

Aleman Family Secures Home and Hopeful Financial Future

Jose and Rosa Aleman moved their family from Mexico to Austin in search of a better future for their three daughters. When they arrived in 2003, the family struggled financially and ended up moving multiple times due to rising rents. They were introduced to us through our Community Tax Centers and ultimately moved into our Trails at Vintage Creek community.

“Living at Vintage Creek was crucial,” Jose said. “It allowed my family to save money each month.”

Jose, a mechanical engineer and legal permanent resident of the U.S., left his construction job in Mexico because business was slow. He and Rosa decided to leave their home country and extended families behind so that their daughters could have the best educational and professional opportunities possible.

The Aleman family lived at Vintage Creek for two and a half years. During that time, Jose and Rosa participated in our matched savings program. For every \$1 residents save, we match up to \$8 (with a cap of \$2,000) and residents are able to use these funds to pursue higher education, purchase their own home or start a small business.

With the assistance of our matched savings program and homebuyer classes, the Alemans left Vintage Creek in 2010 and bought their first home.

Melanie, the youngest of the Aleman children, was excited when they moved into their new house. “I could have a dog and paint my own walls,” Melanie said. “I could really make it my home.”



Rosa, Melanie, and Jose

The Alemans have also participated in our one-on-one financial coaching, college financial aid assistance, and Insure Central Texas programs.

Jose, Rosa and their three daughters have utilized nearly every free financial stability program we offer. As a result, the Alemans sent their two older daughters to college and Melanie will be attending UT Austin in the fall. Each of the Aleman children have lived out their parents’ dreams for them — graduating at the top of their class and seeking out fulfilling careers.

Melanie hopes to be admitted into the engineering program at UT so that she can follow in her father’s footsteps. “My dad gave up his career for us to have a better education,” Melanie said. “That motivates me every day.”

Jose said his family has always had a good experience with the trained volunteers who staff our financial stability programs, and he and Rosa regularly tell their friends about what a difference our services have made in their lives.

Our aim is to empower families with the financial tools they need to succeed. The Aleman family is a shining example of persistence, dedication and hard work paying off in the end.



HELP OUR KIDS DREAM BIG

Every child deserves the opportunity to dream big.

You can make this possible for the students in our after-school program by becoming a Learning Center volunteer. As a volunteer, you’ll assist with homework or lead enrichment activities. A couple of hours a week can change a child’s life. Come see!

Visit the “Get Involved” section of our website, www.FoundCom.org, for more information.

Meet Some of Our NEWEST RESIDENTS!

Our Bluebonnet Studios community on South Lamar is now open and we are welcoming new residents home. We asked three Bluebonnet residents to share their experiences. James, Bob and Robert are all formerly homeless veterans who moved to Bluebonnet in December.



“I’m from the country where it’s nice and quiet. Bluebonnet is like that – nice and quiet. It’s a good thing.” —**James**



“I wake up every morning and look around, it’s almost overwhelming.”

We went from living on the streets to picking our own apartments. It was a great Christmas.” —**Bob**



“The first thing the people that work here said to me was ‘welcome home.’ The staff has made the transition so easy.” —**Robert**



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Foundation Communities provides attractive, affordable homes and free on-site support services for thousands of working families with kids, as well as veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. We offer an innovative, proven model that empowers our residents and neighbors to achieve educational success, financial stability, and healthier lifestyles. We own and operate 22 properties in Austin and North Texas.

Need Help With Your Taxes?

- Community Tax Centers free to households up to \$55K/yr
- IRS-certified volunteer preparers
- 6 convenient locations
- Appointment or walk-in
- Fast refund with e-file



For locations and hours call 2-1-1 or visit www.CommunityTaxCenters.org

Foundation Communities Updates



Announcing College Hub

We are excited to share the news about College Hub — our new one-stop shop for nontraditional students who want to start or finish a college degree or certificate. College Hub includes a wide range of support services to help students consider their education options, navigate the admissions process and financial aid assistance, and

access Free Minds, our college humanities course run in partnership with UT and ACC. You can learn more about College Hub by visiting the Financial Stability section of our website, www.FoundCom.org.

Thank You for all the Holiday Love!

Through our Holiday Assistance Program, we matched 407 families with community sponsors — the most ever! We also raised nearly \$20,000 and received car-loads of gifts for our holiday drive. Our hearts are so full. Your generosity means the world to the families we serve.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Let's Amplify Austin

Our calendars are already marked for Amplify Austin March 2-3 and we hope yours are too!

We can't wait to participate in this citywide day of giving again.

Stay tuned for information on how you can join us!