

## Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — February 12, 2018 CONTACT: Beth Phillips, <u>bethp@hacanet.org</u> (512) 767-7725

## HACA INVITES COMMUNITY TO CELEBRATE 80 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

- WHAT: The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) has reached an exciting milestone as the agency marks 80 years of delivering safe, healthy, and affordable housing to nearly 19,000 Austinites. To commemorate this momentous occasion, the agency is throwing a family-friendly community celebration.
- WHEN: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday (Feb. 13)
- WHERE: Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex, 1156 Hargrave St.
- EVENT: HACA clients, community and elected leaders, and various other community partners, are invited to join the agency for a barbecue lunch. Guests will also have the opportunity to peruse a gallery of historical HACA photos, participate in fun children's activities, and enjoy dancing and music from the 1930s and 1940s.

HACA was one of the first three housing authorities created in the United States as a result of the Housing Act of 1937, co-authored by then-Congressman Lyndon Baines Johnson. On December 23, 1937, HACA's first organizational meeting was held, and the ground work began soon after for construction of its first public housing property. The first residents moved into Santa Rita Courts in 1939.

Today, HACA has 18 public housing developments with nearly 1,900 units, and administers the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program to subsidize housing in the private rental market for almost 6,000 low-income individuals and families, including children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. Many of HACA's HCV special vouchers serve high-need populations.

In addition, HACA has added more than 2,000 high-quality affordable rental units to meet our city's housing needs through our nonprofit subsidiary Austin Affordable Housing Corporation.