

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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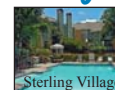
Public Notice:
Annual Plan

Blue Santa/
Coats for Kids

Caritas Class Schedule

Final Homebuyer's
Education Class

Become a Six-Star Family!



The Housing Authority of the City of Austin has a limited number of units available that you may not know are affordable under the **Six-Star Resident Program**. If you are a public housing resident looking to move toward greater flexibility and independence, you may qualify! Austin Affordable Housing Corporation, under the umbrella of the Housing Authority, offers a unique opportunity to families who desire to become free from public assistance. AAHC's Six-Star Resident Program discounts the fair market rents of several North Austin properties to very affordable rates.

To be eligible for the assistance program, participants must have resided in the public housing program for one year or more and be in good standing. Once the family is placed in the Six-Star Program their public housing assistance will discontinue. The length of this program is three years with the rent amounts increasing slightly every year. The increased amount of rent will be placed in an escrow savings account and payable to the participant upon successful completion of the program.

A **Six-Star Resident application** will be available for all qualified residents. Qualifying

residents should contact the Homeownership Coordinator, Suzanne Schwertner at 477-4488 ext. 2118 to request an application packet. All applications received will be date and time stamped and placed on a waitlist. The program has a limited number of units and availability. Approved applicants will be contacted by the Homeownership Coordinator to develop a Six-Star Family Action Plan. The Six-Star Family will then meet with property manager to complete property application and leasing requirements.

Six-Star Criteria
 Each family will be required to meet the following Six-Star Criteria:

- pay their rent on time
- maintain care of their unit
- be drug free and free of alcohol dependence
- keep their children in school
- maintain full-time employment
- be registered to vote



Bent Tree Apts



Sweetwater Apts.

The December Board of Commissioner's Meeting will be held at the HACA Administrative Building at 1124 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78702 on December 16, 2010 at 12:00 pm.

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.
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Housing Authority Board of Commissioners

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 Second Vice Chair

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Thelma Pannell
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 Vice President of Housing & Community Development-District I

Veronica W. Macon
 Vice President of Housing & Community Development-District II

Ron Kowal
 Vice President of Housing Development/Asset Management

Michael Cummings
 Vice President of Southwest Housing Compliance Corporation

**Public Comment Period and Public Hearings for HACA 2011
FY Agency Plan and 2010-2014 Five-Year Plan**

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) will have a public comment period for its Annual and Five Year Plans commencing October 25, 2010. There will be a forty-five day public comment period commencing at 8:00 a.m. on October 25, 2010 through 5:00 p.m. on December 15, 2010. All comments should be made in writing and delivered to 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 and made to the attention of James Hargrove, President/CEO. Three Public Hearings were scheduled. The last two hearings regarding the draft plans will be held on the following dates/times and locations:

December 1, 2010 5:30 p.m. Booker T. Washington Terraces, 905 Bedford, 78702

December 14, 2010 11:00 a.m. HACA Central Office, 1124 S. IH-35, 78704

Additionally, the final opportunity to present comments regarding these plans before the Housing Authority of the City of Austin Board of Commissioners will be conducted during the December 16, 2010 Board of Commissioners Meeting. This meeting will commence at 12:00 p.m. The location of the meeting will be at the HACA Central Office 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704. The Board of Commissioners will take action regarding the approval of the plans at this meeting.

Copies of the plan are located at the Central Office, management offices or online at www.hacanet.org.



Important 2010 Information:

Distribution Day: Saturday, December 11th from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Distribution Site: Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.

Children must be 18 years of age or younger and live in the Central Texas area.

Proof of eligibility will be required on Distribution Day and may include a WIC, CHIP, Lonestar, Medicaid, Social Security, or MAP card, or proof of enrollment in a Free or Reduced School Lunch Program. Sponsored by the Junior League of Austin www.jlaustin.org.



Operation Blue Santa delivers toys and food to thousands of families in need. HACA public housing residents must submit applications through the Specialist on property or see your property manager for assistance.

Applications will not be accepted from HACA residents unless they are submitted by the agency representative.

For more information visit www.bluesanta.org.

Upcoming scholarship deadline for Public and Assisted Housing Residents:

Public Housing Authorities Directors Association (PHADA) Scholarship Program. Three scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors.

Applications are due February 4, 2011.

Visit www.phada.org to download an application.

2011 Summer Youth Employment Program

To register your child (ages 14-18) please call 512-854-4590. Registration begins on January 3, 2011.

Citywide Advisory Board Notes



Last month's Citywide Advisory Board meeting was held November 9, 2010 at the Central Office.

Angela Castellija, Resident Wellness Coordinator, spoke to the audience about increasing membership in the Resident Council and the Citywide Advisory Board.

NEW! YOU MUST SIGN THE LIST FOR TRANSPORTATION AT YOUR MANAGEMENT OFFICE BY 5:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE THE CITYWIDE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.

Transportation to CWAB is provided, but not guaranteed. North properties call Mary Gonzales at 589-7451. South properties call Angie Cortez at 589-7985.



**Caritas of Austin
Upcoming Life Skills Classes**

THURMOND HEIGHTS – DECEMBER 2010

My Money, My Life Series / Serie Mi Dinero, Mi Vida

Class / Clase	English	Español
Personal Finances / Finanzas personales	Dec 3rd, 10am	Dic 13, 10am
Savings / Ahorros	Dec 10th, 10am	Dic 14, 10am
Avoiding Scams / Estafas	Dec 17th, 10am	Dic 15, 10am
Energy Conservation / Ahorro de Energia	Dec 9th, 10am	Dic 9, 12pm
Smart Shopping / Comprador Astuto	Dec 7th, 12am	Dic 16, 10am

Tools for Wellbeing Series / Serie Herramientas para el Bienestar

Class / Clase	English	Español
Take Charge / Tomar el Control	Dec 1st, 10am	Dic 1, 12pm
Self Esteem / Autoestima	Dec 6th, 10am	Dic 14, 12pm
Goal Setting / Establecer metas	Dec 7th, 10am	Dic 16, 12pm
Time Management / Manejo del Tiempo	Dec 8th, 10am	Dic 20, 12pm
Find a Job / Encuentra un trabajo	Dec 2nd, 10am	Dic 2, 12pm

The Housing Authority Offices will be closed the following days in December:

- ❄ Friday, December 24
- ❄ Monday, December 27
- ❄ Friday, December 31



The final Homebuyer Education Class of the year will be held December 11th from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Please call Suzanne Schwertner for more details at 512-477-4488 ext. 2118.



Management offices will be distributing the 2011 Resident Calendar in January.

**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:

- **Exterior Repair & Painting—Chalmers & Meadowbrook**—In the design stage for exterior painting of both developments for improved appearance and sustainability of exterior facades.
- **Interior Unit Renovations, Phase II-BTW**—Currently 140 units are completed, ten additional units are near completion and will be scheduled for occupancy. The scope of work is identical to Phase I, but with pier and beam foundation repairs, as necessary. All work is scheduled to be complete by December 30, 2010.
- **Mailbox Replacements—Santa Rita, Thurmond, & Georgian—Complete.** Full replacement of the existing equipment, to be placed under kiosk roofs for improved appearance and use by residents.



New Mailboxes at Thurmond

Upcoming Projects:

- **Community Room Improvements—Santa Rita, Gaston, and North Loop**—In the design stages for the renovation of the common areas, community spaces, and kitchens.
- **Walkway Repairs—Gaston**—Currently consulting with contracting firms on methods for completing this work with occupied units.

Energy Conservation Tips

by Energy Manager James Bean

Home Heating

During the winter season, keep the draperies and shades on your south facing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.