

Mission Plaza Austin, TX

IMPACT

Nov-Dec 2021

Get involved at foundcom.org

Holiday Assistance Program Comes at a Critical Time

Like most families, the Acostas enjoy the holiday season. If you drop by the Sierra Vista home of Alan, Akemy and their children Ambar and Liam on Christmas Day, expect to hear traditional holiday songs playing. They may also be watching a movie, playing a board game or dancing around the living room. Of course, the part their children like most is opening gifts.



"We want to give our kids presents, and that's how Foundation Communities helps us, and we really appreciate that," said Akemy.

For the past few years, the Acostas have participated in our Holiday Assistance Program. Through the program, generous neighbors can be matched with a Foundation Communities family like the Acostas and send them gift cards, which gives the families the power and privilege to shop for their children. Akemy says it's something the family really needs because their incomes are not steady. Akemy works as a housekeeper and she says her customers often cancel during the holidays because of vacations. Alan does construction work, which tends to slow down during the winter months.

"Sometimes there's weeks we don't work and we have to pay rent, we have to pay for food, and the lights, bills and stuff. And so, we really do need the help," said Akemy.

Akemy says they try to save up for the winter months, but it's not easy. She refers to the Holiday Assistance program as a blessing.

"I don't know how they do it, but they bring us happiness in moments that are really, really hard."

Our families celebrate different holidays, but one thing they have in common is their need for community support. It's not too late to donate or become a sponsor in the Holiday Assistance Program. Visit foundcom.org/holiday to sign up.



Help make the holidays brighter foundcom.org/holiday

WELCOMING FAMILIES HOME TO LAUREL CREEK APARTMENTS

We began accepting and approving applications for residency at Laurel Creek Apartments on North Lamar on November 1. The response from hopeful residents was immediate and the leasing office staff expects to have all 88 of the affordable 1, 2 and 3-bedroom apartments occupied soon.

Among the families we are welcoming home is a man and his three small children who fled the Republic of the Congo in 2019. Tragically, their mother drowned as they passed through Panama.

Once in Austin, the family received assistance with obtaining housing and legal work status from Casa Marianella and Westminster Presbyterian Church. The father lost his first job here due to the pandemic, but he is once again employed, and the family is looking forward to moving into Laurel Creek through our Children's HOME Initiative program.



Thank you sponsors, table hosts and guests!



Watch the full recorded program: foundcom.org/ welcome-home-luncheon-2021

WE NEED TAX HELP VOLUNTEERS







Looking for a way to serve your hardworking neighbors? We need more than 600 people to join our team of Tax Help Volunteers for the upcoming tax season.

Learn more and sign up: foundcom.org/volunteer-with-tax-help

- ▶ No experience needed
- ▶ All training provided
- ▶ Continued support through on-site staff



Rep. Lloyd Doggett speaks at the Open Enrollment Kickoff at Prosper Center South

Making Health Insurance Enrollment Simple

Open Enrollment for Healthcare.gov Marketplace insurance plans for 2022 started November 1 and will last until January 15.

Foundation Communities' Health Coverage Team is simplifying health insurance enrollment for clients, and we've expanded our free Marketplace enrollment assistance program for Texans, with increased outreach to 12 counties. Appointments are available both in-person and by phone for anyone in the state at (512) 381-4520.

Learn more about our how we're helping Texans enroll in affordable health insurance at **foundcom.org/blog**.



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.

