Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center
Since 1922

October 30, 2026

Laundry Love to continue, thanks to collaboration

Laundry Love, a national program providing access to laundromats for low-income and no-income individuals and families, will continue in Newport County thanks to collaboration between **Strategic Prevention Partnerships' No Wrong Door Behavioral Health** and the MLK Community Center.

Newport Laundry Love was backed by Strategic Prevention Partnership's No Wrong Door Behavioral Help programming for Newport County residents. On September 30, Strategic Prevention Partnership Executive Director Rebecca Elwell announced an immediate shift in programming and staffing due to the loss of federal funding. Laundry Love was scheduled to close unless another nonprofit stepped in.

"With the loss of funding, we knew discontinuing Laundry Love would be a huge loss for the 30 individuals and families who benefit from the program each month," Rebecca Elwell explained. "While we shift programming to best align with our mission to enhance community health and well-being in Newport County, we are grateful Laundry Love will continue thanks to our collaboration with the MLK Community Center."

Strategic Prevention Partnerships and No Wrong Door created a critically important resource in bringing Laundry Love to our community and we knew the program needed to be saved.When we learned of the lost funding, we reached out to see how the Center could

help. We quickly decided to assume the program costs and incorporate Laundry Love as one of our Community Programs initiatives. Laundry Love aligns with our vision of a Newport County where all residents are empowered to be self-reliant and live their best quality of life, and complements our Rinse & Renew program.

Hygiene resources are essential for maintaining dignity and health. Laundry Love is not just for people who are unhoused. Many people who access this service are families with young children who know the importance of their kids having clean clothes for school. Lack of laundry access can be a barrier to school attendance. We know many of our clients already rely on Laundry Love, and we are grateful to work with Strategic Prevention Partnerships to ensure the work they began continues to be available in our community.

The program will continue at Mid-Island Laundromat at 232 West Main Rd., Middletown, RI. Laundry Love will transition to an MLK program on November 12, every other Thursday with an earlier start time, from 3:00 p.m - 6:00 p.m. Due to Thanksgiving and Christmas, the second sessions of November and December will be held Monday, November 23 and Monday, December 21. In the new years, the program will resume a consistent biweekly schedule on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Participants are provided with quarters, detergent, softener, dryer sheets, and other laundry essentials. No registration is required, and machines are available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 3:00 p.m. The last loads of the sessions must be in the machines by 5:15 p.m.

I have questions about Laundry Love

NEWPORT laundry LOVE™

A program of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center

Providing access to laundry for everyone in Newport County

Mid-Island Laundromat
232 West Main Rd. Middletown RI



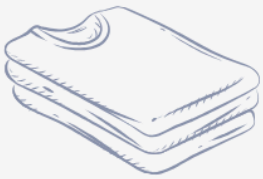
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
First come, first served.
Last load must be in by 5:15 p.m.





End of 2026 Schedule

Thursday, Nov. 12 & Monday, Nov. 23
Thursday, Dec. 10 & Monday, Dec. 21



2027 Schedule

Second and fourth Thursday of each month

401.846.4828 x104 lkerr@mlkccenter.org

NEWPORT laundry LOVE™

Una programa de
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center

Proporcionar acceso a lavandería para todos en el condado de Newport

Mid-Island Laundromat
232 West Main Rd. Middletown RI



3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Por orden de llegada.



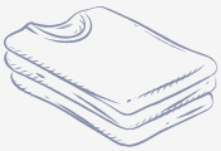


La última carga debe estar lista antes de 5:15 p.m.

Horario por el fin de 2026

Jueves, 12 de Nov. & Lunes, 23 de Nov.

Jueves, 10 de Dic. & Lunes, 21 de Dic.



Horario de 2027

Segundo y cuarto Jueves de cada mes

401.846.4828 x104 lkerr@mlkccenter.org

Trick or Treating at City Hall

Our preschoolers made their annual trick-or-treating trek to Newport ***City Hall*** yesterday. They always get a warm welcome from the staff and have so much fun getting candy and

treats. Thank you to the City's employees for making our littlest learners feel special every Halloween.

Our little ghouls and goblins will be in costume on Friday October 30th and will travel around the MLK trick or treating at staff offices.







86 individuals are grateful for your help

We are incredibly grateful for the support Rinse & Renew has received from our community partners over the past seven months. **Thanks to you, 86 people took 565 showers this season.**

Showers are more than just soap and hot water. There wasn't a Tuesday that went by from April to October when a client didn't express how much this program means to them.

Until we can determine a year-round solution rather than an unheated trailer, Rinse & Renew will return next April. Click the button below to email our Director of Development, Alyson Novick, to sponsor a session in 2027.





Sponsor Rinse & Renew in 2027

Making friends with spider crabs

We love visits from ***Save The Bay - Hamilton Family Aquarium.*** After School students learned about the spider crabs that live in Narragansett Bay. We are so grateful for hands-on experience with our local wildlife. Stay tuned as we meet more friends from the aquarium.



It was a party at the MLK for Karaoke Night

Thanks to ***Sing Your Heart Out Co.***, our second karaoke session was a hit. We sang, we cheered, we danced, and we enjoyed an evening with community. Congratulations to our winners, and thank you to everyone who came and made the night special. Stay tuned for our next event.



Making art in Lunch & Learn

This week, older adults in Lunch & Learn enjoyed painting ceramic bowls with the ***Jamestown Arts Center***. Their work will be on display at the JAC 2027 Exhibition from January to March, and then the bowls will be donated to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank Empty Bowls Fundraiser.





A delicious dinner thanks to Sweet Berry Farm

This week's MLK Friends' Dinner was delicious. Thank you to ***Sweet Berry Farm,*** shown below, for sponsoring and serving the meal. We are grateful for your generosity and commitment to making these community meals possible for Newport County.

Thank you to ***Global Yacht Concierge*** as well for cooking the meal for us.







Our friends from ***Hotel Viking*** were brave enough to go into our freezer while helping us stock our pantry. We commend their bravery, and we thank them for helping us clean and stock our Food Pantry.

Jamestown Community Farm is one of our local partners who donates local, fresh produce to our Food Pantry. They brought radishes, pumpkins, and other types of seasonal squash so our clients can have delicious, in-season produce.

Thank you for keeping Newport County healthy and strong.



Beep! Beep! Here Comes the Mobile Food Pantry!



The Mobile Food Pantry is coming your way! Here are next week's Mobile Food Pantry Locations:

Tuesday 11/03/2026:

- Pemberton Apartments, 45 Pemberton Ave. Jamestown RI 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Bayside Village, 143 Third St. Newport RI 1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday 11/04/2026:

- Portsmouth Senior Center, 112 Bristol Ferry Rd. Portsmouth RI 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Thursday 11/05/2026:

- Tiverton Housing Authority, 99 Hancock St. Tiverton RI 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Hancock Estates, 345 Hancock St. Tiverton RI 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
    - Residents Only

*All are welcome. You do not need to reside in the neighborhood to use the Mobile Food Pantry, **unless otherwise advised**. Please remember to bring your reusable bags.*

Download Our Monthly Calendars

Download November Community Programs Calendar in English

Descargar Calendario de Programas Communitarios de Noviembre en Español

Download November Hunger Relief Calendar in English

Descargar Calendario de Combatir Del Hambre de Noviembre en Español

Our Contact Information
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center
20 Dr. Marcus Wheatland Blvd.
Newport, RI 02840
401.846.4828
http://www.mlkccenter.org

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Volunteer

Give



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