

Leaving a Legacy

"Foundation Communities will get all my belongings if my spouse predeceases me," Ray Collins said thoughtfully. "About seven years ago I put them in my will." Ray explained that he has great respect for the FC leadership and complete trust in their vision and their ability to use his funds wisely and effectively.

"Check out their track record!" he said.

Ray's parents demonstrated to him that you help people who are struggling. He remembers the long rides from south Texas to Austin he took with them, as they accompanied children they sponsored for the Texas School for the Deaf and the Texas School for the Blind. His mother also taught kindergarten at a mission supported by their church. Many of her students came from low-income families and arrived shoeless on cold mornings. As a family, they visited the children's homes and traced their feet in order to obtain footwear through a Salvation Army program.

"Seeing the children, their families, and where they were living - all that made a big impression on me," Ray continued.

As an adult, when a paraplegic member of his church family wanted to learn to live independently, Ray saw first-hand how **housing can completely change a life** when he met a homeless stranger, Henry, and arranged for the two men to live together in their own apartment. It was a win-win for both of them. "It was amazing to watch," Ray stated. "Because Henry had his own address, his own bed and shower, and because the apartment was on a bus line, he was able to get a job. And that changed everything for him."

A few years later Ray was invited to a couple of different events at Foundation Communities. "We took a tour of Sierra Ridge and heard all about the learning center," he reported. "It reminded me of my Mother sitting with me and other children at our kitchen table going over lessons after school. I also saw what an impact that learning center, the people running it, and the children in it had on the ratings of a nearby elementary school. **But more important was the fact that entire families were affected.**"

"Later we visited a community for single adults," Ray continued. "We listened as residents spoke about their hardships and then described how having a home had transformed their lives. I learned that Foundation Communities not only provided affordable housing, but also vital support services to help people get back on their feet.

"Since that open house we have donated time and money and advocated for Foundation Communities. I am following in the path my parents laid out for me. My bequest to FC will be my mark on the future through the lives of the adults and children who will have a place to live and flourish, just as my parents marked me long decades ago."



OUR BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

We are so thankful to all who participated — you are helping the children in our communities start the school year with supplies they need to succeed.

1,555
backpacks + supplies

\$14,000
in donations



Would you consider including Foundation Communities in your will and estate planning?



If you wish to learn more about our planned giving options, we are here to work with you every step of the way. For more information, please contact:

DONNA WILLIAMS

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Foundation Communities is a local, homegrown nonprofit, providing affordable, beautiful homes and free on-site support services for thousands of families.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED THIS FALL

Last year, our amazing volunteers helped more than 5,000 people enroll in health insurance through the Marketplace and claim \$52.2 million in financial assistance.

We are currently seeking volunteers to help screen and guide residents through the process again this year. This is an important and meaningful way to have a positive impact in the community.

Volunteers work one-on-one with consumers, helping them find peace of mind for the future.

Interested in learning more about the time commitment and training?
Contact **ELIANA BRANT** at 512-610-7375 or eliana.brant@foundcom.org.



HEALTHY HABITS TAKE PRACTICE

After four weeks training early in the morning, to avoid the July heat, children from our Southwest Trails and Live Oak Trails communities hit the ground running on July 31 in the "Relays at the Trails." The children competed in teams and all finished like champions.

The relay was part of our Health Initiatives program, with services that include fitness and wellness classes for adults, health screenings, and physical activities for kids. Amerigroup funded the program, providing running shoes, t-shirts and healthy snacks. In addition to the race, a health fair was held to provide important information to all in attendance.



**COMING SOON
Our Newest Community**

The Jordan at Mueller will open this fall, welcoming 132 low-income families, including several who were formerly homeless. The community is in close proximity to jobs, grocery stores, retail centers, public transportation, Dell Children's Hospital and lots of kid/pet-friendly outdoor spaces.

Like our other communities, The Jordan is being built following the highest green standards and will house our 14th Learning Center providing child and adult academic programming all year long.

