



## Happy New Year!

As we move forward into a new year, we first want to thank those who helped us give back throughout the Holiday Season.

Thank You to the members of the Elder Affairs Commission, who helped put together and distribute 25+ care bags that included \$25 grocery gift card, toiletries and household items to Richmond's older adult community members between Thanksgiving and Christmas!

The HSD also held a gift drive for The Kingston Center, a local nursing and rehabilitation home. A large thank you to our community, the members of the Arcadia Branch of the Ocean Community YMCA, The Richmond Grange and Richmond Senior Center for their contributions in brightening the holidays for over 25 local nursing home residents many of whom were without family or friends to share the Holidays with.

Your contributions and generosity to our community and beyond were greatly appreciated!

2025 brings new possibilities and ways to build our community. We look forward to seeing, assisting and/or working with you this coming year!

Cheers to 2025!

Kate Schimmel, RN  
Human Service Director



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### Human Services Department

Town of Richmond, RI  
(401) 491-9824

humanservices@richmondri.com

Follow us on Facebook:

[Human Services of Richmond, RI](#)

Tues: 9:00am - 2:00pm

Wed: 9:00am - 2:00pm

Thur: 9:00am - 2:00pm



Gifts collected for the residents of the Kingston Center and distributed on Christmas Day!

## United Way 211-Van

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH**

**12:00PM - 3:00PM**

**CHARIHO PLAZA**

**1190 MAIN ST  
WYOMING, RI 02989  
(YMCA PARKING LOT)**



The 211-Van is a rolling office filled with a wealth of information and knowledgeable staff to answer questions about housing, SNAP, Medicare, Medicaid, job training and much more! They are a great resource to our community. Please stop by if you or someone you know could use assistance in any way.

*For tips on protecting your personal information and general info on the breach:*

## RI Bridges Data Breach Hotline

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Weekends 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**833-918-6603**

[CyberAlert.ri.gov](http://CyberAlert.ri.gov)

### Programs Potentially Impacted:

The breach may affect individuals who receive or have applied for benefits through the following programs, but the State and Deloitte are still working to understand the scope and identify which individuals are impacted.

- Medicaid (MAGI, EAD, LTSS HCBS, LTSS institution, Medicare Premium Payment, etc.)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Rhode Island Works (RIW)/TANF
- General Public Assistance (GPA)
- At Home Cost Share Program
- HealthSourceRI health coverage users

Potentially compromised information may include names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and banking information.

## Richmond Housing Needs Survey

### ***Your input is valued and needed!***

The Town of Richmond's Affordable Housing Committee, and Planning Board and have collaborated to develop a **Housing Needs Survey**. By sharing your input in the survey, you will provide feedback and opinion about residential development throughout the community. This survey will take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. Your response shall remain anonymous. Thank you for your interest in completing this survey.

VIEW AND COMPLETE THE SURVEY AT THIS LINK  
OR CONTACT TOWN HALL FOR A PAPER FORM  
[tinyurl.com/richmondhousingsurvey](https://tinyurl.com/richmondhousingsurvey)

SCAN HERE  
TO COMPLETE  
THE SURVEY



In December, the HSD participated in The RI Life Index Launch Event at Brown School of Public Health. Attached is a quick overview of the event: [RI Life Index Event](#)

At this event, the HSD learned that Richmond was one of 2 towns in the State that had no representation or voice in the data. If you would like to participate and provide 'lived experiences' from Richmond, please see below

Help improve Rhode Island with Rhode Island Voices!

This project gathers insights from residents through short, confidential surveys on key topics like housing, food, jobs, education, and more. Results will guide community health initiatives statewide.

Who can join?

- ★ Age 18+
- ★ Live in Rhode Island
- ★ Read English or Spanish
- ★ Have a working email

What to expect:

- ★ 3-4 short surveys per year
- ★ Earn \$5-\$10 gift cards per survey (up to \$25 annually)
- ★ Gift cards are emailed after completion



Sign up using the link below. Please don't share the link on social media due to past issues with fraud. Instead, share it directly with friends, family, and coworkers, and ask them to mention you (e.g., "My friend, Jane Smith") when signing up.

Thank you for helping us make Rhode Island better!  
Rhode Island Voices Website: <https://rilifeindex.org/rivoices/>

# January

## Town of Richmond Events



1/07

### United Way Van

All Welcome

The 211-Van is a rolling office filled with a wealth of information & knowledgeable staff to answer questions about housing, SNAP, Medicare, Medicaid, job training and much more! They are a great resource to our community. Please stop by if you or someone you know could use assistance in any way.

**12:00pm - 3:00pm**

Chariho Plaza Parking Lot

Wednesdays  
1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29

### Community Bingo

All Welcome!

We invite all ages and abilities to join us for this relaxed, welcoming, multigenerational fun. Come meet, chat and play bingo with fellow community members! This program is led by the adult students in the EWG Transitional Program.

Hosted by: Richmond Human Services, Exeter Social Services, Wellbeing Collaborative and students from the EWG Transitional Program

**10:00am - 11:30am**

**YMCA Community Room**

1/14

### The Point in Richmond

All Adults Welcome

The Office of Healthy Aging - The Point to provide support and answer questions about insurance, home-based support, and other programs supporting older adults with disabilities or caregivers..

**11:00am - 2:00pm**

**By appointment**

**YMCA Community Room**

Contact Richmond Human Services to schedule an appointment.

1/25

### Winter Celebration

All Welcome to celebrate the season with food, friends, and table raffles!

Hosted by: Richmond Senior Center

Ticket entry.

\$5.00/ticket. Tickets sold at Senior Center or by calling 491-9404.

Seating limited.

**12:00pm**

**Richmond Senior Center**

Happy  
New Year

For More Information  
Contact

**Richmond Town Hall:**

401-539-9000

<https://www.richmondri.com>

**Richmond Senior Center:**

401-491-9404

**Human Services Department:**

For more info on services, events or to be added to our e-mail list, contact us at: 401-491-9824 or [humanservices@richmondri.com](mailto:humanservices@richmondri.com)

RICHMOND SENIOR CENTER INVITES YOU TO A

# WINTER CELEBRATION

Celebrate with friends, food & table raffles!!

Seating is limited

Tickets are \$5.00 per person Family & Friends are welcome To reserve your seat, call 491-9404

Saturday - January 25, 2025 at 12:00PM



# Point In Richmond

## ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center)

The RI Office of Healthy Aging - The Point is Rhode Island's ADRC and now assisting Rhode Islanders in-person. Trained counselors are able to help RI residents make informed decisions and streamline access to long term services and supports for older adults, adult with disabilities and their caregivers.

The Point has been helping local residents in **Richmond** the **2nd Tuesday of each month**. They are available for private meetings with community members to provide individual education and assistance on a variety of resources and programs that are tailored to meet individual needs and circumstances.

**Tuesday, January 14th**  
**11:00am - 2:00pm**

By appointment



**Arcadia Branch**  
**Community Room**  
**1190 Main St. Wyoming, RI 02898**

### *Valuable information and services such as:*

- Application assistance for long term services and home-based support services.
- Information and referral for publicly funded programs such as Medicaid, SNAP, subsidies to obtain low cost of medication, RIPAE (RI Pharmaceutical Assistance for Elders).
- Person centered options counseling
- Information and referral regarding SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program), MIPPA (Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act), and SMP (Senior Medicare Patrol).

**All Welcome to book an appointment. Please contact: Richmond Human Services**  
**401-491-9824 or [humanservices@richmondri.com](mailto:humanservices@richmondri.com)**





# Community Bingo

**Wednesdays  
10:00 - 11:30 am**

**Play bingo & socialize  
in a casual, welcoming environment**

**Games led by the young adult students in the  
EWG Transition Program.**

**Arcadia Branch YMCA  
1190 Main Street, Wyoming, RI**



*Questions? Contact Amy Neilson, [amy@wellbeingcollab.org](mailto:amy@wellbeingcollab.org), 401-212-2741*

**Presented in partnership with  
Exeter Dept of Social Services, Richmond Dept of Human Services,  
Exeter-West Greenwich Transition Program & the Wellbeing Collaborative**



## **HOPE VALLEY-WYOMING FIRE DISTRICT**

Senior Advocates – Ron Mowchan & Bill Day

January 2025

**Bang! Boom! Happy New Year!**

New Year is celebrated across the world with fireworks and libations. The same precautions you would take on the Fourth of July should be followed. Keep a clear perimeter around fireworks that are taking off especially if there are kids involved. Never hold them in your hands. Fingers can disappear in an instant. In some countries, people go out and fire guns and rifles in celebration. Most of us don't follow this tradition but this brings us to talk about the storage of handguns. Recently, a child was shot by accident while playing cowboys. He went into the bedroom drawer where a handgun was stored, brought it out, and shot a playmate. Guns need to always be stored in a locked gun safe. The ammunition should be removed from the gun before storing and stored in a different safe place.

Drinking and driving during New Year's celebrations is unfortunately very common. Do not ever drink and drive. Having a designated driver could save the life of someone's loved one.

It has finally become winter. The colder temperatures need to be considered while being outdoors. Dress for the weather. Frostbite and hypothermia can occur when the temperatures fall. If you are working outdoors and experience shallow breathing, drowsiness, slow or mumbled speech, loss of coordination, or a slow pulse are all signs you might have hypothermia. Immediately get indoors to a warm area. Always warm a person starting at their trunk never their hands or feet. Call 911 for frostbite and apply warm wet packs to your skin for up to 30 minutes. Apply sterile wound dressings and avoid any rubbing.

While hiking in the woods, dress for the weather. Remember to wear your orange clothing to avoid being mistaken accidentally for a wildlife creature. Leave a plan with someone saying where you are hiking and when you plan to return. Always take your cell phone with you. Always take drinking water with you.

If your physical age prevents you from being able to shovel your own walkways or driveway seek someone out to help. Many organizations can provide this service. Fire never takes time off. Check your smoke alarms monthly. Do not store ashes inside in metal buckets. This can cause CO poisoning. If you think you have a chimney fire dial 911 to ensure the fire is out and has not extended into the wall. Ensure someone will help with older, disabled, or small children to get out of the house safely. Establish a meeting place outside and make sure everyone is aware of where it is. You only have a few minutes to get out so every minute counts! Call 911! Never go back inside to rescue pets, people, or belongings.

**January is Cervical Health Awareness Month!**

**Dates of interest:**

**January 20th: Martin Luther King Day**

**Thought of the month:**

**Never argue with women. If you win things might get worse!**

If you are experiencing stress, depression, or substance abuse call your local physician or the 988 hotline.

**Have a stress-free and safe January!**

## MEDICARE IS NOT LAMINATING MEDICARE CARDS!



Scammers are calling and offering to laminate your Medicare card.

Do not give them your Medicare number.

**REPORT THIS SCAM!**



SMPRESOURCE.ORG



877.808.2468

Supported by a \$1,033,078 award from ACL/FWS. Contents do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Government.

Medicare is not laminating Medicare cards. There are reports of a lot of calls about new Medicare cards, laminated cards, or replacement cards being sent. These are not calls from Medicare. These are scam attempts to get your Medicare information.

Please report these calls to the SMP at [smpresource.org/reportfraud](https://smpresource.org/reportfraud)



HealthSource RI  
WE WORK FOR YOU

OPEN ENROLLMENT

# HAS BEEN EXTENDED.



Now, enroll in 2025 coverage by February 28th.

HealthSource RI's Open Enrollment period for 2025 health coverage has been extended until February 28.

Find out what you need to know at

<https://healthsourceri.com/covered2025>

## All Assistance

**211** - By dialing 211 from your Phone you can reach free, confidential resource information service. Your call is answered by a trained professional. One call connects you with the appropriate resources you need in your community. It is efficient, fast, and easy to use. 211 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Translation services available in many languages.

## Housing

**RI Coordinated Entry System (CES):** If you find yourself in need of "Emergency Housing", are you currently homeless or facing homelessness, the first step should be to contact CES at 401-277-4316. They will assist in finding an appropriate shelter and provide case management services for permanent housing.

**WARM Center:** WARM is the only provider of comprehensive shelter and social services to adult men and women in South County, RI & Southeastern, CT

401-596-9276

Web: <https://warmcenter.org>

**Rhode Island Housing Phone:** RI Housing works to ensure that all people who live in Rhode Island can afford a healthy home that meets their needs. They offer information on affordable housing, homebuyer education, rental and mortgage assistance programs.

401-457-1234

Web: [www.rihousing.com](http://www.rihousing.com)

## Food

**RICAN** - Offers programs year-round to give you the support and resources you need to get back on your feet. Guests can visit our food pantry once a week & may also have access to free clothing items. Pantry hours are as follows:

Wednesday

9:30am – 11:30am - Drive Thru Only

5:30pm – 6:30pm - Drive Thru Only

Thursday

9:30am – 11:30am - Drive Thru Only

Friday

2:00pm – 3:00pm - Drive Thru Only

For more information please contact:

401-364-9412

<https://www.rhodeislandcan.org/>

**Pantry on the Lane** - The Pantry on the Lane is a food assistance program serving anyone in need in the Southern R.I. area- no questions asked. They are located at 70 Bowling Lane, Bradford, RI and are open on Saturdays from 8am - 12pm. For more information call 401-465-7745.

**The Jonnycake Center of Westerly** - The Jonnycake Center of Westerly is proud to offer a client-choice service model for its Food Pantry. Every 30 days clients have the option to come to our Pantry and select food for themselves (with the optional assistance of a Pantry volunteer).

Qualified residents may receive a one-week supply of food for their household every thirty days. To sign-up contact 401-377-8069 option 1.

Web: <https://jonnycake.org>

**Meals on Wheels** - Our mission is to meet the nutritional and other special needs of older adults and other eligible populations in order to help them maintain their independent lifestyles. MOW offers home-delivered meals as the only nonprofit meal delivery program of its kind in Rhode Island, serving approximately 1,312 seniors daily. MOW phone number is 401-351-6700

Web: [www.rimeals.org](http://www.rimeals.org)

CONNECTION



SUPPORT



COMMUNITY

## Older Adult Resources

**Office of Healthy Aging (OHA):** As Rhode Island's designated state unit on aging, OHA empowers older Rhode Islanders (age 55+) and adults living with disabilities to age strong. Along with many partners, OHA connect you to information and resources in the community to help.

401-462-4444

Web: <https://oha.ri.gov>

**RI Elder Info:** Rhode Island's central source for all information and resources regarding care for the elderly. 401-585-0509

Web: <https://rielderinfo.com>

**RI Alzheimer's Association:** Serving all of Rhode Island, the Alzheimer's Association Rhode Island Chapter is here to help. We provide education and support to all those facing Alzheimer's and other dementias throughout our community, including those living with the disease, caregivers, health care professionals and families.

800-272-3900

Web: [www.alz.org/ri](http://www.alz.org/ri)

### **Southern Rhode Island Volunteers'**

**(SRIV):** SRIV's mission is to support older citizens by providing aging-in-place services for those in need, by providing meaningful volunteer engagement opportunities, and activities that promote and enhance independent living for mature individuals including seniors, disabled adults, and anyone interested in volunteer service opportunities in their community.

401-552-7661

Web: [www.southernrivol.org](http://www.southernrivol.org)

## Crisis and Mental Health Support

**Call or Text 988 - NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE** If you are in a crisis 24/7- you can call or text 988 on your phone and be connected with a trained counselor in Rhode Island.

**988 is connected to BH LINK** - BH Link is a behavioral health facility designed to provide immediate assistance to a person in crisis by providing innovative crisis intervention services, and connecting people to ongoing treatment and care.

[www.bhlink.org](http://www.bhlink.org)

**KidsLinkRI** - a free, confidential, 24/7 phone line for parents and caregivers. An experienced clinician can help callers access children's services in Rhode Island and determine the best place for children's treatment and counseling.

24/7 Call: 1-855-543-5465

<https://www.brownhealth.org/centers-services/kids-link-ri>

**Prevent Overdose RI** - This website provides timely data to track progress toward ending Rhode Island's overdose crisis. It includes information and ways to get help.

<https://preventoverdoseri.org/>

## Heating Assistance

**Tri-County Community Action** - LIHEAP and WAP programs work hand in hand to reduce the energy burden of low-income Rhode Islanders. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) help to reduce home energy costs so that families have more money to spend on food, medicine, and other essentials.

To see if you qualify for assistance, contact 401-519-1913.

Web: [www.tricounty.org](http://www.tricounty.org)



Cheers  
to a  
New Year