



URBAN LEAGUE OF HAMPTON ROADS

Impact Report

Empowering Communities,
Creating Change

2022-2023



**Urban League of
Hampton Roads, Inc.**

Introduction

A Beacon of Hope and Change

Since its establishment in 1978, the Urban League of Hampton Roads has stood as a beacon of hope, illuminating the path towards equality and prosperity for underserved communities of color. Our mission, deeply rooted in the principles of social justice and economic empowerment, is to bridge the racial wealth gap that has long cast a shadow over these communities. We strive to achieve this by providing comprehensive resources and steadfast support in critical areas such as education, employment, finance, health, and housing.

Our efforts are not just about providing services; they are about sparking change. We aim to dismantle the systemic barriers that perpetuate racial wealth disparities and replace them with structures that promote equity and inclusivity. We believe in the potential of every individual and are committed to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to realize their dreams, irrespective of their racial or ethnic background.

This report is a testament to the significant strides we have made in the past year. It is a reflection of the resilience and determination of the communities we serve, who, despite the challenges they face, continue to strive for a better future. It is also a testament to the power of collective action. Together, we have made progress, but our journey is far from over. As we share our achievements, we also reaffirm our commitment to continue working tirelessly until racial wealth equality is a reality for all.

Key Highlights:

- Established in 1978, the Urban League of Hampton Roads has been a beacon of hope for underserved communities of color.
- Mission focused on bridging the racial wealth gap through comprehensive resources and support.
- Dedicated to dismantling systemic barriers and promoting equity and inclusivity.
- Commitment to the potential of every individual, regardless of their racial or ethnic background.
- This report showcases the significant strides made in the past year.
- Reflects the resilience and determination of the communities served.
- Emphasizes the power of collective action in driving change.
- Reaffirms commitment to continue working until racial wealth equality is achieved for all.



Our story so far

Our Mission

The mission of the Urban League of Hampton Roads, Inc. (ULHR) is to enable African Americans and others to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights.

Our Purpose

The Urban League of Hampton Roads (ULHR) implements its mission by providing services and programs in education, employment, finance, health, and housing to Hampton Roads communities. Our purpose includes:

- Direct services
- Advocacy
- Research and policy analysis
- Community mobilization
- Collaboration
- Affiliation with the National Urban League
- Partnership with the Urban League of Hampton Roads Young Professionals and the Guild



Hampton
Roads
African
American
population.

30%

Our 2022–2023 Impact

The report highlights the significant strides made by the Urban League of Hampton Roads in the past year.

PROGRAMS

KEY IMPACTS

Financial Wellbeing

ULHR opens Financial Centers for financial coaching and improved well-being. Funded by Local Initiatives Support Corporation and United Way of South Hampton Roads.

- ULHR has helped nearly 2,426 families whose family household income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.
- ULHR has helped nearly 500 people improve their credit, savings and income to help ensure financial stability through comprehensive training programs.

Education

Education and Youth Development programs address academic achievement gaps for African Americans (and other minorities) high school and college students.

- ULHR's Project Ready program, funded by Truist Bank, exceeded its goal of 150 students, reaching 314 youth in 2021–2022.
- ULHR empowers Hampton Roads youth through virtual sessions, scholarships, internships, and donations, fostering educational and career opportunities, scholarships, leadership and volunteer service.



Ready for College, Work, and Life

Our 2022–2023 Impact

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PROGRAMS

KEY IMPACTS

Housing

ULHR offers counseling and workshops to protect and strengthen homeownership and prevent homelessness. Funding provided by Virginia Housing, Bank of America, Dominion Energy, Dollar Tree, Virginia Natural Gas, and Wells Fargo.

- Over 700 people attended our homebuying workshops in 2021–2023 and created over 300 first-time homebuyers.
- ULHR provided \$500,000+ in childcare, rent, mortgage, utility and transportation assistance payments.
- ULHR offered emotional support and guidance, empowering families to rebuild their lives.

Health

ULHR tackles healthcare disparities for African Americans and minorities. ULHR joined forces with the city of Norfolk to offer life-saving medical care to residents battling HIV/AIDS, with funding support from Sentara, Riverside Health System, and the Virginia Department of Health.

- ULHR ensures equitable healthcare access and has conducted Covid-19 testing and vaccine clinics for 5,000+ people since 2020.
- ULHR partners with EVMS, Norfolk State University, and Black churches in Suffolk, Norfolk, and Hampton to conduct mental health interventions and improve health literacy.

Employment

Our goal is to promote equitable employment through job assistance, career, and business development. ULHR collaborates with the Hampton Roads Workforce Council and forms partnerships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to achieve its objectives.

- ULHR invested over \$350,000 in pandemic-affected minority-owned businesses, providing vital support.
- ULHR was awarded over \$1 million to serve as a Lead Partner for the Good Jobs Challenge grant to help diversify the talent pipeline of the Maritime industry.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all our partners, volunteers, and community members who have supported our mission. Your unwavering commitment and dedication have been instrumental in our success. We look forward to continuing our work together in the years to come.

Acknowledgements

Author: Dr. Timothy D. Goler, Director of Research at CAAmPP and Assistant Professor at Norfolk State University, serves as a consultant for the Urban League of Hampton Roads (ULHR).

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