

# Know Your Neighborhood: Smith Hill

2018-2019

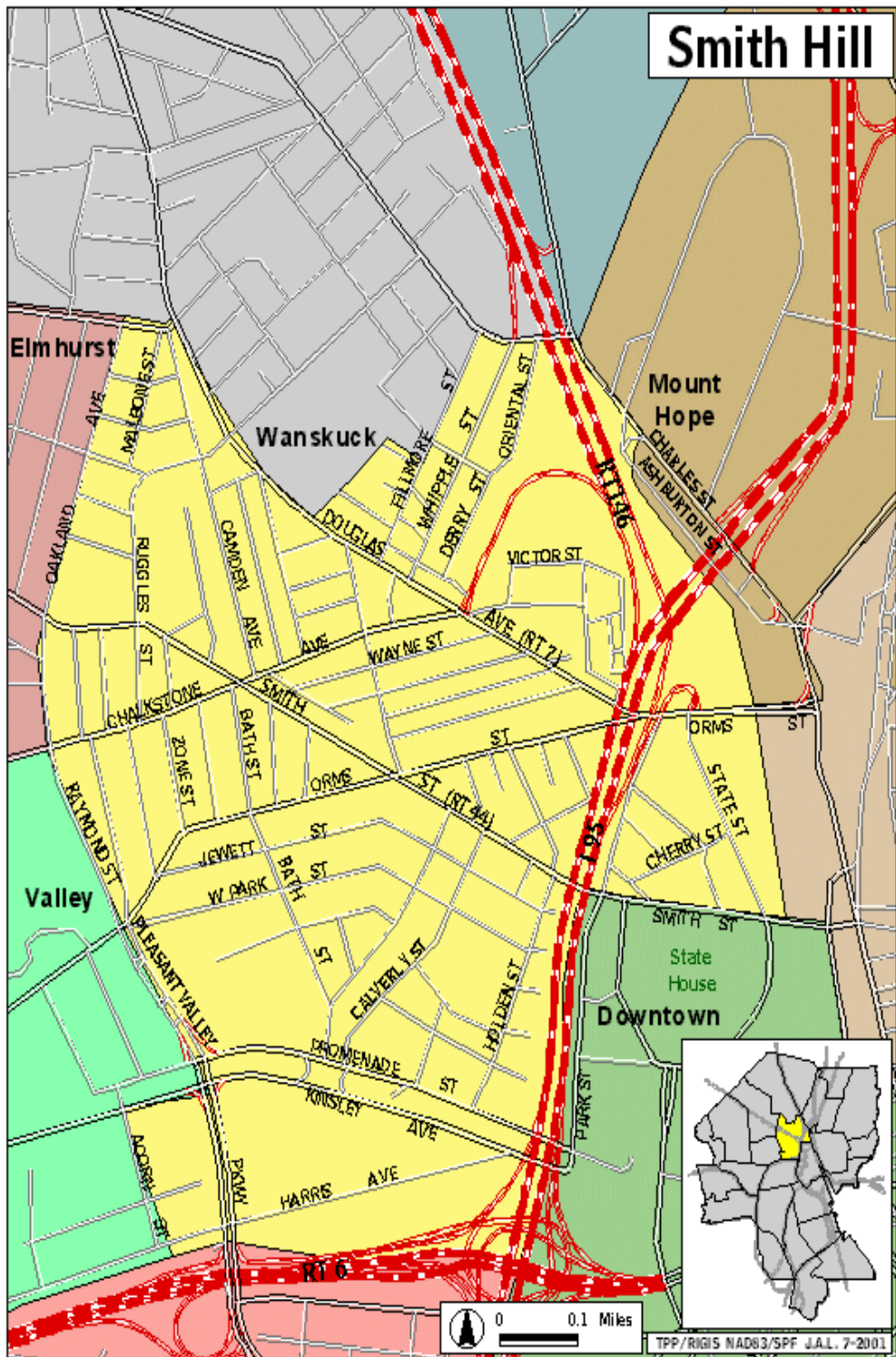


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# Smith Hill



# Welcome to Smith Hill

**Smith Hill** is defined by the Woonasquatucket River on the south near Promenade Street, the Chad Brown Public Housing Complex on the north, Interstate 95 on the east, and the Elmhurst neighborhood on the west.

In 1636, Roger Williams was given land that included the area later known as Smith Hill, and it was used for farm animals belonging to settlers. John Smith, a mill owner and one of the original settlers, would have Smith Street and Smith Hill named after him.

Smith Hill became known as an urban neighborhood and attracted many immigrants from Ireland and Eastern Europe during 1820-1900. Small cottages and multi-family homes were built with the intention of housing industry workers, however, industry began to decline after the end of World War II and many mills and factories closed.

From the 1970's onward, there were many community organizations and businesses that focused on rebuilding Smith Hill. Today, Smith Hill continues to grow with the help of affordable housing opportunities, neighborhood organizations, and expanding businesses.

To find information on local resources, meetings, organizations, and need-to-know information, use this booklet as a tool for Smith Hill's growing community. We hope its contents will provide a useful way for you to get to know your neighborhood!

**Produced By: Smith Hill Community Development Corporation**

400 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02908  
Phone (401) 521-0159  
[www.smithhillcdc.org](http://www.smithhillcdc.org)



*Written By: Raquel Perez & Hannah Toriz Perez*

# Points and Events of Interest



**Rhode Island Statehouse:** At the top of Smith Hill, overlooking the city of Providence, sits the Rhode Island State House. The structure consists of 15 million bricks and the “Independent Man”, who symbolizes the independence of church from state, stands on top of its dome.

## **Bolivian Festival De La Virgen De URKUPIÑA:**

An annual summer event, the Bolivian Festival honors the religious traditions of Our Lady of Urkupina festivities. The festival takes place at the Alex & Ani Skating Rink, with a procession starting from St Patrick’s Cathedral on Smith Street. Witness the colorful costumes and folkloric musical traditions of Bolivia, in beautiful downtown Providence!



## **Pleasant Valley Parkway:**



Developed between 1906 and 1909 as part of the national “City Beautiful” movement, Pleasant Valley Parkway was created to provide the Smith Hill community a green space and thru-way for vehicles.

## **Charles Dowler House:**

Located on 581 Smith Street, behind those walls was the home of former local artist, Charles Dower. His home is a surviving example of architecture that remains well preserved in Smith Hill’s community.



## **St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church:**

The St. Sahag & Mesrob Church was purchased by the growing Armenian population in the early 1900’s. It was named after two saints; one created the Armenian alphabet, and the other translated the Armenian bible.

## **St. Patrick’s Parade:**

Every year, Smith Street is closed down for the annual St. Patrick’s Day parade. It has been celebrated on Smith St. for about 20+ years.



# Smith Hill Partners' Initiative

**Smith Hill Partners' Initiative (SHPI)** is a collaboration of residents, nonprofits, and small businesses in Smith Hill that come together to discuss community development. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 400 Smith Street from 9-10am, and are open to the general public. The Smith Hill Partners are:

## **half full, llc .**

Through the *half full* experience, companies and individuals see how easy it is to stay focused and achieve strategic goals in a positive and thoughtful way. Through team building, event and retreat planning, youth programming, and marketing and communications, *half full* helps pave a path to success for any individual, team, or organization.

**Location:** 400 Smith Street

**Phone:** 401-484-1221

**Website:** [www.half-full.com](http://www.half-full.com)

**Facebook:** @halffullonline

**Smith Hill Community Development Corporation (CDC)** The Smith Hill CDC is a non-profit organization that provides affordable home ownership and rental opportunities to the residents of Smith Hill. In addition to housing, the Smith Hill CDC offers financial literacy classes, youth programs, community garden beautification, and neighborhood development opportunities.

**Location:** 400 Smith St.

**Phone:** 401-521-0159

**Website:** [www.smithhillcdc.org](http://www.smithhillcdc.org)

**Hours:** Mon-Fri 9-5

**Facebook:** @SmithHillCDC

**Twitter:** @SmithHill\_CDC

## **Providence College/ Smith Hill Annex**

The PC/Smith Hill Annex supports immediate, short-term events and activities like potlucks, speak-outs, exhibitions, and meetings. It also supports courses, workshops, and retreats of campus and community groups, and ongoing projects that serve campus and community.

**Location:** 231 Douglas Ave.

**Phone:** 401-865-1732

**Website:** [smith-hill-annex.providence.edu](http://smith-hill-annex.providence.edu)

**Facebook:** @ProvidenceCollegeSmithHillAnnex

## **Sojourner House**

Sojourner House is a non-profit organization that provides support, education, and advocacy for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Individuals are offered support groups, emergency shelter, transitional housing, sexual health advocacy, emotional support, referrals to over 50 other community partners providing additional assistance, and more. Additional programs that Sojourner House provides include: teen violence education, HIV/AIDS prevention, elder and LGBTQ partner abuse.

**Location:** 386 Smith St.

**Hours:** M-F, 9am-5pm

**Phone:** 401-861-6191 (Office)/401- 765-3232 (Helpline)

**Website:** [www.sojournnerri.org](http://www.sojournnerri.org)

**Facebook:** @sojournnerri

### **Providence Community Health Center (PCHC)**

The largest health care provider in Providence, PCHC treats patients according to their ability to pay. Services include: Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Gynecology, Behavioral Health, Optometry, Dental Care and Express Care (urgent care) alongside with selected specialty services.

**Location:** 40 Candace St.

**Phone:** 401-444-0550

**Website:** [www.providencechc.org](http://www.providencechc.org)

**Facebook:** @ProvidenceCommunityHealthCenters

**Hours:** M, W, F: 8:30am-5pm/T: 11am-8pm/TH: 12:30-8pm

### **Friends of the Smith Hill Library**

The Smith Hill Library is a valuable community resource in the neighborhood. The quaint library holds both adult and children's section, and lends movies as well as books. There is access to computers and free WIFI. The library is a host to many informative community events and meetings.

**Location:** 31 Candace St.

**Phone:** 401-272-4140

**Website:** [www.provcomlib.org](http://www.provcomlib.org)

**Hours:** M-T: 1-6pm/W: 1-8pm/TH: 9am-5:30pm/F: 1-6pm

### **Capital City Community Centers**

A non-profit social service agency, Capital City Community Centers supports individuals and families with basic needs of food, housing, and clothing, as well as child and senior care. Volunteer involvement in all programs is welcome.

**Location:** 25 Danforth St.

**Phone:** 401-714-

6592

**Hours:** M-F, 7am-5:30pm

### **Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence**

The mission of ISPN is to teach, by word and example, the principles and practices of nonviolence. In addition, ISPN fosters a community that addresses potentially violent situations with nonviolent solutions. Available programs and trainings include: Nonviolence Training, Street Worker Outreach Team, AmeriCorps, Education and Employment Services, Victim Services, and Re-entry Services.

**Location:** 265 Oxford St.

**Phone:** 401-785-2320

**Website:** [www.nonviolenceinstitute.org](http://www.nonviolenceinstitute.org)

**Hours:** M-F, 9am-5pm

**Facebook:** @ISPNprovidence

### **Adoption Rhode Island**

Adoption Rhode Island's Mission is to facilitate, promote, and support the permanent placement of children waiting for adoption, while improving the well-being of foster/adopted children and their families.

**Location:** 2 Bradford St.

**Phone:** 401-865-6000

**Website:** [www.adoptionri.org](http://www.adoptionri.org)

**Hours:** M-F, 8am-5pm

**Facebook:** @AdoptionRI

### **NAMI Rhode Island**

NAMI Rhode Island is an affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Education and training programs for consumers, family members, providers, and the general public are offered.

**Location:** 154 Waterman St.

**Phone:** 401-331-3060

**Website:** [www.namirhodeisland.org](http://www.namirhodeisland.org)

**Hours:** M-F, 8am-5pm

**Facebook:** @NAMIRhodeIsland

### **Providence Preservation Society**

The mission of the Providence Preservation Society is to improve Providence by advocating for historic preservation and the enhancement of the city's unique character.

**Location:** 24 Meeting St.

**Phone:** 401-831-7440

**Website:** [www.ppsri.org](http://www.ppsri.org)

**Hours:** M-F, 8am-5pm

**Facebook:** @pvdpreservation

### **City of Providence**

**City Hall Location:** 25 Dorrance St.

**City Hall Phone:** 401-680-5000

**Website:** [www.providenceri.gov](http://www.providenceri.gov)

**Hours:** M-F, 7am-

5:30pm

### **Jeremiah Nash**

Local landlord for the Smith Hill, Wanskuck, and Elmhurst neighborhoods

**Phone:** 401-301-6274

**Email:** [blackwater\\_management@yahoo.com](mailto:blackwater_management@yahoo.com)

### **-Committees and Events Overseen by SHPI-**

- Neighborhood Safety Watch: Meets on the last Monday of every month, from 6-7pm at 400 Smith Street.
- Mental Health Committee: Meets on a monthly basis at 400 Smith Street.
- Annual Smith Hill Block Party



# PARKS & RECREATION



## **Davis Park**

**Location:** 50 Raymond St.

The park includes play equipment for kids ages 2-12, a community garden, lighted ball fields, and a basketball court. Davis Park is leased by the Parks Department from the Veterans Administration.

## **Father Lennon Park**

**Location:** 62 Camden Ave.

The park contains a large field, walking paths, playgrounds, and community garden. There is parkour equipment as well as a pump track for bikes. The park was dedicated to Father John Lennon, a Dominican reverend and PC was an active community leader.



## **Twitchell Park**

**Location:** 3 Oakland Ave.

Twitchell Park provides a small and relaxing green space for all who visit. The park was dedicated and named after Thomas Twitchell, an active and committed community member of Smith Hill.



## **Joseph P. Hassett Sr. Memorial Park**

**Location:** Corner of Orms and Candace St.

In memoriam of Joseph P. Hassett, an accomplished elected official and community advocate, this park provides playground equipment, a basketball court, and picnic tables.

### **Fargnoli Waterpark**

**Location:** 945 Smith St.

Located in neighboring Elmhurst, Fargnoli Waterpark is also accessible to Smith Hill residents. Today it includes a waterpark, benches, concession stand, baseball court and new play structures. During the summer Fargnoli Waterpark hosts several neighborhood concerts.

### **Madeline Rogers-Selim Recreation Center**

**Location:** 60 Camden Ave.

The Madeline Rogers Recreation Center is open to the public and provides basketball, crafts, Rec Camp, and Garden Club. Beat the summer heat and use the community swimming pool!

**Contact:** 401-455-8854



### **Providence Play Corps**

**Location:** Father Lennon Park, General St. Park, Harriet & Sayles Park, Bucklin Park, Wallace St. Park

Teams of trained play facilitators provide free activities and materials to engage neighborhood children in physically

active play, improving the overall safety of the Providence parks while encouraging more children to take advantage of free, nutritious summer meals. Activities take place during the summer months from Monday to Friday.

**Contact:** Email: helenemiller179@gmail.com



### **Project 401**

The dance crew of Project 401 focuses on bringing together communities and inspiring young adults. Project 401 offers free afterschool and summer classes on breakdancing, DeeJayin', Graffiti art, and rap poetry. The group also offers lessons on Hip Hop Culture and History, including but not

limited to black/Latino history, commercial Hip-Hop imagery, and social empowerment.

**Contact:** Email: project401ri@gmail.com/Phone: 401-347-51

### **Providence Recreation Midnight Basketball Team**

Young adults' ages 18 years and older can participate in the annual Midnight Basketball League. Registration is free for Providence residents and a \$25 fee will be assessed for non-Providence residents who would like to participate. Registration is granted on a first come, first-served basis for a maximum of six teams per league, per location and opens up mid-spring. Teams must maintain a minimum roster of eight players to be eligible.

**Contact:** Department of Recreation phone: 401-680-7300

# Programs in Providence

**Walking School Bus** volunteers accompany elementary school children on their walk to class. Safety and on-time arrival are put first. Harry Kizerian Elementary School offers this program to their students and Smith Hill residents.

**Phone:** 401-499-7850/**Email:** [levenjo@familyserviceri.org](mailto:levenjo@familyserviceri.org)

**PVD Young Makers** was created to offer free programming for youth in Providence neighborhoods. Participants will get access to powerful machines and materials supported by professionals who guide them. Manufacturing, digital media, and electronics are the different types of areas explored. Visit any of the 10 LIBRARIES for programming info!

**Phone:** 401-684-0460/**Email:** [pvdyoungmakers@fabnewport.org](mailto:pvdyoungmakers@fabnewport.org)

**JUMP Bikes** is a 400 public bike share system. The bikes will be available for one- time use rent or monthly memberships. A reduced fee membership plan will also be offered to qualifying residents of low-income households.

**Phone:** 1833-300-6106/**Email:** [support@jumpbikes.com](mailto:support@jumpbikes.com)

**Free Summer Meals** is Providence's summer lunch program. It ensures that all children in Providence have access to healthy meals when school lets out. Children can visit local parks throughout the city to play, learn, and enjoy a free nutritious meal.

**Phone:** 2-1-1 to find a summer meal site.

**PVD 311** can be used to request city services or information for:

- Quality of Life
- Street & Sidewalk Issues
- Winter conditions
- City signage & traffic signage
- Water quality & damage
- Individual support
- Vandalism & graffiti
- Trash services
- Trees & overgrowth
- Vehicles & parking
- Violations

**Phone:** 3-1-1/ **Online:** [www.pvd311.com](http://www.pvd311.com)



# Services

**Smith Hill Post Office:** Located on 351 Smith Street.

*Hours:* Monday-Friday 8pm to 5pm & Saturday 8pm to 2pm, closed on Sunday.

**Garbage Collection:** Garbage is picked up once a week and must be left on the curb. Thursday is garbage collection day in the Smith Hill neighborhood. *Waste Management Contact:* 1800-972-4545.

**Fire Department:** Located on 1 Communications Place  
*Phone:* (401) 274-3348



**Police Station:** Located on 82 Smith Street  
*Phone:* (401) 222-6905/Dial 9-1-1 for emergencies

**Smith Hill Library:** Located on 31 Candace Street  
The library provides the community with Wi-Fi, computers, printers, and scanners. Year-round and seasonal programs are also available.  
>>**Year Round Programs:** Read and Rap Poetry Program, Model Building Workshop, PVD Young Makers Program.  
>>**Seasonal Programs:** Homework Help Tutoring Program, Ready for Kindergarten Program, Summer Reading Program, Friends of the Library Annual Holiday Bazaar.  
*Phone:* 401-272-4140

## -Schools-

- Harry Kizirian**.....60 Camden Ave | (401) 456-9369| K-5
- Nathaniel Green**.....721 Chalkstone Ave | (401) 456-9347| Grades 6-8
- Times2 Academy**.....50 Fillmore Street | (401) 272-5094
  - *A K-12 charter school that specializes in teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics*
- Saint Patrick Academy**.....244 Smith St | 401-421-9300| Grades 9-12
  - *Catholic High School*
- Providence College**.....1 Cunningham Square | (401) 865-1000



# Elected Officials

## Federal Government

### *U.S. Senate*

#### **Senator Jack Reed**

U.S. District Courthouse  
One Exchange Terrace  
Providence, RI 02903-1744  
Phone: (401) 528-5200

#### **Senator Sheldon Whitehouse**

170 Westminster St.  
Providence, RI 02903  
Phone: (401) 453-5294

### *House of Representatives*

#### *Congressional District 2*

#### **Congressman Jim Langevin**

300 Centerville Rd, Suite 200  
South Warwick, RI 02886  
Phone: (401) 732-9400



## State Government

### *Rhode Island Governor*

#### **Gina Raimondo**

82 Smith St.  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 222-2080

### *Providence Mayor*

#### **Jorge Elorza**

25 Dorrance St.  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 421-2489

### *Senator in General Assembly District 1*

#### **Mary Ellen Goodwin**

325 Smith St.  
Providence, RI 02908  
Phone: (401) 272-3102

### *Representative in General Assembly District 3*

#### **Moira J. Walsh**

133 Stansbury St., Apt. 2  
Providence, RI 02908  
Phone: (401) 996-9552

## Local Government

### *City Council Ward 12*

#### **Councilwoman Kat Kerwin**

Phone: (401) 580-4331  
Email: kkerwin26@gmail.com

**Assigned polling place:** Harry Kizirian Elementary School

TO REGISTER TO VOTE, VISIT:  
<https://vote.sos.ri>



*Special thanks to Councilman Terrence Hassett for 21 years of service and dedication to the Smith Hill community. Your commitment and representation of our 'small but mighty' neighborhood is remembered and appreciated.*

# Local Resources

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## Churches

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### **Chapel of the Holy Spirit**

155 Douglas Ave  
(774) 888-8576

### **Iglesia De Dios De La Profecia**

530 Smith Street  
(401) 837-2511

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### **Providence Baptist Church**

40 Duke St, Providence  
(401) 274-1016

### **Saints Sahag & Mesrob Church**

70 Jefferson St  
(401) 272-7712

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### **St Patrick's Church, Mary House Soup Kitchen**

244 Smith St  
(401) 421-7070

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## Dining/ Markets

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### **A to Z Liquors**

325 Douglas Ave  
(401) 351-8567

### **ALDI'S**

539 Smith St  
(855) 955-2534

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### **Burger King**

445 Promenade St  
(401) 331-7050

### **Baba's Original**

**New York System**  
424 Smith St  
(401) 331-5349

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### **Camden Mini Market**

135 Camden Ave  
(401) 274-2367

### **Capitol Hill Diner 1**

353 Smith St  
(401) 831-1313

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### **The Chicken Coup on Smith Hill**

389 Smith St  
(401) 270-1522

### **Douglas Food Market and Gas**

175 Douglas Ave  
(401) 228-6448

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### **Dunkin' Donuts**

251 Smith St  
(401) 273-0880

### **Family Dollar**

541 Smith St  
(401) 274-4527

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**G.I. Convenience Store**

445 Smith Street  
(401) 831-9015

**IHOP**

45 Pleasant Valley Pkwy  
(401) 626-4314

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**I Love Mexico Bar & Grille**

283 Smith St  
(401) 273-2026

**Ladder 133 Sports  
Bar & Grill**

133 Douglas Ave  
(401) 272-7427

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**Lao Lanexang Market**

Smith Street  
(401) 272-2678

**Little Caesars Pizza**

539 Smith St  
(401) 421-2212

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**Lopes Liquors**

461 Smith St  
(401) 831-2199

**Mandarin Garden**

555 Chalkstone Ave  
(401) 751-0144

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**NY Pizza**

1005 Smith St  
(401) 214-1996

**Pizza Hut**

580 Chalkstone Ave  
(401) 455-3333

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**Popeyes**

**Louisiana Kitchen**  
539 Smith St  
(401) 274-6393

**Smith Hill Market**

194 Douglas Ave  
(401) 272-7362

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**Sophia's Market**

524 Smith Street  
(401) 383-6044

**Subway**

539 Smith St  
(401) 621-8190

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**Subway**

306 Charles St  
(401) 490-4527

**Taco Bell**

150 Douglas Ave  
(401) 490-0606

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**Yummy Pizza**

389 Smith St  
(401) 274-1777

**7-Eleven**

460 Smith  
(401) 273-4881

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## Family Services

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### **Smith Hill Early Childhood**

25 Danforth St  
(401) 455-3890

### **Smith Hill Library**

31 Candace St  
(401) 272-4140

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## Housing

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### **Berkshire Place**

455 Douglas Ave  
(401) 553-8600

### **Carroll Tower – Housing Complex**

243 Smith St  
(844) 669-3810

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### **Lillian Feinstein**

**Senior Center**  
1085 Chalkstone Ave  
(401) 455-3888

### **Dimeo Properties**

365 Smith Street, Suite 4  
(401) 490-4328

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### **Smith Hill CDC**

400 Smith Street  
401-521-0159

### **Strive Realty**

566 Smith Street  
(401) 270-8878

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## Legal/ Consultant

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### **Breggia Law Firm**

395 Smith St  
(401) 831-9100

### **Hamel Waxler Allen & Collins**

#### **Personal Injury Attorney**

395 Smith St  
(401) 455-3800

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### **Law Offices of Dawn M. Cook & Tiffany Antoch Emery**

578 Smith Street  
(401) 331-9610

### **Law Offices of Kevin F. Bowen**

395 Smith St  
(401) 831-1600

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### **Patrick J Quinlan**

#### **Law Offices**

400 Smith St  
(401) 272-5300

### **Turino Group**

#### **(Business Consultant)**

434 Smith St  
(401) 275-5840

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## Lounges

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### **Dusk**

301 Harris Ave  
(401) 714-0444

### **The Jake Speakeasy Lounge**

133 Douglas Ave  
(401) 272-7427

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### **Patrick's Pub**

381 Smith St  
(401) 751-1553

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## Maintenance Services

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### **Advance Auto Parts**

Address: 539 Smith St  
(401) 282-6839

### **King's Rooter Service**

531 Smith St  
(401) 521-3213

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### **Pro –Services Appliances Smith Street**

(401) 785-3300

### **Sandoval Auto Sales & Service**

19 Camden Ave  
(401) 427-0340

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### **Seven Star Cleaning Services Inc. Painter**

67 Goddard St  
(401) 274-4448

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## Medical/ Health

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### **DeCrescenzo Chiropractic**

231 Douglas Ave  
(401) 421-7414

### **Prov. Community Health Center**

40 Candace St  
(401) 444-0550

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### **Roger Williams Medical Center**

825 Chalkstone Ave  
(401) 456-2000

### **Providence VA Medical Center**

830 Chalkstone Ave  
(401) 273-7100

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## Misc.

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**Mobile Solutions**

451 Smith St  
(401) 490-0730

**Ri Federation of Teachers**

356 Smith St  
(401) 273-9800

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**Smith Hill Laundromat**

411 Smith Street  
(401) 272-2030

**United States Postal Service**

351 Smith St.  
(800) 275-8777

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**Commonwealth  
Engineers**

400 Smith St  
(401) 273-6600

**Russell J. Boyle & Son  
Funeral Home**

331 Smith Street  
(401) 272-3100

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**Frey Florist**

50 Radcliffe Ave  
(401) 521-3539

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**Self-Care**

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**All Star Barber Shop**

426 Smith St  
(401) 490-0554

**Lashann's Salon**

447 Smith St  
(401) 228-3328

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**L & J Barbershop**

233 Douglas Ave  
(401) 437-6066

**Melanie's Family Hair Salon**

419 Smith St  
(401) 861-1932

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## Stay Social with Smith Hill!!

Check out Places to Dine, Things to Do, and Where to Shop in Smith Hill Neighborhood at [www.goprovidence.com/neighborhoods](http://www.goprovidence.com/neighborhoods)

Download the free [RHODE TOUR APP](#) to access tours across Rhode Island; be sure to check out [Historical Smith Hill](#) self-guided tour!

Follow Smith Hill Community Development Corporation

[@SmithHillCDC](#) on Facebook

[@SmithHill\\_CDC](#) on Twitter

Stay up to date with all [SHPI events](#) by following SHPI [@SHPIDevelopmentPrograms](#) on Facebook

