

MY CITY, MY NEWS



City of
Philadelphia

One Philly, A Connected City.

September 2, 2025



Spotlight on City Workers Series Summer 2025

By the **Office of Human Resources**

The Office of Human Resources (OHR) is proud to announce the release of this summer's **Spotlight on City Workers** series produced by the Mayor's Internship Program (MIP) interns at OHR Communications. This series is a continuation of last year's video project highlighting the dedicated municipal employees who keep Philadelphia running every day.

This year, MIP interns Anfisa Blyumina and Kai Moore connected with staff across several departments, capturing the stories of public servants whose work impacts residents in countless ways. While the Spotlight series began as a summer project, we were inspired to keep it going year-round. This release marks just the summer batch of videos—another set is planned for November with seasonal installments to follow moving forward.

Thank you to everyone who invited us to their workplace and shared engaging stories of public service. OHR is excited to continue featuring the exceptional individuals who make up the City's workforce, and we hope everyone enjoys learning about their colleagues' contributions and personal stories.

The videos are currently hosted on OHR's Youtube channel [@philaohr](#).



[Read about last year's Spotlight on City Workers.](#)

This Month We Recognize:

Labor Day, Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, National Recovery Month, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and more!

Follow us on Social Media

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Contact us with HR questions

hrhelpdesk@phila.gov or 215-686-0880

A Message from the DBHIDS Commissioner

Dear City of Philadelphia Colleagues,

It is an honor to greet you for the first time as I begin my service as Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS). I am both humbled and inspired to join you in advancing the mission of this City and in supporting the well-being of all Philadelphians.

September carries special meaning for our work. It is both **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** and **National Recovery Month**—two reminders of how deeply behavioral health touches our communities. Suicide remains a leading cause of preventable death, and far too many families have experienced its impact. At the same time, recovery is happening every day all around us. People across Philadelphia are showing that with the right support, resilience, and hope, healing is possible.

These truths underscore why our work matters so much. At DBHIDS, we are committed to ensuring we live in a city where no one feels alone in their struggle, where stigma does not block the path to care, and where recovery is celebrated as a source of strength for individuals, families, and neighborhoods.

Each of us—regardless of our role in City government—has the power to contribute. By treating one another with compassion, sharing resources, and fostering a culture of support, we can make our workplaces and communities safer, healthier, and more connected.

I look forward to partnering with you in this shared mission and to working together to ensure Philadelphia is a city where every person feels seen, supported, and valued.

With gratitude,

Kehinde “Kenny” Solanke

Commissioner | Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services



Please **call** or **text 988** if you or someone you love is experiencing emotional distress. Visit **Healthy Minds Philly** for additional resources.



Infrastructure Solutions Team 2025 Report and Action Plan

Creating opportunities for Philadelphians to build, grow, and maintain wealth through the strategic use of infrastructure investments

THE IST RELEASES 2025 REPORT AND ACTION PLAN

The Infrastructure Solutions Team (IST) is creating opportunities for Philadelphians to build, grow, and maintain wealth through the strategic use of infrastructure investments. To do this, the IST focuses on investing in workforce development initiatives and increasing the participation of historically underutilized businesses (HUBs) on City contracts.

To learn more about how the IST is driving economic mobility for Philadelphia's infrastructure workforce and businesses—including goals for 2026 and 2030—check out the 2025 Report and Action Plan.

[Read the 2025 Report and Action Plan](#)

New Resources about Domestic Abuse

Tri-Fold Brochures

Easy-read information with phone numbers for getting help, available in English, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Spanish.

SHARE WITH YOUR NETWORKS: NEW DOMESTIC ABUSE RESOURCES

Philadelphia's Office of Domestic Violence Strategies, Office of Immigrant Affairs, and Office of People with Disabilities in collaboration with state partners created a new brochure explaining how to get help from domestic abuse and are sharing these resources to all communities.

The brochure is available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Mandarin, and Haitian Creole and contains links to videos in the same languages and American Sign Language. These resources were developed with community feedback to make sure they are easy to understand. Click the button below to request printed copies for your office.

[Request the brochure](#)



WORKDAY IS COMING SOON: COMPLETE THE READINESS SURVEY

Workday is coming soon to the City of Philadelphia—a modern, cloud-based system that will replace our aging finance and procurement systems and make our work faster, easier, and more connected. We need your voice in the Change Readiness Assessment. This quick, 10-minute survey tells us how prepared employees are for this change.

Your feedback will help us measure progress since last year's baseline, spot areas where more support is needed, and fine-tune training and resources as we move through testing. All responses are anonymous and confidential.

[Take the Change Readiness Survey](#)



SAVE THE DATE: PHDC ANNUAL HOUSING FAIR

Philly, mark your calendars for Saturday, September 27 at Temple University's STAR Complex, located at 1816 North 15th Street. The Housing Fair starts at 10am!

Looking to buy or repair your home? Small landlord in need of help? Come meet city-funded housing counselors, mortgage lenders, realtors, insurance agents, representatives from various City departments, legal organizations, and other professionals in the housing industry! This event is all things housing! Come learn about programs and services that can help you! And we have activities for kids! Visit phdcphila.org/housingfair for more information.

[Register for the Housing Fair](#)

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SEPTEMBER 1 - 7 IS WORKPLACE LACTATION WEEK!

The purpose of Workplace Lactation Week is to normalize and support every working and pumping parent, a duty the City of Philadelphia takes very seriously.

The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) recently launched the Lactation Space Finder App to make it easier for parents to find private, clean, and comfortable spaces to pump. Healthy babies and strong families make a better city! [Read](#) about the Lactation Space Finder App on the City's blog!

[Try the Lactation Space Finder App](#)



GET INVOLVED WITH OPERATION CLEAN START

Operation Clean Start is a citywide initiative to support Philadelphia's students and teachers by ensuring they return to clean, safe, and well-equipped classrooms. This back-to-school drive focuses on collecting essential cleaning and hygiene supplies to help set the tone for a healthy and successful school year.

We're asking City employees to get involved by donating supplies, hosting collection bins in your office, and volunteering to help sort and deliver donations! Email Jennifer.Hall@phila.gov if you have questions about how to get involved.

[View the Operation Clean Start Flyer](#)



SHARE WITH YOUR NETWORKS: SHAPE PHILLY IDEA COLABS

Creative Philadelphia is now accepting applications for teams to join the Shape Philly Idea CoLABS program. This is an open call for innovative ideas put forth by Idea CoLABs teams composed of a Lead Creative/Community Leader and a Partner Organization.

Twelve teams—one from each City Council district, plus two youth-led teams—will be selected to participate in a 10-week Idea CoLABs program this fall. Each proposed idea must blend creativity, culture, and community with one or more civic themes: safety, cleanliness, environmental sustainability, and economic access. Please share with your networks. Applications close **September 11, 2025**.

[Read about Shape Philly Idea CoLABS](#)



TAKE THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE PUBLIC SURVEY

Join our community engagement process! Share your feedback to help shape Philadelphia's Climate Resilience Plan, policies and programs, and other citywide climate efforts.

The Office of Sustainability is taking on a citywide initiative to update the City's Climate Resilience Plan. As part of our process, we'll follow equitable practices to engage residents in our decision making.

[Take the Climate Resilience Survey](#)

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Making It Happen: Upcoming Events!

Resume Review with Dress for Success

Free Library of Philadelphia

September 4, 2025 | 12:30 p.m.

Parkway Central Library, Business Resource and Innovation Center

Need to refresh your resume? We're excited to partner with Dress for Success Greater Philadelphia to offer resume review services and job search assistance on the first Thursday of each month! Resume review will be offered on first-come, first-served basis. Get help from experienced professionals to get all the resume tips and tricks you need! View the event on the Free Library [calendar](#).

Women of Color Resource Fair

Women of Color CRG

September 5, 2025 | 11 a.m.

Municipal Services Building 16th floor
Innovation Lab

The Women of Color Resource Fair connects you with internal resources, services, and opportunities for personal and professional growth. This year's theme, "Elevating Women of Color: Unlocking Networks Within City Government," focuses on building bridges, fostering collaboration, and networking. Open to all City of Philadelphia employees and quasi-employees, it's a chance to learn about tools, benefits, and programs to help you thrive. Registration is required for those without a City ID badge to access the Municipal Services Building. Please [register](#) for the Resource Fair. See [flyer](#) for details. For questions, contact Brenna.Schmidt@phila.gov.

Registration Deadline: Become an Airport Emergency Plan Exercise Volunteer

Office of Emergency Management

September 5, 2025 | 4 p.m.

We are in need of roleplay volunteers on **Saturday morning, September 20**, at the Philadelphia International Airport's Emergency Plan Exercise (EPEX). Volunteers are crucial to the execution of the exercise by providing realism and an opportunity for first responders to react to and interact with "simulated" victims. All volunteers will receive breakfast and lunch. Some volunteers will have simulated wounds applied by our makeup experts. If you are interested in participating, please [register](#) by **4 p.m. on September 5**.

Philly Heals Together: 2025 Recovery Month Community Celebration

Department of Public Health

September 6, 2025 | 3 p.m.

Juniata Park Boys and Girls Club,
1001 E Cayuga St

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) Division of Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction (SUPHR) will host a community celebration complete with free food, live music, a petting zoo, a bounce house, kids' activities, and more on Saturday, September 6, from 3 - 8 p.m. at the Juniata Park Boys and Girls Club. During this annual National Recovery Month event, SUPHR invites the community to reflect on the impact the overdose crisis has had on our city, remember loved ones lost, and honor the experiences of people along the recovery spectrum. Organizations from across the city will join us to connect attendees with health resources. Learn more about the event at SUPHR's Instagram [@OverdosePreventionPHL](#). Check out our [flyer](#)!

Pathways to Power: Celebrating Welcoming Week and National Voter Registration Day

Free Library of Philadelphia

September 16, 2025 | 11 a.m.

Parkway Central Library, Heim Center for Cultural and Civic Engagement

Whether you're new to Philly or a lifetime resident, join us for a day of learning, sharing, and community-building. Over ten amazing partners will be offering **FREE** workshops and resources to help you navigate services like citizenship classes and local government, get registered to vote with multilingual support, and connect with local organizations. Plus, free swag will be available for all attendees. Please share this event with your networks. [Register](#) for Pathways to Power. [View](#) the event on the Free Library calendar.

Nature Walk Saturdays

Parks and Recreation

September 20, 2025 | 8 a.m.

FDR Park

Join our weekly nature walk series! Times and subjects will vary but (weather permitting) there will always be a nature walk in FDR Park on **Saturdays** from April through September. Come out to learn more about butterflies, trees, bats, and wildflowers. Specifics of the walk, including time and subject, will be added to the Friends of FDR Park calendar as it gets closer to the date of walk. Meet at Boathouse. [Learn more](#) about Nature Walk Saturdays.

Open Mic Night

Free Library of Philadelphia

September 26, 2025 | 5:30 p.m.

Nicetown-Tioga Library, 3720 N Broad St

We are bringing back open mic nights! Join us for an evening of music, poetry, spoken word, and more at our Nicetown Café. Program runs from 5:30 - 8 p.m. and is for ages 21 and older. Dates are: **September 26** and **October 31**. [Learn more](#) about open mic nights! Check out our [flyer](#)!

2025 Birth Justice Philly Summit

Department of Public Health

October 9, 2025 | 8 a.m.

DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia - Center City, 237 S Broad St

Birth Justice Philly is back for its 2nd Summit—a powerful gathering dedicated to transforming maternal health outcomes! Be part of this critical conversation as we bring together experts, advocates, and community members to drive change in maternal health. [Register](#) for the 2025 Birth Justice Summit for free!

2025 Park Friends Movie Nights

Parks and Recreation

Various Dates and Times

Various Locations

More than 30 Philly parks are hosting free movie nights this summer and fall—featuring hits like *Moana 2*, *Wicked*, *A Minecraft Movie*, and more! Grab a blanket, bring snacks, and enjoy a movie under the stars. This free programming runs through October—click [here](#) to see what's playing near you and when!

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Employee Resources

[Employee.phila.gov](https://employee.phila.gov)

Employee.phila.gov is a new online resource designed to support City employees. This hub brings together essential information in one easy-to-access location! Need details on benefits, workplace policies, or well-being programs? The hub site has you covered with clear, up-to-date information. The site also provides tools to help you share career opportunities with friends, family, and community members who may be interested in joining the City workforce. [Explore the page!](#)

CITY RESOURCE GROUP MEETINGS

City Resource Groups (CRGs) create employee-led spaces to support diverse communities and allies, helping make the City a more inclusive workplace. CRGs offer networking, leadership opportunities, and skill-building through professional development. Members also collaborate with the Office of DEI to support departmental diversity goals. [Learn more about CRGs](#) or email CRG@phila.gov to join or get involved.

CITYWIDE IT TRAINING

The Office of Innovation & Technology contracts with several vendors to provide information technology training. This is available on site, hands-on, and interactively to all City Departments. The Order Form and the Course Catalog are posted on the Office of Innovation and Technology Intranet, see Forms and Document Page. Please note that all training requires the approval of both the department's authorized personnel and fiscal agent. [VIEW AVAILABLE COURSES](#)

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

NEW self-care and mental health resources for employees coping with the impact of COVID-19 are now available on the LMS, in addition to a variety of training and career development resources. Simply visit the Knowledge Base on the LMS for more information on COVID-19 Employee Self-Care. [ACCESS THE LMS](#)

LANGUAGE ACCESS PHILLY

All City departments must have a Language Access Plan (LAP) to ensure residents with non-English language preference (NELP) can access services for free.

Language Access Philly connects departments with interpretation and translation services to support multilingual communities. Need help? Contact your Language Access Coordinator or [visit the Language Access Philly resource page](#).

DISABILITY ACCESS RESOURCES

The City of Philadelphia is committed to making City services accessible to all residents, including people with disabilities. Through policies, programs, and resources, the Office for People with Disabilities works to support inclusion and access. Explore accessible spaces, disability data, systems navigation videos, and key policies. Learn more on [the website](#) and contact the Office for support.

CITY INTRANET

Receive updates and access City resources like central duplication, an updated org chart, and updates on employee benefits and programs! All announcements listed here are also posted to the City's Intranet. Please note, you must be connected to either City Wi-Fi, LAN, or through approved VPN to access. [CHECK IT OUT](#)

SEPTA KEY ADVANTAGE

There's still time to get on board with **SEPTA Key Advantage**. Whether you're already enrolled or thinking about signing up, keep riding with ease. Log in to app.jawntpass.com to register your KeyCard today.

RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT FUND

Resident Engagement Fund: City departments seeking funding to pay residents during community engagement activities can apply through the Resident Engagement Fund, administered by the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. [LINK HERE](#) or email ResidentComp@phila.gov

READYPHILADELPHIA

Stay connected to the weather forecast and important information from the City, directly to your phone! The city's emergency notification system is now available in 11 languages including American Sign Language. Text READYPHILA to 888777 to receive alerts to your device or sign up with your preferred language by visiting our ReadyPhiladelphia [webpage](#) for phone and text alerts. [SIGN UP FOR ALERTS](#)

CITY COLLEGE FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT

Have you seen the new homepage for the City College for Municipal Employment? [Check it out on phila.gov](#) and explore some of the options and details!

DISCLAIMER

This is a citywide newsletter, distributed to all employees with a phila.gov email address. Attendance at events during work hours must be approved by your supervisor. Occasionally, some information you receive may be applicable only to a certain group of employees, like exempts. We will clearly label such information, but if you have questions, please contact your HR administrator. Any special citywide discounts have been approved in advance by the Chief Integrity Officer and are available to all City employees who are interested.

Reference in this newsletter to any specific commercial product, process, or service, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of City employees, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the City of Philadelphia.