

ONE VOICE

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

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Congratulations to HACA's New City-Wide Advisory Board Officers!

HACA residents have a new group of fearless leaders following last month's City-Wide Advisory Board elections.

Congratulations to incoming City-Wide Advisory Board President Rachel Martinez of Georgian Manor; Vice President Felicia Vargas of Thurmond Heights; and Secretary Alice Merida of Gaston Place.

Thank you for your service and willingness to represent the needs and interests of individuals and families living at HACA's 18 communities.

A big thank you also goes to outgoing City-Wide officers Maleah Douglas of Thurmond Heights; and Bill Alexander of North Loop for your leadership and dedication.



HACA Partners Keep Kids Busy During Spring Break

It's almost time for Spring Break! Austin Independent School District students will be out of school March 13-17. Not sure what to do with the kids? HACA has a few ideas!

Boys & Girls Club

The Boys & Girls Club provides on-site and off-site, school break activities for children and teens living at HACA properties. Programs include educational, cultural, risk-prevention, technology and recreational activities.

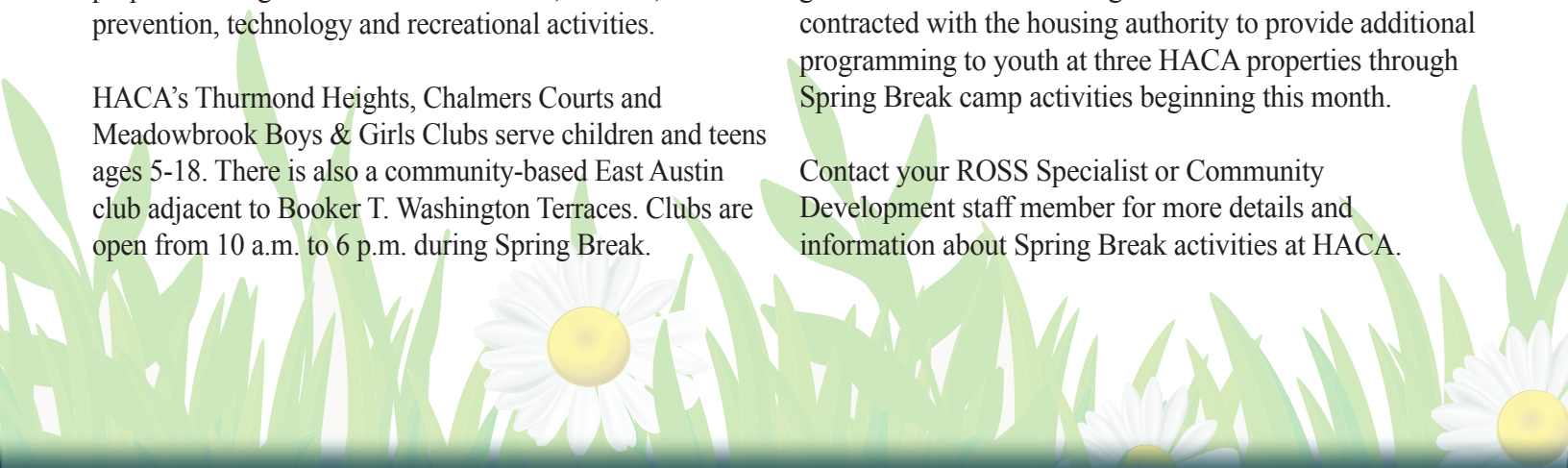
HACA's Thurmond Heights, Chalmers Courts and Meadowbrook Boys & Girls Clubs serve children and teens ages 5-18. There is also a community-based East Austin club adjacent to Booker T. Washington Terraces. Clubs are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. during Spring Break.

Creative Action

Creative Action provides Saturday arts programming at Santa Rita through a grant provided by the City of Austin to serve the Holly Street neighborhood.

Children and pre-teens ages 6-13 engage in arts activities while working on social and emotional skills with the guidance of skilled teaching artists. Creative Action has contracted with the housing authority to provide additional programming to youth at three HACA properties through Spring Break camp activities beginning this month.

Contact your ROSS Specialist or Community Development staff member for more details and information about Spring Break activities at HACA.



Learn How to Rock Your Summer Job!

HACA will host pre-employment trainings from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 13-15 at Booker T. Washington Terraces, 905 Bedford Ave for teenagers interested in earning money over the summer. Lunch will be provided, and participants will have a chance to win prizes each day.

To be considered for possible placement, students must have completed 15 hours of approved pre-employment training. Students will have the opportunity to work an average of 96 hours in one of two five-week sessions during the summer (while earning minimum wage).

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be age 14 to 17. You can qualify if you are 13, but you must turn 14 on or before April 1.
- Parents must attend the first hour of the first training day
- Must be a Travis County resident
- Must be currently enrolled and attending school
- Must bring a valid current school year student ID or other government issued picture ID
- Must bring a Social Security card
- To RSVP or make transportation arrangements, contact Jobs Plus staff members Tiffany Middleton at (512) 766-1404 or tiffanym@hacanet.org; or Jeannette Gonzalez at (512) 730-0116 or jeannettego@hacanet.org.



HACA teens recently attended a Summer Youth Employment Information session at BTW to learn skills including professionalism, time management, and communication, that they can use while working over the summer.

RAD Construction Done at Manchaca Village; Begins at Shadowbend

Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) rehab construction to improve the inside of the apartments at Manchaca Village is finished! However, residents may also notice exterior improvements happening at the community. Crews have been working on site to put fresh landscaping at the front entrance of the property, outside of the Property Manager's Office, and around the playground. New sidewalks also have been added.

Shadowbend Ridge and North Loop are next on the RAD rehab schedule. Construction crews are now on site at both locations, working hard to make exciting improvements for HACA families.



Smart Work, Learn, Play Program

HACA will soon recruit residents at its properties to become mobility ambassadors through a new program called Smart Work, Learn, Play.

Mobility ambassadors will work with community partners like the Austin Transportation Department, Capital Metro and Car2Go, Latinitas and the LBJ School, to train other HACA residents to use technology to navigate transportation in Austin and improve options.

The goal of the Smart Work, Learn, Play program is to give a segment of the community that has been historically transit-challenged, access to essential government services, and foster greater civic engagement among residents.

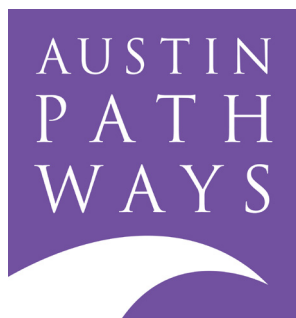
Last year, Next Century Cities awarded HACA a Benton Next Generation Engagement Award. Next Century Cities granted HACA \$30,000 for its innovative proposal to empower housing authority residents to take a greater role in their communities.



(From left) Transit Empowerment Fund Chair Janet Allen; Transit Empowerment Fund Executive Director Sam Woollard; Austin Pathways Strategic Initiatives and Resource Development Manager Catherine Crago; City of Austin Digital Inclusion Program Manager John Speirs; Skillpoint Alliance NTEN Fellow Ernesto Resto; LBJ School Professor Sherri Greenberg; HACA Mobility Ambassador Jan Morgan; HACA President & CEO Mike Gerber; Deputy Director Next Century Cities Todd O'Boyle; Latinitas Laura O'Donnelly; General Manager of Car2Go James Emery; Austin Community College IT Intern Atif Hamed; UT City Hall Fellow Tony Nunez; and Austin Pathways Program Coordinator Tracy Yetter.

Amplify Austin Pathways March 2!

HACA and its nonprofit subsidiary Austin Pathways are dedicated to helping public housing residents reach their self-sufficiency goals. On Amplify Austin Day, March 2-3, you can help, too! Schedule a minimum \$10 donation to Austin Pathways' Amplify Austin campaign at: <https://amplifyatx.ilivehereigivehere.org/AustinPathways>. Your donation helps provide bus passes and child care services for working parents living in public housing, as well as after-school homework tutoring for children, and GED tests for public housing residents. You may also cheer on HACA and Austin Pathways during Amplify Austin by liking us on Facebook and following us on Twitter! Didn't make the March 3 deadline? No problem. Donations are still being accepted. Call Catherine Crago at (512) 477-4488 ext. 2109 or email catherinec@hacanet.org for more information.



The road to success.



Apply for a HACA Scholarship!

Did you know HACA has given out more than \$1M in scholarships? You could be next! Scholarship applicants must be current HACA residents or HCV tenants; a graduating high school senior, or already have high school diploma/GED; and currently attending or planning to attend a college, university, technical school or other post-secondary school. The deadline for the Austin Pathways HACA Scholarship application is **March 10**. Get the application at: www.hacanet.org/residents/scholarships.php. More info: (512) 477-4488 ext. 3405.



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. Say the key word: "LEPRECHAUN." The first 15 callers could 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 |
| RAD Hotline | (844) HACA-RAD |

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 2017

*Editor's Note: Scheduled meetings are subject to change.
Resident Council meeting dates/times are currently under review.*

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|----------|
| | | | 1 Rent due Ash Wednesday | 2 Amplify Austin | 3 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Georgian 1:30 p.m. @ Santa Rita | 4 |
| 5 | 6 Resident Council 1:30 p.m. @ Bouldin | 7 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Coronado | 8 Resident Council 10:30 a.m. @ Northgate 1:30 p.m. @ North Loop | 9 HACA Annual Board Meeting-Noon @1124 S. IH-35 Resident Council 1:30 p.m. @ Gaston RAD Meeting 4 & 5:30 p.m. @ Chalmers | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Daylight Saving Time Begins | 13 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Lakeside 1:30 p.m. @ Meadowbrook | 14 Citywide 10 a.m. | 15 RAD Meeting 4 & 5:30 p.m. @ Georgian | 16 Resident Council 10:30 a.m. @ Chalmers 1:30 p.m. @ Rosewood/Salina | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 |
| 19 | 20 First Day of Spring Resident Council 1 p.m. @ Thurmond | 21 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ BTW | 22 RAD Meeting 10:30 a.m. @ Gaston | 23 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Goodrich 1:30 p.m. @ Man. 11 1:30 p.m. @ Man. Village 1:30 p.m. @ Shadowbend | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 RAD Meeting 10:30 a.m. @ North Loop | 29 | 30 | 31 | |