

## **Table Host Packet**

**Welcome Home Luncheon – Tuesday, October 18, 2022**

**11:30am – 1:00pm**

**Laurel Creek Apartments, 11704 N. Lamar Blvd.**

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Thank you for playing a crucial role in our annual fundraising luncheon for 2022. Foundation Communities only has one fundraising EVENT a year. This is it!

We're eager to reach this year's in-person event financial goal of \$750,000+. But we're just as excited about growing our special circle of long-term, dedicated supporters – our Home Builders.

We don't sell tickets or tables to the luncheon. Instead we carefully choose Table Hosts who are already committed to our work – like you - and ask you to invite friends, colleagues, and neighbors who will be moved by our mission – and will choose to invest in us. Of course, we're here to help you every step of the way.

Included in this packet you'll find:

- Our goals for this year's IN-PERSON event
  - Your role as Table Host
  - Table Host key dates
  - Suggestions on who and how to invite guests
  - FAQs about the Welcome Home Luncheon
  - FAQs about Foundation Communities
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### **Our goals for this event:**

At our first fundraising luncheon – held in 2006 – we had 250 guests who gave a total of \$185,000 in one-time gifts and multi-year pledges. Each year since then we've increased the number of guests and the amount we've raised until we hit our sweet spot of 75 tables with 750 guests and the goal of raising \$750,000. *In several years before COVID-19, we actually surpassed this amount!* Now that we can return to an in-person gathering, we're ready to build back toward that ambitious goal...and beyond.

More than just reaching our financial goal, we're really hoping to grow our special circle of long-term, dedicated supporters who make a multi-year pledge to us – our Home Builders. Securing pledges at this luncheon helps us guarantee that we can continue to provide the services that our residents depend on.

### **Your role as Table Host:**

- As a Table Host, we ask you to invite guests to fill a table of 8-10 (including yourself). With 75 Table Hosts we should be able meet our goal of 700-750 guests total.
- Please be strategic in choosing people who you think will want to invest in our work. This doesn't mean that they necessarily have a lot of money – just a big heart and the capacity to give at some level.
- Starting in mid-August, we will send you weekly email guidelines with important updates & suggestions. ***Please read and use them to your advantage!***

### **Key dates:**

- Today – Begin brainstorming your guest list
- **Early August – look for the 'Save the Date' email, start sending it to your guest prospects!**
- Mid-August – Our weekly email communications start
- **First week September – Join us for our Table Host Kick Off event!** Details will follow
- Tues, Sept. 20 – We suggest that you have 5 of your guests confirmed
- Tues, Oct. 4 – We suggest that you have all 10 guests confirmed
- **Tues, Oct. 11 – Deadline for all RSVPs info to FC**
- **Tues, Oct. 18 – Welcome Home Luncheon**

## **Suggestions on who and how to invite guests to your table:**

- Be very thoughtful about your guest list. Start by thinking of friends, colleagues, and neighbors who care about homelessness, affordability, education, financial stability, healthy living, green building and environmental sustainability.
- It's important to gather people who will **want to invest** in the work we do.
- When inviting guests to sit at your table, **let them know what inspires you about us**. And, let them know why you believe they would be inspired also.

## **FAQs about the Welcome Home Luncheon:**

### ***What if my friends and I are not wealthy?***

We value multi-year donors who give \$50/month just as much as those who give \$500/month. Multi-year pledges make it possible for people of modest means to make a big difference. For example, giving just \$84/month for 5 years equals \$5000! When you and your guests pledge to give over time it allows us to better plan and budget for future residents.

### ***What will the luncheon program be like and how long it will last?***

The luncheon is from 11:30am to 1pm. We recommend arriving a little early to enjoy the tour – one of the best parts of the event. The luncheon program begins promptly at noon. We don't invite celebrities to entertain our guests. The star of our show is our mission. Guests see our work in action and hear inspiring stories from the people we serve. Guaranteed to hold your attention!

### ***What will parking be like?***

We will have designated parking areas, plus guides directing all of our guests to the most convenient areas to park. There will also be accommodations for guests with limited mobility. We will include detailed parking instructions in the rsvp reminders.

### ***What will be served for lunch?***

We'll have a variety of sandwiches and salads packaged individually for each guest – including vegetarian options as requested.

### ***What should we wear?***

Many guests will be coming straight from work so we suggest business casual and close toed shoes appropriate for walking across a pre-construction lot.

## **FAQs about Foundation Communities:**

### ***How many communities does Foundation Communities have?***

We currently own and operate 23 affordable housing communities here in Austin with three more currently under construction – and four more in the immediate pipeline. We are home to more than 7000 residents, and our new projects will allow us to serve 2000+ new FC residents! Seven of our current communities are for single adults typically living on veterans' benefits, disability income, or social security. Sixteen are family communities with 1, 2 and 3-bedroom apartments.

### ***How much are rents at Foundation Communities?***

Our rents vary by property, but they are generally about \$300-\$400 less per month than what you'd find in the regular housing market.

### ***How long can people stay at Foundation Communities properties?***

Our housing is permanent as long as residents continue to meet our income guidelines. For many, our housing offers an affordable place to live while working toward their long-term education, financial stability, and health goals. For others, such as those on fixed income, our housing offers a permanent, safe, and affordable housing option.

### ***What are some of the free support services Foundation Communities offers?***

**Education:** Close to 1000 children participate in our after-school and summer learning programs, while their parents increase their literacy and life skills with English as a Second Language and college classes in collaboration with UT and ACC.

**Financial Stability:** Each year as many as 20,000 families receive free income tax preparation. That generates close to \$35 million in local tax refunds. We also offer a range of financial stability programs for individuals to reduce their debt, improve their credit, and save for the future.

**Health:** We've enrolled more than 30,000 individuals in affordable health insurance plans since 2014. Our health programs also include fitness and nutrition classes, access to integrated primary and mental health care, substance abuse counseling, smoking cessation support, and gardening.

**Environmentally Green:** Foundation Communities is a national leader and award winner in green building design and practice. We are also the largest provider of solar power in Central Texas.

### ***How is Foundation Communities funded?***

Foundation Communities is funded by a number of public and private sources. We generate 70-80% of our annual operating budget through the rents our residents pay. We raise the other 20-30% through grants and individual gifts – **pledged primarily at our annual Welcome Home Luncheon.**