearing about our family and community engagement programs!](#)

Peter Paul has helped my family to:

- "Achieve our goals! Peter Paul has picked us up when we were down."
- "Have hope during the pandemic by providing opportunities for connection to not feel socially isolated. Hearts to you. I'm so grateful!"

Peter Paul is needed in this community because:

- " It provides necessary places for all people in the family to feel included and empowered"

What do you like most about virtual programming?

- " I like the opportunity to still be able to connect and do it safely. It brings a sense of normalcy even though we are in a pandemic".

What programs do you like most?

- "I enjoy the Dinner & Discussions. Dinner & Discussion is a highly anticipated event every week. I love the recipes and interactive participation. I also attended the first-time homeowner virtual class!"

Check out these pics from our last [Fitness Friday](#) program! Join us for a socially distanced, outdoor workout every other Friday this spring. Last week, Phoenecia Hill led us through a fun, Latin workout featuring live music. On **May 28th**, she will lead us through another fun workout **with line dancing and a cookout!** Click [here](#) to register and receive location and additional details prior to the event.



We would also like to highlight our virtual [Info Feasts](#) that have been happening every other Friday **live on Facebook**. Thank you to our AMAZING panelists from the East End community, and organizations such as the [Neighborhood Resource Center](#), [Virginia Organizing](#), [Church Hill Activities & Tutoring](#), and more for your participation! You can check out the last Info Feast on *Community Voice* [here](#), then join us for the next one on June 4th!

For more information on these events contact Sherika Chew, schew@peterpaulva.org and be sure to connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for updates!

Keeping up with Peter Paul Alumni!



Congratulations to Taylor Brown, Peter Paul alumna, and daughter of Peter Paul's own Mr. Brown, on her graduation from North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC! Catch up with her below:

"I attended Peter Paul from the 7th grade until I graduated high school. Outside of being a student, I would dedicate my summers to being an assistant teacher in the summer promise programs, which I loved and learned so much from. Peter Paul has set the foundation for the love and drive that I currently have for the education field. Since my time at Peter Paul I have been studying to be a school counselor at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC where I received my master's degree on May 9th, 2021. Prior to attending NC A&T, I studied Psychology at Ferrum College in Ferrum, VA. As it relates to a favorite moment at Peter Paul, it would definitely be hard to choose just one due to the molding and shaping that my time at Peter Paul has had on my life. I am just eternally thankful and grateful for the love and support of those who've pushed me to be the best that I can be in and outside of the classroom room. I am also thankful for the lifelong friendships that I have gained from attending Peter Paul along with the amazing memories and experiences that I've encountered."

Upcoming Community Walk

We want to send another huge shoutout to the volunteers who have attended our Community Walks this past month to meet neighbors and hand out resources!

Our next Community Walk will be held on June 12th at 12:00 pm (We will be meeting at True Professional Barbershop - 1805 Cool Lane)



If you would like to attend this community walk, or have additional questions, please reach out to Michael Bledsoe at mbledsoe@peterpaulva.org

Hanging with the Board of Associates



This past Sunday our Board of Associates (along with some of our staff) got together for the first time in-person for over a year! They spent the evening at Brambly Park checking in with one another and taking time to reconnect.

Thank you to all the members that attended. We can't wait to get back to work with more programming and events as Peter Paul reopens in-person!

Want to make an even greater impact?

Consider making your next gift a recurring one and join our Monthly Giving Program! In a time like no other, your monthly gift would offer a steady stream of support to our students, families, and community by providing food distribution, academic instruction, school supplies, virtual hangouts, and so much more.

YOUR monthly gift of any size makes a difference in the lives of many East End families!



Join the growing number of Peter Paul supporters who provide ongoing support to our families!
Click [HERE](#) to find out more about our Monthly Giving Program.

STAY CONNECTED



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