



*HRA Links
Local impact to the
world at large*

*Winter Newsletter
January - March 2018*

JANUARY: TAX SEASON BEGINS

HRA's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program will open 2 new tax preparation centers in Bristol and Plymouth at the end of January 2018.

The Bristol center, the city's second, will be at HRA's office. The Plymouth center will be at the Plymouth Town Hall Human Services Department. Over 200 IRS certified volunteers will prepare tax returns for low-middle income people in Bristol, Farmington, Meriden, New Britain, Plymouth, Southington, Vernon and Wallingford.



VITA volunteers prepared 5,629 tax returns in 2017 which returned \$8,980,361 in refunds to the communities we serve. [Learn More](#)

FEBRUARY: ENERGY SURGE

Our Energy Program staff have been working hard to keep up with the demand for assistance during the recent cold snap.

Low-income residents in New Britain and Bristol are struggling to keep up with their bills while HRA's staff are doing everything they can to help keep them safe and warm.

Last year HRA's Energy Assistance Program kept over 7,500 people warmer with a combination of funding. [Learn More](#)



MARCH: CREATIVE STUDY PROJECTS

Early Childhood Education teachers use nationwide "Creative Curriculum" to foster learning by exploring everyday objects.

Children in Room 134 recently studied boxes to learn colors, sizes, shapes, new vocabulary and how to create objects. They made cars, trains, washing machines, skyscrapers, bridges, phone booths and tunnels.



"The Creative Curriculum for Preschool" is fully aligned with the Head Start Learning Outcomes Framework and CT's early learning standards. [Learn More](#)

Our mission is to improve the quality of life by helping people achieve economic and social potential; responding to the causes and conditions of poverty; and building stronger individuals, families and communities in the greater New Britain area.

**Visit us at
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[2016-2017 Annual Report](#)

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