



ONEVOICE

JUNE 2020
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN

HACA's Commitment to Racial Equality



The recent tragic deaths of people of color in Minnesota, Georgia and here in Austin have deeply upset and saddened HACA leadership and staff. At HACA, we make it a priority to celebrate the diversity of our staff and residents. Seeing such brutal acts, as well as the protests and anger that has followed, reminds us all that we need to do more. We need to do better.

Starting in June, HACA will launch a Diversity Task Force to improve conversations about racism, look for solutions, and find peaceful actions we can take together to make progress. Look for more information in the weeks and months ahead on how you can get involved in improving the HACA community in a way that lifts up, supports, and respects everyone's identity and culture.

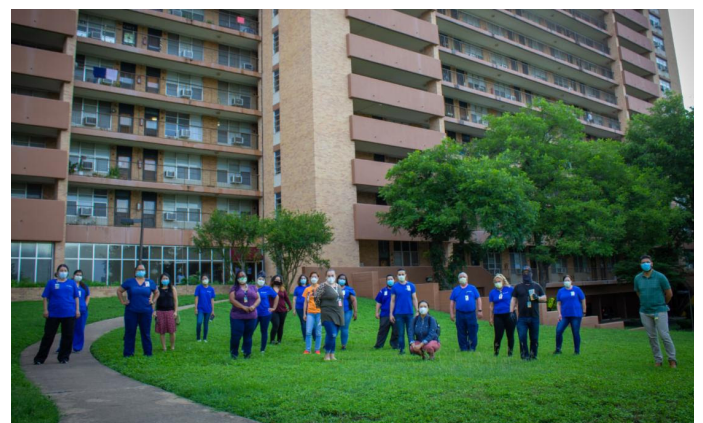
So what can we do now?

- 1.) Turn in your 2020 Census.** It is crucial that the Census gets an accurate count of who you are. Federal funding is based on the Census numbers, so we need every HACA household to be counted.
- 2.) Vote.** One of the greatest acts we can take as Americans is to vote for what we believe in. For those of you with mobility challenges, you can vote by mail. Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/Mail-Voting> If you need to register to vote, go to <https://vote.gov>

Free COVID-19 Testing Comes to Lakeside

Last week, CommUnityCare and HACA's Bringing Health Home team provided free door-to-door COVID-19 testing to Lakeside Apartments. CommUnityCare staff administered the nasal swab tests to any resident that gave consent to be tested, while HACA and Bringing Health Home staff helped facilitate communications with residents, and kept everyone safe.

"Weeks ago, a resident at Lakeside called me because they accessing a COVID-19 test was nearly impossible. They were at elevated risk, had several symptoms, and no way to safely reach a testing site." said Rodolfo Rodriguez, Director of Health & Wellness Ecosystem after the event. "This resident inspired a novel collaboration between HACA and CommUnityCare: to bring free and safe COVID-19 testing to them and their high-risk neighbors at Lakeside who similarly faced transportation challenges."



In all, 85 residents took part in the free coronavirus testing and should receive test results in two to five days. View a video of the eventful day at Lakeside here: <https://bit.ly/LakesideTest>



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.

Coming Back Home to Goodrich



Last month, former Goodrich Place residents began to move back to the newly rebuilt Pathways at Goodrich Place in South Austin. First, Goodrich Resident Council President Jerry Dawson made the move. His initial impression of his new home was positive, and he was especially happy to have central air conditioning with summer heat approaching.

Amy Carpenter and Jerry Hurta also returned home to Goodrich in May after living at Lakeside during construction.

"I am so pleased to have room for my plants on my wonderful balcony," said Amy after moving into her brand new home.

Jerry Hurta added "The view of the courtyard from our unit is amazing, and I really love the light fixtures."



Senior Mayfest Tribute

The month of May is when we traditionally get together to celebrate HACA's senior citizens for one of the biggest parties of the year at Senior Mayfest. This year would have been the 27th year in a row we held the annual event, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to cancel all large events to help stop the spread.

While we were not able to get together in person for the Mayfest, we can still take a motivational moment and watch this quick video tribute to HACA's senior leaders:

<https://bit.ly/MayfestTribute>



Free Tax Return Help

The IRS has extended the due date for filing your taxes to July 15, 2020.



If you need help with your tax return, our partners at Foundation Communities have free resources available. To learn more, call 512-610-7374, or visit their website: foundcom.org/prosper-centers/

IMPORTANT HACA Phone Numbers

HACA Administration	(512) 477-4488
Resident Call Center	(888) 842-4484
Maintenance Work Orders	(512) 477-8518
Section 8/Housing Choice Voucher	(512) 477-1314
Fire/Police	call 911
Non-Emergency Police	call 311
Poison Center	(800) 222-1222
Quit Smoking	(877) 937-7848
RAD Hotline	(844) HACA-RAD