



Mission Plaza  
Austin, TX

# IMPACT

Nov-Dec 2020

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## When Housing Means Everything

Deja has worked hard for years to secure a home for herself and her son, Rashad. The small family found themselves constantly on the move, changing neighborhoods and schools in search of affordable housing in Austin.

"I obtained my associate's in criminal justice and in general studies while living at [a] single-mother's program that provided assistance if you had a kid and were enrolled in post-secondary education," Deja said.



When she graduated, Deja's temporary housing requirements changed suddenly, leaving her just 90 days to find a new home. Thankfully, Deja discovered and applied to the Children's Home Initiative (CHI) at Foundation Communities, a supportive housing program for low-income families that provides intensive onsite case management.

"First, I really dreaded case management," Deja explained. However, she went on to say that the CHI program quickly exceeded her expectations.

Deja was particularly grateful for the support she received when COVID-19 hit. As communities across the globe issued stay-at-home orders, having housing took on a whole new meaning. For Rashad, his home became his classroom, so it was helpful when FC staff dropped off craft supplies, workbooks and a backpack.

Deja has also been able to meet virtually with an FC financial coach "about credit, home ownership, and budgeting using a virtual vision board." She described how Foundation Communities celebrated her progress through incentives when she got a new job, or paid her rent on time.

"The support in which I dreaded at first was the number one thing I look forward to now," Deja shared. Unlike living in temporary housing, Deja and Rashad found a sense of belonging at Cardinal Point.

**"Moving here, I felt like I was paying rent and it was my house," Deja shared with a warm smile. "I could decorate my house and buy my own furniture. Here, I had a lot more freedom."**

Without the stress of finding affordable housing, their family can finally focus on the future.

**"I'm working toward something that I own myself, so my son can grow into that and not move around as often," Deja shared in excitement. "My goal when I leave here is to own a house or be in a position where I'm almost there."**

Deja continues to move closer to her dream. She has recently completed her Bachelor's degree in criminal justice at Texas State, all while raising Rashad and living at Foundation Communities.

## HEALTH COVERAGE

Open Enrollment

Marketplace Open Enrollment runs Sunday, November 1 through Tuesday, December 15, 2020. Our Prosper Health Coverage teams are offering one-on-one enrollment help by phone this year, Mondays - Saturdays, to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Visit [ProsperHealthCoverage.org](https://ProsperHealthCoverage.org) to complete our online intake form and schedule an appointment, or call our helpline at (512) 381-4520.

We're excited to announce Waterloo Terrace, our 7th affordable community for single adults. Soon, Waterloo will welcome home 132 residents, including veterans, seniors, disabled individuals and those leaving homelessness. Located on MoPac and Parmer, Waterloo features sustainable design, front balconies and convenient access to local business like St. David's Medical Center and H-E-B. Stay tuned for tours as soon as it is safe to gather again!

## WATERLOO TERRACE OPENS SOON



Foundation Communities  
3036 South First Street  
Austin, TX 78704



## T-SHIRTS BY RESIDENT ARTISTS

FC Creates commissioned three resident artists to design posters promoting social distancing, handwashing and mask-wearing.

After inspiring residents inside our communities, these works of art are now available to our neighbors as T-shirts. All sales from these shirts will benefit rent relief and support services through our Emergency Assistance Fund.

[customink.com/fundraising/wear-your-care](https://customink.com/fundraising/wear-your-care)

## HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE



Our Holiday Assistance Program is here and more important than ever! With lost wages caused by the pandemic, so many of our families are concerned about holidays. This year, we're asking for online donations to keep residents and donors safe. Instead of sponsoring one family, you'll have the chance to make a impact on 475 families with over 1,000 kids! We invite you to fundraise with your friends, family, coworkers and faith communities to see your collective impact. [Donate at FoundCom.org/HAP](https://FoundCom.org/HAP)



## BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE

Thanks to your generous donations to our Back to School Drive, we were able to raise over \$100,000 and provide our families with the following:



340 families received \$20,500 for backpacks



174 children received a laptop or tablet



250 families received \$15,000 for clothes



14 Learning Centers received supply funds



335 children received kits for in-person class



12 WiFi hotspots added to our communities



512.447.2026  
[FoundCom.org](https://FoundCom.org)



Foundation Communities provides attractive, affordable homes and free onsite 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 24 properties in Austin and North Texas.



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