

ONE VOICE

Housing Authority of the
City of Austin
P.O. Box 6159
Austin, TX 78762-6159
www.hacanet.org



ONE VOICE



Creating and sustaining healthy
communities that promote individual
responsibility, economic growth, human
dignity and hope for the future.

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Housing Authority of the City of Austin

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Start the **School Year** Right!

HACA youth are rewarded for their achievements. HACA wants to congratulate all the students who continually exceed expectations. Each year HACA takes the students who have made the A/B Honor Roll and/or Perfect Attendance to Main Event. The students are chaperoned by parents and HACA staff at the fun center. For those students who made the honor roll the entire year, HACA sponsors these students with a week of summer camp. Please encourage your child to do well in school so they may be considered for next year's trip to Main Event or Summer Camp!

Congratulations to the following students who made the Honor Roll all year:

Issa El Hage, William El Hage, Robert Gonzales, Raeann Gonzales, Kathryn Scott, Adriana Prado, Brandon Flores, Frances Hernandez, Frank Garza IV, and Mercedes Hall.

Those students had a chance to participate in one of the following camps this summer:

- YMCA Adventure Camp-Camping
- YMCA Adventure Bullseye
- Entrepreneur Camp
- TX Student Television Camp
- Girlstart-Animal Clinic
- Girlstart-Pet Vet
- Girlstart-Crazy Concoctions
- Exploring Bits, Bytes & Bots
- McKinney Roughs-Camp Caddo



This year 114 students are eligible to participate in the trip to the Main Event Fun Center. The students will enjoy bowling, laser tag, and games. It is a great outing for the youth and encourages them to keep up the great work at school.

The trip to Main Event is held in August and is scheduled to reward the students who maintained A/B Honor Roll and/or Perfect Attendance for the previous school year.

Photos from the trip to Main Event in 2008.

Our Mission

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin is a public agency whose business is to:

- ◆ Ensure that safe, quality affordable housing opportunities exist for families of low income,
- ◆ Break the poverty cycle by serving as a catalyst for our residents to become economically self-sufficient,
- ◆ Create meaningful partnerships to maximize available community resources for our residents,
- ◆ Efficiently and effectively meet federal, state and local mandates

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin will pursue entrepreneurial opportunities to address emerging trends and respond to the challenges of the future.

Important Phone Numbers

HACA Administration	477-4488
24 Hour Resident Hotline	495-1897
Maintenance Work Orders	477-8518
Section 8	477-1314
Fire/Police	911
Non-Emergency Police	311
Poison Center	800-764-7661

ONE VOICE Newsletter

Published by the Housing Authority of the City of Austin
Judy Paciocco, Sr. Director of Operations

Comments, articles and photographs are welcomed for the One Voice newsletter. E-mail submissions to Monique Hennington.

moniqueh@hacanet.org

Or by mail to:

HACA, Attn:Media Relations
P.O. Box 6159
Austin, TX 78762

All submissions must have a name and phone number to be considered. Due to space limitations, the editor reserves the right to reject or edit copy as necessary.

National Immunizations Awareness Month



SHOTS FOR TOTS AND BIG SHOTS

Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services offers free immunizations at three locations, with varying schedules – call 972-5520 or 2-1-1 for hours. (Walk-ins are accepted on Saturdays; otherwise, call two days in advance to make your appointment.) Far South Clinic, 405 W. Stassney Ln.; St. John Clinic, 7500 Blessing Ave.; Rosewood-Zaragosa, 2800 Webberville Rd.

There is a \$10 fee for each visit at all locations. Services will not be denied due to inability to pay. No charge to Medicaid clients.

Please bring your immunization record with you. If your child receives Medicaid, please bring your letter for the current month. Children under 18 year old must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

HACA Receives Plaque from ADAPT

ADAPT of Texas expresses gratitude to HACA for its contribution in support of disability rights. The plaque's occasion honors the Tenth Anniversary of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court Olmstead decision which affirmed the right of individuals with disabilities to live in their communities.



James Hargrove, HACA's President and CEO, receives plaque from ADAPT's Phil Coleman

Public Comment Period and Public Hearings for Revisions to the HACA 2009 Public Housing Authority Annual Plan

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) is currently conducting a public comment period for revisions made to its FY 2009 Annual Plan regarding the admissions and continued occupancy policy to the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher programs and the disposition of a public housing property. A copy of the proposed revised plan may be reviewed online at www.hacanet.org or at the HACA Central Office located at 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. All comments should be made in writing and delivered to 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 by 5:00 p.m. on August 6, 2009. The August 20, 2009 HACA Board of Commissioners meeting to be held at 12:00 p.m. at the Central Office will host the final public hearing. This will also be the final opportunity to present comments regarding the revisions to the FY 2009 PHA Annual Plan prior to Board action to vote on the adoption of the proposed revisions.



Have you ever wondered:

- How much a fire hose weighs?
- How many visitors come to Austin for conventions every year?
- How many City vehicles operate on alternative fuel or hybrid technology?
- How long has Barton Springs been an Austin swimming hole?

CityWorks Academy is an inside look at Austin government - a unique opportunity for Austin residents to learn about the City's governmental operations.

APPLY FOR CITYWORKS TODAY!
Apply online at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/cityworks/>

For additional information, call 974-2969

10-Session Curriculum
Tuesdays :
6:30 to 9 p.m.
Application Deadline:
Aug. 19, 2009
Classes Begin:
Sept. 8- Nov. 10, 2009

Citywide Advisory Board Notes

The next meeting is August 11, 2009 at 9:30 am

Last month's Citywide Advisory Board meeting was held July 14, 2009 at the Central Office.

Guest Speaker Nathan Tucker from the Texas Cooperative Extension provided the audience with nutritional information. "Better Living for Texans" is a nutritional information and awareness program that has partnered with many of the HACA properties to provide nutritional tools to the residents.

Transportation is provided.
Call at least one day in advance.
North properties call Mary Gonzales at 589-7451.
South properties call Angie Cortez at 589-7985.

FSS Member of the Quarter

Connie Castillo is not only becoming self-sufficient, she is making a path for others to do the same. Connie is a part of HACA's Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program. Gaynayle Jenkins, FSS Coordinator, says, "I have the privilege of performing as case manager for Connie Castillo and she has truly been wonderful to work with." Connie has had to juggle being a single mother of three, working part-time and attending school. She successfully completed her course studies for the dental hygiene program in May of this year. Connie states that while participating in her course assignments she encouraged herself to go all the way. She says, "I love what I do and why stop here...become a dentist...own your own practice." She eagerly anticipates starting dental school in San Antonio. Connie believes in serving others. She started hosting dental workshops on site at the far south properties and has even provided the residents with free toothpaste and toothbrushes.



"HACA's Scholarship Ceremony Hits NEW Record"

This year's Scholarship Ceremony marked the most scholarship dollars and the highest number of residents HACA has ever awarded. The scholarship amount totaled to \$112,500 and was awarded to 62 residents of the Public Housing and the Housing Choice Voucher Programs.

Scholarship recipients will be attending various Central Texas schools such as the University of Texas at Austin, Texas State University, Texas A&M University, St. Edward's University and University of Texas at San Antonio. Over half of the scholarship recipients will be attending Austin Community College.

Congratulations to the 2009 Scholarship Recipients:

Richard Albiter
Rosalinda Almaguer
Mariann Bedford
John Beers
Karla Berrones
Benjamin Brown
Polo Brown
Brooke Brock
Sharon Caldwell
Kenyatta Carr
Trisha Castillo
Alexandria Castro
Maggie Chamberlain
Lakeisha Chambers
Brandy Clark
Tiara Cofield
Vanessa Colocho
Samantha Daniels
May Davis
Ericca Dawkins
Mary Doomes
Rhonda Douglas
Youssef El-Hage
Tanya Farirayi
Pamela Filip
Charlene Franz
Ricky Green
Rogelio Gomez
Norvella Haywood

Tracy Haywood
Luis Herrera
Shalise Hill
Yvette Jackson
Shawnta Jarmon
Arleen Jaurez
Kabba Kamara
Isata Konneh
Fatima Lakhlifi
Estephany Lumbreras
Yolanda Martinez
Stephanie McDowell
Charmia Medearis
Krystal Medearis
Leonardo Mejia
DeShandrick Mitchell
Marisol Nunez
Margarita Paz
Erica Perez
Andrea Porter
Tonia Proctor
Kendra Queen
Tierlene Ringo
Wendy Stewart
Randal Swist
Iris Tejada
Christina Thomas
Maria Vargas
Norma Vences
Luis Versalles
Anahi Villanueva
Khalid Waduf



HACA

Property Improvements

The Planning and Development team is dedicated to making the Housing Authority of the City of Austin a place residents are proud to call home. The following are improvements that are either currently under way or are scheduled for the near future:

■ **Roofing Replacements—Thurmond & Bouldin Oaks**—Combining two re-roof projects for both developments for expediency and better pricing. Contract awarded at the June Board Meeting for both sites. Start of work on site to begin in approximately two weeks. Completion scheduled for approximately 120 days.

■ **Playground Improvements—Rosewood, Georgian, Northgate**—Designs complete, meeting with the site staff so they may approve the components selected and schedule orientation to site prior to procurement. Northgate and Rosewood are complete. Georgian product selection complete, ordering process in the early stages, with installation complete in approximately 8 weeks.



Northgate Playscape Upgrade



Rosewood Playscape Upgrade

Energy Conservation Tips

by Energy Manager James Bean

Check the refrigerator gasket every so often for gaps and improper fit. The door should close firmly against the gasket. If it does not, cold air will leak out of the refrigerator. You can check the tightness of the door by placing a dollar bill between the gasket and the door. Close the door and then pull out the dollar. You should feel a slight drag when you pull it out. If you do not, the gasket may be worn and should be replaced or adjusted by HACA Maintenance.