

## A Mother's Perseverance Pays off through Laurel Creek

At the March 30th ribbon cutting ceremony for Laurel Creek Apartments, a resident opened her speech with these powerful words:

**"My name is Evelyn Chase...and I am not a victim. I am a survivor!"**

Evelyn is not shy about detailing the abuse she has endured. It caused her to run away from home as a teenager. And, as a mother of three, she escaped twice from her common-law husband due to alleged abuse. Evelyn says they always believed things would get better if they just didn't give up.

**"We focused on turning our pain into perseverance," said Evelyn. "I never allow my pain to dictate my future."**

In 2019, Evelyn began looking for housing she could afford for her family. It was very difficult as she was living on disability - lupus and cancer have prevented her from holding a steady job. The family bounced around between the homes of relatives and friends, an experience that offered no privacy or stability.



Evelyn never stopped looking for housing. After enduring years of rejection from apartment managers who called her a "liability" plus spending months on waiting lists, in August of 2021, Evelyn and her family moved into the Austin Women and Children's Shelter. It was another temporary move, not a home. Finally, it happened. Evelyn received a call from a manager at Laurel Creek who said they had been tentatively approved for an apartment in the complex.

She and her kids were elated.

**"After so many doors closed in our faces, Laurel Creek opened their doors," said Evelyn. "Our joy went to the next level when we came here to view the complex. We didn't know we would be moving into a brand new apartment in a beautiful community."**

The most emotional moment of the speech came when Evelyn held up the keychain and keys she was given as her family moved in. Read more about that and hear her entire speech on our blog at [foundcom.org/blog](https://foundcom.org/blog).

## Ribbon Cutting Sets Stage for Big Announcement

While the primary purpose of the Laurel Creek Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on March 30th was to recognize the funders, builders and others who made the affordable community possible, it also made the perfect backdrop for a big announcement. Austin FC owner and CEO Anthony Precourt thanked Austin's mayor and Council for their help in bringing the soccer team to Austin, and he reiterated the team's agreement to helping solve challenges the city is facing, particularly our lack of affordable housing.



Precourt backed up that commitment by pledging \$3.5 million to Foundation Communities toward the construction of Juniper Creek, an affordable community for families next door to Laurel Creek. "It's truly an honor for Austin FC to be a part of this community and to get to do things like this," said Precourt.

Foundation Communities wants to help you land the job you've been dreaming about! The CAREER Project is a free, new program designed to connect people supporting families or navigating busy schedules with programs that will boost their job skills.

Learn more at [CollegehubATX.com](https://CollegehubATX.com).



The CAREER Project

Foundation Communities  
3000 S IH 35, Ste 300  
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# Face-To-Face Supper Clubs to Return in May



*Supper Club volunteers Trey and Adrian Buchanan with an Arbor Terrace resident after delivering dozens of packaged rotisserie chicken dinners.*

On a recent Saturday, volunteers from St. David's Episcopal Church chatted outside Arbor Terrace. They had just brought food for the community's residents, something they've been doing once a month for about 10 years. But in 2020, the tradition was forced to change because of the pandemic - from a potluck meal served face-to-face, to the drop-off of individually packaged meals.

The volunteers are looking forward to the return of in-person service in May. "We love our friends here at Arbor Terrace," said team leader Trey Buchanan. "It's about sharing and being a part of folks' lives." Due to the pandemic, Foundation Communities' Supper Club program has lost quite a few participants. We are hoping they are as excited to return to in-person service as we are. Learn how you can volunteer with Supper Clubs at [foundcom.org/volunteer](http://foundcom.org/volunteer).



512.447.2026  
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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 26 properties in Austin and North Texas.



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