



While each neighborhood is unique, all face very similar issues and challenges. From the basics of neighborhood organizing to addressing the complicated issues of public safety, unruly neighbors, or neighborhood blight, the Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference provides a great opportunity for you to attend information packed workshops, listen to thought-provoking speakers, view a host of exhibitions and take advantage of unparalleled networking opportunities to learn best practices from influential neighborhood advocates and professionals from across the state.

All Youth Are Invited!



Youth are our future community leaders. And by participating in this year's conference **Youth Café**, young people, ages 13 to 18 years old, will interact with their peers to learn about civic outreach efforts being undertaken across the state and how they can participate in making a difference in their community. **Youth Café** workshops this year include:

- ★ **True Colors** - understanding one's inner and outer strengths, talents and values.
- ★ **Youth Firearm Safety: Respect Not Risk** - As firearms are found in over 1/3 of US homes, youth need to know the risks firearms pose and what to do if they find one-whether in their own home or someone else's home.
- ★ **Young Adult Fire Safety** - being prepared with life-saving information including how to safely escape a fire.
- ★ **Teens with a Purpose-Poetry + Passion=Purpose** engaging teens to mindfully manifest their desires for their neighborhood and their lives through creative expression.
- ★ **College? You're Accepted** - A walking tour of (3) Norfolk colleges and discovering how you can be Up Next!

Conference Workshops

Session I-Thursday, Sept. 24 9:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

SI-A) Building Communities of Choice Through Business Partnerships

Learn how neighborhoods and businesses can work together to create communities of choice through their partnerships, how these partnerships work and how to maintain them.

SI-B) Re-Charging Your Leadership Batteries

This workshop is designed for seasoned neighborhood leaders and organizers to explore and engage new strategies at re-freshing their leadership approaches and looking at ways of re-charging their batteries to become more effective leaders.

SI-C) Maintaining a Safe Home for Owners and Renters: Water Damage Prevention Education Series

As the majority of code violations originate from water-sourced problems, this workshop will pinpoint methods for reducing residential dwelling water infiltration, structural blight and deterioration, and sub-standard living conditions.

SI-D) Residential Fire Safety

Test your knowledge and skills on home fire safety including the most common causes of fire and on fire extinguisher use. Learn about fire protection devices and behaviors that can be used to ensure fire safety in the home throughout the year.

Session II-Thursday, Sept. 24 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

SII-A) It's Your Neighborhood: Get it Together - Keep it Together

Learn how to bring people together to build and support their neighborhood organization and identify methods to continue their passionate involvement in one's organization's activities.

SII-B) How to Help Homeless Entrepreneurs

Learn how to work with homeless entrepreneurs to increase their income, create programs tailored to entrepreneurial thinking and engage the business community to provide start-up capital, mentorship and support for these entrepreneurs.

SII-C) Hoarding and the Virginia Fair Housing Law

Understand how Virginia's Fair Housing Law impacts those with mental health disabilities and hoarding tendencies.

SII-D) Wells Fargo & Neighborhoods: Improving Life Together

Learn about the programs and grants offered by Wells Fargo in partnership with community groups that can enhance a neighborhood's physical appearance and quality of life, a property owner's home appearance and livability, and create jobs.

Session III-Thursday, Sept. 24 2:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

SIII-A) SkillsOnline-A Self Improvement Resource

Learn about *SkillsOnline.org*, a new online educational resource that teaches skills employers are looking for and potential employees need to know who are entering the workforce.

SIII-B) Conducting Effective Meetings

This session will help attendees build confidence in conducting effective meetings utilizing Robert's Rules of Order and help them feel confident in dealing with difficult people.

SIII-C) Neighborhood Connections: Norfolk's Three Better Blocks

Listen to leaders from Norfolk's three Better Blocks about their nationally recognized program where community leaders,

businesses, community volunteers and City employees re-energized three very different business corridors in decline with positive results.

SIII-D) Housing Virginia — How to Access Data

Participants will learn how to access and use the data from Housing Virginia to understand the needs of their community and how they can work to improve it.

Networking Opportunities



SunTrust Foundation's Thursday Evening Reception onboard the *Spirit of Norfolk*

Network and mingle with your peers in a relaxed atmosphere while cruising along the Norfolk waterfront onboard a mega yacht while enjoying a freshly prepared dinner buffet, entertainment, casino-type gaming tables, and access to the rooftop lounge for unforgettable views of the Norfolk skyline.

Mobile Workshops

Session IV - Friday, Sept 25 9:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

SIV-A) Broad Creek-15 years of Successful Neighborhood Revitalization (requires walking)

Tour a successful, award-winning model of neighborhood revitalization that was a product of resident input, Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority & the City of Norfolk.

SIV-B) The Greater Wards Corner Story

Through successful collaboration, engagement and a little patience, the Greater Wards Corner Comprehensive Plan has gone from hopeless to hopeful as a result of \$50 million in private funding and over \$20 million in public funding.

SIV-C) Emerging Business Districts (requires walking)

Explore three areas of Norfolk that have been identified as emerging business districts as a result of the actions of a handful of people and businesses who saw opportunities, took risks, and forged ahead to make change happen.

SIV-D) Then and Now: Tragedies and Triumphs in Norfolk's African American Communities

Participants will tour Norfolk's historical black neighborhoods and learn about the Norfolk 17, a group of African American students who braved school desegregation after massive resistance and conclude with at Norfolk Botanical Gardens at the memorial to the workers who created the gardens.

SIV-F) "Building a Strong Financial House"-Money Matters

On-site workshop attendees will learn how to build a strong financial foundation to succeed in tough economic times.

SIV-G) Community Policing - A Partnership Against Crime

On-site workshop attendees will explore the purpose of Community Policing and its success for reducing crime in Norfolk's neighborhoods.

16th Annual Awards Luncheon

Friday, Sept. 25 12:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Each year, the Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference recognizes and honors neighborhood groups and individuals who volunteer their time and efforts to enhance the quality of life in their neighborhoods. Who will be the recipients of this year's awards? Do not miss this year's exciting Awards Program event!

Hotel Reservations

Contact:

Sheraton Waterside Norfolk Hotel
777 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23510
Phone: 1-757-622-6664



Be sure to mention "VA Statewide Neighborhood Conference" to receive the special reduced conference rate of \$109.00 + tax per night.

Reduced rate is available until September 1, 2015.

Conference Registration

To make the conference affordable for everyone, advance registration is only \$75.00 which includes all conference workshops, meals, activities and conference t-shirt.

Register and pay your conference registration fee online at www.vsn.org or mail your completed

Conference Registration Form and check with registration fee made payable to VSNC, Inc.

to
VSNC, Inc.
P.O. Box 6303
Roanoke, Virginia 24017

Registration: \$75.00

Must be postmarked on or prior to **Sept. 4, 2015.**

★ **No registrations will be accepted if postmarked after **September 4, 2015****

★ **No on-site registration.**

★ **Registration is non-refundable.**

★ **Payment MUST accompany registration.**

★ **Illegible or incomplete Registration Forms may delay or terminate your registration process.**

REGISTRATION FORM

(Registration is non-refundable)

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

T-Shirt size _____

I will be attending the following:

- ___ Networking Breakfast (Thursday, Sept. 24th)
- ___ Welcome Lunch(Thursday, Sept 24th)
- ___ ★ SunTrust Reception . . (Thursday, Sept. 24th) ★
- ___ Keynote Breakfast.(Friday, Sept 25th)
- ___ Awards Luncheon (Friday, Sept 25th)

NOTE: (Non-conference registrants must pay \$30 per meal)

★ SunTrust Foundation Evening Cruise Reception is only available to paid conference attendees ★

___ I will be attending the Youth Café (Ages 13-18)

Workshop Sessions:

(Indicate desired workshop by marking workshop letter next to each choice)

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS Thursday, Sept 24 Session S1

- 1st Choice SI - _____
- 2nd Choice SI - _____

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS Thursday, Sept 24 Session SII

- 1st Choice SII - _____
- 2nd Choice SII - _____

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS Thursday, Sept 24 Session SIII

- 1st Choice SIII - _____
- 2nd Choice SIII - _____

MOBILE or ON-SITE WORKSHOP SELECTIONS Friday, Sept. 25 Session SIV

- 1st Choice SIV - _____
- 2nd Choice SIV - _____

Conference Schedule

Thursday, September 24, 2015

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Visit Exhibits
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits
9:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Workshops & Youth Café Session 1
10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Workshops & Youth Café Session 2
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Welcome Luncheon
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits
2:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Workshops & Youth Café Session 3
3:45 p.m - 5:00 p.m.	Exhibits & On Your Own
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	SunTrust Foundation Networking Reception onboard <i>Spirit of Norfolk</i>

Friday, September 25, 2015

7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Visit Exhibits
7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Keynote Breakfast
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits
9:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Mobile / On-site Work shops Session 4
12:00 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits
12:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Awards Luncheon & Closing Ceremony

Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference, Inc.
P. O. Box 6303
Roanoke, Virginia 24017

Conference Keynote Speakers

Thurs Welcome Luncheon



Barbara Hamm Lee has served as WHRO's Creative Services Officer since July, 2011. She is responsible for marketing, promotion, and media relations for WHRO / WHRV Public Media in the Hampton Roads market.



Sarah Dewitz, a teen from Orlando, FL, created a charity called Just 1 Book and launched a bookmobile that has shared over 200,000 books with low income children across Central Florida. She hopes to expand into New Jersey.

Friday Keynote Breakfast

2015 Conference Steering Committee

Arlington, VA · Danville, VA · Gardena, CA · Hampton, VA · Lynchburg, VA · Manassas · Norfolk, VA · Reston, VA · Richmond, VA · Roanoke, VA · Virginia Beach, VA



16th Annual

Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference



Norfolk, Virginia

Thursday, Sept. 24 - Friday, Sept. 25, 2015

Sheraton Waterside Norfolk Hotel
777 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23510
1-757-622-6664

(Hotel conference rate available until Sept.1, 2015)

For more info call (540) 342-2763
or visit
www.vsn.org