

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.

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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MARCH 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Rent due Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	2	3 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ Lakeside	4	5 Girls Leading Girls Through Tech 10 a.m.-2 p.m. @ Meadowbrook
6	7	8 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	9	10 Resident Council Gaston 1:30 p.m. Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ Lakeside	11	12 Girls Leading Girls Through Tech 10 a.m.-2 p.m. @ Meadowbrook
13	14	15 Resident Council BTW 11:30 a.m. Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	16	17 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ Lakeside	18 Resident Council 3 p.m. Santa Rita	19 Girls Leading Girls Through Tech 10 a.m.-2 p.m. @ Meadowbrook Latinitas Noon-1:30 p.m. @ Meadowbrook 2-2:30 p.m. @ Bouldin
20	21 Resident Council Thurmond 1 p.m.	22 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	23	24 Resident Council Shadowbend, Manchaca, Man. Village, Goodrich Rosewood/Salina 11 a.m. Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ Lakeside	25	26
27	28 Resident Council Meadowbrook/Bouldin 1:30 p.m.	29 Quit Tobacco Class 1-2 p.m. @ North Loop	30	31		

ONE VOICE

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New Affordable Housing Complex Coming to South Austin

The Austin Affordable Housing Corporation (AAHC), a HACA subsidiary, in partnership with Ryan Companies US, Inc., has begun construction on Urban Oaks, an affordable multi-family development situated on eight acres near the intersection of Circle S Road and William Cannon Drive in south Austin. The project is expected to be completed by Spring 2017.

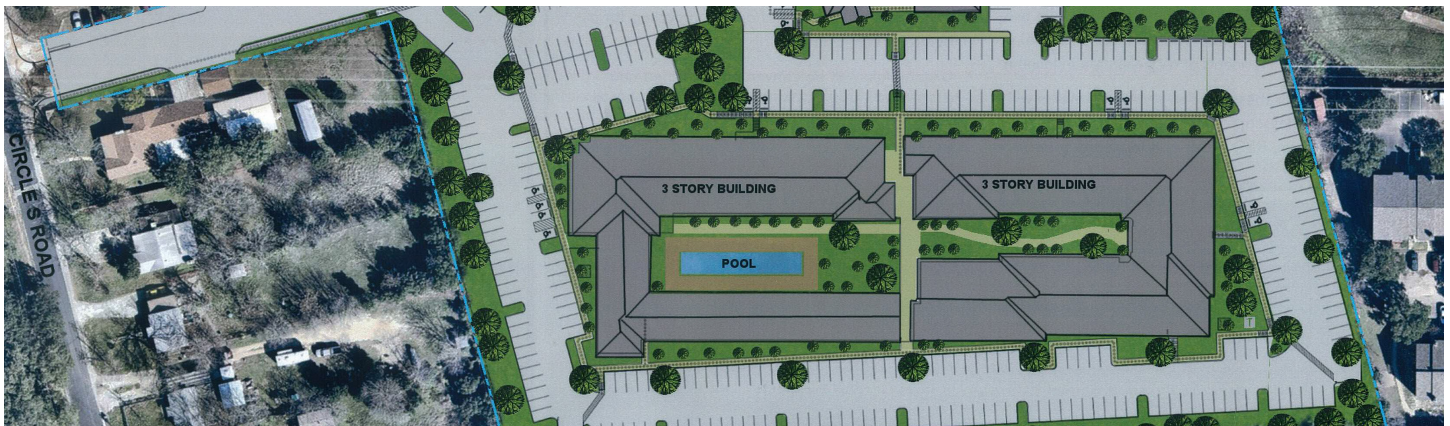
Urban Oaks is a proposed workforce housing development intended to enhance the neighborhood and provide housing for individuals and families earning 60 percent of the Area Median Income. The development will offer a mix of town homes and traditional-style apartments and proposes 194 total units — 69 one-bedroom, 115 two-bedroom, and 10 three-bedroom units. Amenities include a playscape, pool, community room, fitness center, barbecue grills, and a fenced dog park.

To mark the start of construction, representatives from AAHC, Ryan Companies and a small group of guests recently gathered at the building site for a ceremonial ground breaking. The event was also attended by notable politicians and community leaders, including Austin City Council Member Delia Garza, District 2.



(From left) AAHC Real Estate Manager/Broker Monica Garcia; AAHC VP of Housing Development/Asset Management Ron Kowal; HACA Board Chair Carl S. Richie Jr.; District 2 Austin City Council Member Delia Garza; Ryan Companies Director of Development, SouthCentral Region David Knoll; AAHC Homeownership Coordinator Suzanne Schwertner; HACA President & CEO Mike Gerber; and Ryan Companies President, SouthCentral Region, Hunter Barrier

Through the Austin Energy Green Building Program, the Urban Oaks development project will be energy, water and materials-efficient and include drought tolerant landscaping and on-site recycling for a healthier environment.



Goodrich Place Resident Uses Success to Empower Others

Goodrich Place resident Merhdat Arasteh recently graduated from the six-week Skillpoint Alliance Empower computer proficiency program, where he gained confidence to compete in the modern job market.

Arasteh values education, and considers himself a lifelong learner. In addition to his Empower certificate, he has completed Austin Free-Net's Tech Starter I program offered as part of HACA's Unlocking the Connection initiative, and earned a free refurbished computer device.

Digital Ambassador Ernesto Resto, a Meadowbrook resident, helped Arasteh configure his home computer so he can run two operating systems — Windows and ECAD, a special drawing program for construction and architecture.

He is using his newfound computer skills to inspire others to become digitally literate by participating as a member of HACA's Lab Apprenticeship Program. Congratulations Merhdat!



DID YOU KNOW...

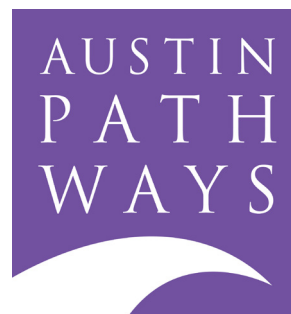
**QUALIFYING LOW-INCOME
RESIDENTS CAN GET A
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Help Amplify Austin Pathways

Austin Pathways, HACA's nonprofit subsidiary, has awarded almost \$1 million in scholarships since 2011. You can help people reach their educational and self-sufficiency goals by donating a minimum of \$10 during I Live Here, I Give Here's Amplify Austin Day of giving from 6 p.m. March 8 to 6 p.m. March 9. Visit: <https://amplifyatx.ilivehereigivehere.org/AustinPathways> to get involved. Don't forget to Like Austin Pathways on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to share our social media posts!



The road to success.



Enter the \$mart Kid Essay Contest and Win Money for College

In support of Financial Literacy Month, the Financial Fitness Great Austin \$mart Kid Essay Contest, presented by Capital One Bank, encourages middle and high school students in the Greater Austin area to answer a \$mart Kid question for a chance to win a scholarship. The essay submission deadline is April 14.

The \$mart Kid Essay Contest is aimed at helping students develop knowledge of financial concepts, understand budgets, recognize the importance of financial planning, and become better prepared for future roles as consumers, investors and employees.

Middle school students grades 6-8 are encouraged to answer the question with an essay of 300 words or less, and high school students grades 9-12 are asked to answer the question in 500 words or less. Six scholarships will be awarded:

High school

First Place: \$2,000

Second Place: \$1,000

Third Place: \$500

Middle School

First Place: \$750

Second Place: \$500

Third Place: \$250

This year's \$mart Kid Question is: "You want to make a difference in the world and your dream is to attend college. However, your family does not have enough money to pay for your education. Together, you and your family need to find ways to afford college."

Address all of the following points in your essay:

- What do you want to be when you grow up?
- How would attending college impact you, your family, and the community?
- What are the biggest challenges to afford college?
- Are you enrolled in dual credit/college equivalent courses? What are the benefits of taking these courses? If not enrolled, which courses would you be interested in taking and why? For more information, visit www.austincc.edu/high-school-to-college.
- What other actions and potential solutions can you and your family take to make college more affordable?

For more information, visit www.financialfitnessaustin.org.



In 2015, the average total tuition, room and board rates charged for full-time undergraduate students for one year of college in the U.S. was \$23,600 for a four-year institution, according to the Statistic Brain Research Institute.

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, "I feel lucky." The first 15 callers will be entered into a drawing to win one of 10 gift cards. Contest open only to public housing residents.