

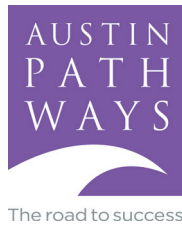
# ONE VOICE

A monthly publication of the Housing Authority of the City of Austin

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## Austin Pathways Raises Over \$30K for Resident Services

HACA's nonprofit Austin Pathways raised \$34,212 during Amplify Austin. One hundred percent of the funds, generously donated by 215 individuals, community partners and local businesses, provide direct support for scholarship and self-sufficiency programs.

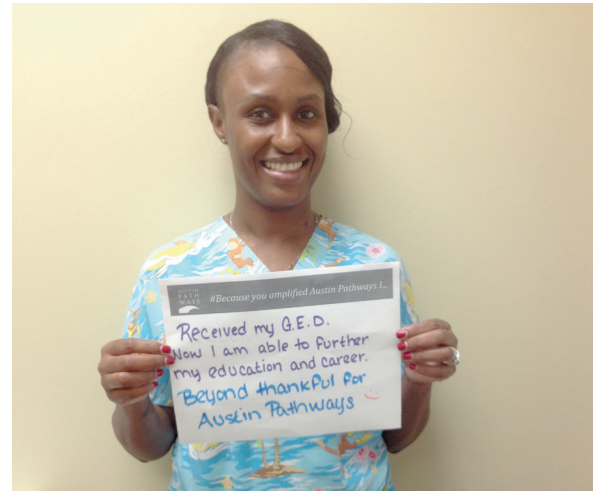


HACA and Austin Pathways have awarded more than 500 scholarships to public and affordable housing residents since 2001. Austin Pathways also provides services like child care and transportation to help people move out of public housing. Yvonne Alaniz received a HACA scholarship and completed a degree and financial literacy training and qualified for a down payment on a home, where she now lives with her four children.

Matching funds donor Rex Jones of Apartment Management Professionals and his staff helped raise funds. Italex and Ryan Companies also provided seed funding. "We know the difference that a bus pass to school can make," Jones said. "Our team is proud to help."

HACA Community Director Crystal James attended a Black History Month event at Dropbox to learn how young HACA residents can aspire to be tech entrepreneurs. A few weeks later, Dropbox employees donated \$1,025 to James' fundraising campaign, which Dropbox will match.

HACA Board Chair Carl Richie knows firsthand the power of education. Richie grew up in public housing, and went to school on a scholarship. He graduated from the University of Houston with a law degree. Today he is senior VP of the National Organization of



*Thanks to community support, HACA clients like FSS member Tunesia Webb can further their education and careers.*

Housing and Redevelopment Officials. Richie's campaign was bolstered by longtime Austinites, including Mike Toomey, Rusty Kelley, Robert Henry Johnson Jr. and Henry Preston.

HACA vendors supported Austin Pathways during Amplify Austin. Austin Elevator Company's Sara Fairchild works closely with the agency. She said working with the agency gives her a good feeling. "No one can take away your education," Fairchild said.

Thanks to all who donated and shared Austin Pathways on social media. We hope you will continue to support us next year! For more information, visit [www.austinpathways.org](http://www.austinpathways.org). To volunteer for Amplify Austin 2017, contact Catherine Crago at (512) 477-4488 or [catherinec@hacanet.org](mailto:catherinec@hacanet.org).



## Moving Onward and Upward to a Better Career

HACA resident and single mother Shellie Moore decided to start school because she wanted to prove to herself that she could “become somebody.”

After facing obstacles like living in a homeless shelter with her children, Moore was given the opportunity to move into Thurmond Heights in north Austin.

“Living at the Housing Authority of the City of Austin allows for my rent to be affordable so that I can concentrate on completing school and become self sufficient so I no longer need assistance,” Moore said. “I feel like through HACA and the partner agencies, I have the support necessary to be successful.”

Once she and her children found stable housing, Moore said she was able to use her years of experience working as a certified nurses’ aid to continue her nursing education and focus on obtaining upward mobility in the medical field. She recently became a member of the Family Self-Sufficiency program.

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“Living at HACA allows for my rent to be affordable so that I can concentrate on completing school.”

-Shellie Moore

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Moore’s children attend an after-school program at the Boys and Girls Club where they are involved in meaningful activities while she pursues her dreams.

“My goal is to become a registered nurse (RN) in labor and delivery,” Moore said. “I am currently enrolled at Austin Community College and being sponsored by a HACA partner program, Capital Idea where they pay my full tuition and for all of my books.”

Moore has applied for the HACA scholarship, and is hopeful she will be granted additional financial support.

“Becoming an RN will afford me the opportunity to provide for my family and do things that I have never done before,” Moore said.

If you would like more information about the FSS Program or other partner programs like the ones offered through Capital Idea, please contact your property’s FSS coordinator.



*Moore is studying to be a registered nurse and hopes to someday help deliver babies and care for mothers.*

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## Let EGBI Show You How to Make Your Business a Success

If you’ve ever wanted to start a business, now’s the perfect time! The Economic Growth Business Incubator (EGBI) will present the Emerging Enterprises Training Program - Marketing and Sales Module - from 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays April 21 to May 19 at 1144 Airport Blvd., Suite 260. Topics include business planning, understanding customers and competition, sales and pricing, and profitable promotions. Attendees will receive free unlimited business coaching and a free Chamber of Commerce membership. Income-based discounts and scholarships are available. For more information or to register, call (512) 928-2594.



## i-DADS Encourages Fathers to Develop and Succeed

Are you a father searching for a new career opportunity? Do you want to succeed and develop in a new, positive way?

The i-DADS (Involved Dads Accessing, Developing, Succeeding) program is designed to promote supportive access to employment, education and training to develop the future of your success!

Participants are not required to be on the public housing lease to join i-DADS. Those who join the program will have the opportunity to participate in activities to improve their finances, health, communication skills, and education.

If you are interested in learning more about i-DADS, contact Michelle Akers, workforce and wellness specialist, at (512) 767-7826 or email [franchescac@hacanet.org](mailto:franchescac@hacanet.org) before April 8. Space is limited.



*Fathers' involvement in their children's lives has been shown to have a positive effect on children and their well-being in many areas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For example, positive parental involvement has been shown to increase the chances of success in school.*

## WANTED: Seniors at Mayfest

HACA is on the lookout for a band of seniors to help celebrate Older Americans Month during the Mayfest from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 20 at the Doris Miller Auditorium, 2300 Rosewood Ave. This year's theme is western. Seniors and persons with disabilities living at HACA properties are encouraged to throw on their jeans, boots and cowboy hats and join the housing authority for a barbecue lunch and fun!

If you don't have a horse, or your wagon is in the shop, call your ROSS specialist or FSS coordinator for transportation.



## Don't Miss These College Scholarship Deadlines!

The deadline for the Housing Authority Insurance (HAI) Group Scholarship and the MexAustin Scholarship is April 30. If you're a HACA resident, are a graduating high school senior or already have a diploma/GED, or if you're currently attending or planning to attend college or technical school, these programs could provide you with funds to help you with your education! For more info., contact Barbara Jackson, Youth Educational Success Manager/ROSS Service Coordinator, at (512) 767-7024 or email [barbaraj@hacanet.org](mailto:barbaraj@hacanet.org).

## GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

Are you reading One Voice? For a chance to win a \$10 gift card, call (512) 477-4488 ext. 2601, and leave a message with your name, phone number, property name and unit number. Mention the key phrase, "April fools!" The first 15 callers will be entered into a drawing to win one of 10 gift cards. Contest open only to public housing residents.



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

HACA Administration	(512) 477-4488
Resident Call Center	(888) 842-4484
Maintenance Work Orders	(512) 477-8518
Section 8/Housing Choice	(512) 477-1314
Fire/Police	911
Non-Emergency Police	311
Poison Center	(800) 222-1222
Quit Smoking	(877) 937-7848

One Voice is published by the Housing Authority of the City of Austin. Submit comments, articles and photos to One Voice via email at: [media@hacanet.org](mailto:media@hacanet.org).

*All submissions must include a name and phone number to be considered. Copy may be edited because of space limitations.*

## OUR MISSION & VISION

To cultivate sustainable affordable housing communities and partnerships that inspire self-reliance, growth and optimism. We envision neighborhoods where poverty is alleviated, communities are healthy and safe, and all people can achieve their full potential.



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Rent due	2
3	4	5 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	6 Core Fitness Class 11 a.m.-2 p.m. @ BTW	7 Free Blood Pressure Check & Pizza Party 11- a.m.-2 p.m. @ Salina  Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ Lakeside	8	9
10	11	12 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	13 Core Fitness Class 11 a.m.-2 p.m. @ BTW	14 Resident Council Gaston 1:30 p.m.  Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ Lakeside	15 Resident Council 3 p.m. Santa Rita	16 Latinitas Noon-1:30 p.m. @ Meadowbrook 2-2:30 p.m. @ Bouldin
17	18 Tax Day  Resident Council Thurmond 1 p.m.	19 Resident Council BTW 11:30 a.m.  Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	20 Core Fitness Class 11 a.m.-2 p.m. @ BTW	21 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ Lakeside	22	23
24	25 Resident Council Meadowbrook/Bouldin 1:30 p.m.	26 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	27 Core Fitness Class 11 a.m.-2 p.m. @ BTW	28 Resident Council Shadowbend, Manchaca, Man. Village, Goodrich Rosewood/Salina 11 a.m.	29	30



INTERNET ACCESS + DEVICES + EDUCATION

# Digital Inclusion

## What is digital inclusion?

Today lots of Americans don't share the benefits the Internet and computers provide. People are taking action to save time, money, get information and stay connected with friends and family. HACA is the first housing authority in the nation to provide free basic Internet to every resident. But having access to the Internet doesn't mean you can take advantage of everything the Web can offer! That's why Austin Pathways is providing computer literacy classes and ensuring graduates of those classes can earn a computer for their homes.

## How do I get a computer?

As a HACA public housing resident, you can earn a free refurbished computer by completing computer classes offered by our partners, which include AEM Foundation, Skillpoint, Latinitas, United Way, Boys and Girls Club and Austin Free-Net. For more information about digital literacy classes, contact Catherine Crago at (512) 477-4488 ext. 2109 or email [catherinec@hacanet.org](mailto:catherinec@hacanet.org). Thank you to Austin Community College for donating refurbished computers.

### How HACA Residents are Using Computers to Improve Their Lives



#### Employment

- ♦ Search for **jobs**
- ♦ Build a resume
- ♦ Develop technological skills needed for jobs



[WorkInTexas.com](http://WorkInTexas.com)

#### Health

- ♦ Access information for a health condition
- ♦ Track a chronic health condition
- ♦ Learn about **health care** options



[HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov)

#### Everyday

- ♦ Look up **cooking** recipes
- ♦ Find changes to bus routes
- ♦ Listen to a favorite artist
- ♦ Online **banking**



[capmetro.org](http://capmetro.org)

#### Resources

- ♦ Apply for SNAP benefits
- ♦ Get neighborhood **crime** alerts
- ♦ Pay utility bills online



[coautilities.com](http://coautilities.com)

#### Connecting

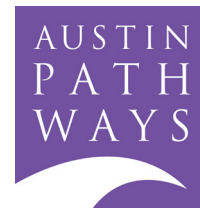
- ♦ Use social media to share photos with friends and family
- ♦ Use web chat to stay connected to long distance **family** members



<http://austintexas.gov/digitalinclusion>



*HACA residents like Ernesto Resto (left) work as Digital Ambassadors to help families learn to use the Internet, save money and time, and earn a refurbished computer to use at home.*



The road to success.

UNLOCKING THE  
CONNECTION

Connecting Families to Opportunity

## Spring classes start soon!