

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION OPENING**

**Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority** seeks an effective visionary to traverse the ever changing affordable housing landscape and lead the Authority as its new Executive Director.



### **ABOUT CRHA**

Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority (CRHA) is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia with a nine (9) member Board of Commissioners appointed by the City Council of the City of Chesapeake. The Authority was created July 6, 1950 and was originally named the South Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Chesapeake. On June 30, 1972, the South Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Chesapeake became the Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority as a result of a charter amendment in accordance with Title 36 of the Code of Virginia and has been in continuous operation ever since.

CRHA is recognized as a high performer by

the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and a standard performer with a score of 88 in public housing. CRHA operates a Capital Fund program (CFP), CDBG and HOME, and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) on behalf of the City of Chesapeake (the City).

**Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority is committed to achieving excellence in providing affordable quality housing, revitalizing communities, and promoting upward mobility and self-sufficiency through alliances with public and private sector groups.**

The Authority's development experience was initially earned through its efforts in the Campostella Square community, which was a 150 acre community originally developed in 1943 as government sponsored housing built for shipyard workers. By 1987, it represented a major health and safety challenge to its residents and the surrounding community. CRHA, with support from the City, worked to address the redevelopment challenges associated with the old Foundation Park site, demolishing over 800 deteriorated rental units, installing infrastructure for the site including new streets, sidewalks, curbs/gutters, and water/sewer lines, and the development of 357 rental units in four rental communities and 72 single

family homes. The Authority's efforts also facilitated the construction of the Dr. Clarence V. Cuffee Community Center that currently serves the community.

CRHA purchased a 120 unit multifamily property, formerly known as Chesapeake Townhomes, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for \$1.00. The Authority utilized a \$5.8 million grant to renovate the property. The property was completely renovated by the end of year 2000 and renamed Geneva Square. The property features a classroom, community meeting/activity room with a fully equipped kitchen, computer lab, playground equipment, tennis courts, management office, and a maintenance shop.

CRHA acquired an 87 unit multifamily property at a public auction and utilized \$3.4 million in Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) to completely renovate the property. The result was the development of a distinctive, award winning 40-unit multifamily development targeted for low to moderate income working families, one of the first in Virginia to utilize environmentally friendly "green build" practices.

CRHA owns and manages 467 units of public housing in 5 communities throughout the City of Chesapeake. They include Broadlawn Park (170 units), MacDonald Manor (152 units), Peaceful Village (65 units), Owens Village (56 units),

and Schooner Cove (24 units). The Authority also owns and manages 188 units of affordable rental housing in 4 communities throughout the City. They include: Twin Creek apartments (18 units), Meadow Landing North (40 units), Narrow Street apartments (10 units), and Geneva Square apartments (120 units). Additionally, the Authority administers a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program that consists of approximately 1,400 vouchers geographically dispersed throughout the City.



CRHA  
CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA

## **THE CITY**

Chesapeake is a diverse city with a population of approximately 233,371, making it the third largest and one of the fastest growing cities in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It includes urban areas as well as many square miles of protected farmland, forests, and wetlands, including a substantial portion of the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Extending from the rural border with North Carolina to the harbor area of Hampton Roads and adjacent to the cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach, Chesapeake is located on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. It has miles of waterfront industrial,

commercial and residential property. Chesapeake is one of the largest cities in Virginia and the nation in terms of land area. In addition, the city has many historically and geographically distinct communities. Chesapeake is divided into six boroughs: South Norfolk, Pleasant Grove, Butts Road, Deep Creek, Washington, and Western Branch.

Chesapeake Public Schools (CPS) system serves over 39,000 students with almost 5,700 teachers, administrators, and various support personnel. There are 45 schools and 2 centers, along with other special facilities such as the Chesapeake Planetarium, a radio station (WFOS FM), and a TV station (CPS-TV). There are 7 high schools, 10 middle schools, 28 elementary schools, Chesapeake Career Center, and Chesapeake Alternative School are dedicated to high levels of performance. In addition, CPS has one of the highest on-time graduation rates and one of the lowest drop-out rates in the Commonwealth.

Chesapeake offers the attractions, events and excitement of a larger city, nestled in the middle of the dynamic Coastal Virginia region. In addition to the many shopping, sightseeing and cultural possibilities, Chesapeake is the perfect base camp for all sorts of outdoor adventuring, including bird watching, golf, fishing, biking, hiking, kayaking, and more. It provides easy access to the Atlantic Ocean, a vibrant musical and cultural scene. Experience

the unique heritage of Chesapeake and the Hampton Roads region just beyond Chesapeake, in nearby Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Suffolk, Portsmouth, and Williamsburg with historic sites ripe for exploring, shopping ranging from fine to funky, and picturesque strolls in a green and beautifully preserved environment where centuries of history and modern-day culture come together. The climate in this area is characterized by hot, humid summers and generally mild to cool winters.



## **ABOUT THE POSITION**

Operating under established policies of the 9 member Board of Commissioners (BOC) and regulations of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), The Executive Director directs the staff and the activities of the Authority. The Executive Director is directly and solely responsible to the BOC for the efficient and effective operation and overall management of all housing related activities of the Authority. The Executive Director provides supervision over all professional, administrative, and technical staff. To the extent possible, assures performance norms are met or exceeded.

When thresholds cannot be met, strategies will be developed that will progress toward meeting the performance thresholds.

The successful candidate must possess, at a minimum, a Bachelors degree (Master's preferred), preferably in business administration, public administration, public finance, urban planning or a closely related field. Additionally, candidates should have a minimum of eight years of experience in advanced administration or management of public housing or nonprofit/for-profit affordable housing. However, candidates with exceptional academic or experience backgrounds that compensate for an academic or experience deficiency may still be considered. Candidates must have, or commit to obtaining within one year, the NAHRO Certified Management Executive Certification or the PHADA Executive Director Education Program. Exceptional knowledge, skills and abilities in leadership, management efficiency, business acumen, communications, and stakeholder engagement must be demonstrated by the successful candidate. Finalists will be required to provide academic, work history, and salary history verification. Further background checks, including criminal history, sex offender registry and credit will be completed by the consultant.

Standard Employment Benefits:

- 12 ½ Paid Holidays Each Year

- Retirement and Life Insurance with Virginia Retirement System (VRS)
- Health and Dental Insurance
- Voluntary Benefits:
  - ❖ Legal Insurance
  - ❖ Deferred Compensation
  - ❖ Colonial Life & Accident

Compensation for the position is negotiable, depending on the qualifications and experience of the chosen candidate. It is required that the selected Executive Director will establish residency in Chesapeake.

## **THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

Please submit a one-page cover letter, a two-page resume that includes salary history and a listing of three professional references. Please submit an email version of the application document to Nancy Tarkenton, Assistant to the Director of CRHA at [nancy\\_tarkenton@crhava.org](mailto:nancy_tarkenton@crhava.org). The deadline for submittal of applications is August 31, 2018.

