

# ONE VOICE

Housing Authority of the  
City of Austin  
P.O. Box 6159  
Austin, TX 78762-6159  
[www.hacanet.org](http://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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## 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](mailto: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.

## BE A PART OF THE CLUB!

Boys and Girls Club of the Capital Area (BGCCA) is now on-site at Thurmond Heights and Chalmers Courts Apartments. Youth from Thurmond Heights, Chalmers Courts, and the surrounding neighborhoods, ages 6 to 18 years old are eligible to participate. Both clubs will be open Monday through Friday 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided Tuesday through Thursday for all participating members. The clubs will provide daily activities including homework help, recreation, sports and more. Youth must register for membership with their parents permission.



Boys and Girls Club of the Capital Area  
Thurmond Heights Open House

Parents will be happy to know membership is free! Thomas "Tommy" Rice, Thurmond Heights Club Director says, "Our goal is to have 125 kids join this club." Parents will receive a Parents Handbook with details of the clubs' curriculum and rules. Each site will have a full-time club director and an assistant director. In addition to full-time staff, BGCCA will also have a program director and youth development professionals. Tommy says, "Parents will be needed to volunteer and we will train parent volunteers." Parents who apply to volunteer will complete a background check.

BGCCA is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantages circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. BGCCA fills the gap of time students have after school when their parents are not home from work. Tommy says his vision is that the club will be the highlight of the student's day. The staff will work as a team to provide a club experience that is high energy, motivational and educational. The club focuses on five program areas; Character and Leadership Development, Education and Career Development, Health and Life Skills, The Arts, and Sports, Fitness and Recreation. BGCCA will be open when school is out for the holidays and for spring break and they anticipate adding a summer camp for youth in the summer.



The upcoming Board of Commissioner's meeting will be Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 12:00 noon at the Central Administration Building 1124 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78704. HACA reserves the right to change the meeting date and time to ensure a quorum and to meet deadlines.

**Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearings for  
HACA 2010 FY Annual Plan and 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 19, 2009. There will be a forty-five day public comment period commencing at 8:00 a.m. on October 19, 2009 through 5:00 p.m. on December 9, 2009. 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 regarding the draft plans will be held on the following dates/times and locations:

- November 19, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.  
HACA Central Office 1124 S. IH-35 78704
- December 1, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.  
Booker T. Washington Terraces 905 Bedford 78702
- December 8, 2009 at 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 17, 2009 Board of Commissioners Meeting. This meeting will commence at 12:00 p.m. The location of the meeting will be the HACA Central Office located at 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704. The Board of Commissioners will take action regarding the approval of the plans at this meeting.

On October 19, 2009, copies of the plans and supporting information will be available for review and inspection at the HACA Central Office located at 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 or an electronic version of the plans is available online at [www.hacanet.org](http://www.hacanet.org).

HACA is committed to compliance with the American Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call 477-4488 ext. 2112 for assistance.

**Recent Grants Awarded to HACA**

**The 2009 Community Innovations in Aging in Place (CIAIP) Grant:** The proposed project "A Better Way to Live at Home: Education, Resources and Supports for Older Adults" is a collaboration between Family Eldercare, the Housing Authority of the City of Austin, the Area Agency on Aging and five other community-based agencies serving older adults. The goal of the project is to promote a community in which older adults are active and engaged and barriers to aging in place are proactively addressed. HACA approached the aforementioned agencies in early June and encouraged this partnership in an effort to increase the resources available to serve the aging population at its elderly/disabled designated properties – Lakeside, Salina, Gaston Place and North Loop. The collaboration was ideal as HACA's elderly properties are considered "Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORCs)" – communities where large concentrations of older adults reside that can benefit from supportive social services.

Service Coordinators (employed by Family Eldercare) will be assigned to each property. They will organize programs based on the needs and interests of residents and ensure that a baseline set of evidence-based practices (including mind fitness, falls and mobility, medication management) are offered at all locations. These programs will be supplemented with regularly scheduled classes and activities that promote health and wellness, learning, socialization and recreation, volunteerism and leadership.

~Eileen Schrandt, HACA's Grants Manager

**Green Communities Grant**




HACA has been awarded a "green" grant for energy improvements for North Loop and Gaston Place Apartments. The renovations will include new roofing, solar PV systems, thermal water heating systems, replacement of existing chillers, boilers and pumps, motors, and elevator equipment with new energy efficient equipment. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, says, "The grant will bring more jobs and lower utility bills."



**Hispanic Futures Conference**  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009  
at Travis High School  
1211 E. Oltorf  
Austin, TX 78704  
Registration/Breakfast: 8:15-9:00 a.m.  
Conference: 9:00-1:00 p.m.


BILINGUAL BREAK-OUT SESSIONS FOR  
PARENTS & STUDENTS  
PRIZES, ENTERTAINMENT, PROFESSIONALS  
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS  
**The event is free of charge and  
lunch is provided**  
GRADUATE READY!





FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: (512) 414-0084

**Citywide  
Advisory  
Board Notes**



The next meeting is  
November 10, 2009 at  
9:30 am

**L**ast month's Citywide Advisory Board meeting was held October 13, 2009 at the Central Office.

Maggie McGiffert of FamilyConnections, spoke to the audience about the upcoming HACA Parent Leader Summit. The summit will be Thursday, November 12th, from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Hyde Park Christian Church. Parents must register by November 9th by calling 478-5725, ext. 204.

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.

The offices of the Housing Authority of the City of Austin will be closed the following days in November:

Wednesday, November 11, 2009 in observance of Veteran's Day.



Veterans Day

Thursday-Friday, November 26-27, 2009 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



Happy Thanksgiving!

# 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:

- Stimulus Funded Competitive Capital Fund Awards—North Loop & Gaston—Notice received from HUD that BOTH HACA applications submitted under the recent NOFA for Competitive Capital Grants were funded, in the "Green" category, and will include improvements to elderly housing. The grants, total more than \$3.6M, with approx. \$3.2M planned for North Loop and approximately \$450,000 for Gaston. Work to both sites will install new roofing, solar PV systems, thermal water heating systems, replacement of existing chillers, boilers and pumps, motors, and elevator equipment with new energy efficient equipment. Planning meetings are being scheduled for the design needs necessary for bidding, while HACA waits for further guidance from HUD on fund awards and access.
- 2009 Capital Fund Program—Notice received from HUD that HACA's High Performer designation has resulted in a \$261,836 bonus award, bringing the total funds to \$3,107,224. The additional funds are already planned for use in 'shovel-ready' projects, not requiring additional HUD approvals or other delays that can impact obligation and expenditure timelines.

**Energy Conservation Tips**  
by Energy Manager James Bean

**Driving More Efficiently**

Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration and braking) wastes gas. It can lower your gas mileage by 33%. Aggressive driving is dangerously close to "Road Rage". In the city of Austin, you can receive a traffic ticket for road rage..