

Family Regains Stability Through Children's Home Initiative

When their third child was born, Marta and Wenceslao Gomez shifted from having feelings of great joy to deep concern, as their son Abrahan struggled with medical issues.

The couple, who were living in the Sierra Vista apartments at the time, already had two daughters, Lucero and Estrella, and now they were faced with the possibility of losing their infant son.

For his first six months, Abrahan was in and out of the hospital. Wenceslao worked seasonally as a landscaper. He didn't have a car and missed a lot of work while spending time at the hospital. He lost his job.

"We were heartbroken," Marta said.

The family now faced financial challenges and learned they qualified for the Children's Home Initiative (CHI), which helps at-risk families find stability.

Once the couple enrolled in the program, they were paired with a case manager who helped them access resources. They started receiving support, including reduced rent, assistance with utility bills and food from the on-site food pantry.

"We could afford the rent and breathe easier," Marta explained.

Lucero and Estrella, always good students, found additional homework support at the Learning Center, allowing them to stay on top of their schoolwork, despite the family's challenging circumstances.

In time, Abrahan grew stronger and healthier and the family could begin to relax. Wenceslao found steady work, and Marta

started taking advantage of the on-site ESL classes, parenting classes, and healthy cooking classes. In addition, she participates in walking groups and fitness classes.

Her daughter Lucero is involved in Running Buddies, which helps children build healthy habits and pairs them with adult running mentors, setting a good example for her younger siblings. And, the best news of all, today Abrahan is a happy, healthy and active little boy.

The support and care the family received from their neighbors and the staff, are things the Gomez's will never forget.



"I love being part of such a caring community," Marta said.
"Living here has been a gift from God."

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Hundreds Wait to Lease at The Jordan at Mueller

In a matter of days, almost every unit at The Jordan at Mueller was leased to excited new residents because the need for affordable housing is so great in Austin.

The Jordan will open its doors to 132 low-income families in a few weeks. At the heart of The Jordan is its Learning Center, which will serve as the hub for afterschool, educational programming and health and fitness classes for residents. A new community park will open directly across the street from The Jordan in late 2020.

STAY TUNED
*New Properties
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WATERLOO TERRACE, located at 12190 N. MoPac Expwy, near The Domain and St. David's Medical Center, will be home to 132 homeless and low-income veterans, seniors and those with disabilities. It is expected to open in 2020.

LAUREL CREEK, at 11704 N. Lamar, will open in 2021 and provide 88 deeply-affordable apartments for families who require additional supports.