



Mission Plaza  
Austin, TX

# IMPACT

October 2024

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[foundcom.org](http://foundcom.org)

## Childcare Prop A Is an Investment in Children, Community

The typical weekday schedule for M Station resident Shontinique Jones is planned down to the minute. She is managing raising three girls and her full-time job with Austin ISD. Shontinique works until 4:30, then has to pick up her seven-month-old. She calls it “clutch” that she doesn’t have to worry where her fourth and first graders E’Myia and Miracle are after school, or if they’re safe. They’re enrolled in M Station’s Learning Center.

**“It really helps with the time, and without it, I honestly don’t know too much that I would be able to do because childcare is very expensive,” said Shontinique.**



a range of enrichment activities—from arts to STEM—that help children discover their unique talents.

**“We’re committed to making sure every child has the chance to succeed—both in and out of the classroom. With public funding, we can expand these programs,” said Rider.**

Public funding for childcare and out-of-school time (OST) programs may be on the way. Travis County Commissioners have placed an initiative on the November ballot for a small tax increase that would

raise about \$70 million. If Proposition A passes, that funding would create more childcare facilities and also help existing childcare providers attract and retain more staff, and higher quality staff who are passionate and skilled. This has been a challenge because of the high cost of living in Austin.

The Learning Center program is offered to parents in our affordable communities for families at no additional cost, and to neighboring families, depending on space and staffing. We would like to expand the program to serve more families at no cost. We would also like to extend the hours to assist parents who don’t work a standard daytime shift, and on days when schools are closed.

Foundation Communities’ Director of Learning Center programs, Daniell Rider, adds that our Learning Centers are more than just a free and safe place for children after school and during the summer. They offer academic support, social-emotional development, mentoring, healthy meals, and

Foundation Communities has joined with Affordable Childcare Now, a coalition of childcare advocates who are working toward passage of Proposition A. We believe Travis County would see an immediate economic benefit from funding more quality childcare and out-of-school time programs by increasing participation in the workforce. More importantly, according to Rider, it’s an investment in the future of our children. Learn more about Proposition A at [affordablechildcarenow.com](http://affordablechildcarenow.com).

## Support Families!

Please vote for  Proposition A in Travis County on November 5

**AFFORDABLE  
CHILDCARE  
NOW!**

## Balcones Terrace Welcoming Home Residents in October

Foundation Communities received certification to move residents into Balcones Terrace in September, and that process will begin this month. The permanent supportive housing community will be home for 123 single adults who are transitioning from homelessness or are living on extremely low and fixed incomes such as veterans and seniors.

On August 7, Mayor Kirk Watson and other City of Austin and HUD officials spoke at a ribbon cutting ceremony for Balcones Terrace. Watson said this is more than just a roof over heads, but a new chance, hope, stability and love that otherwise would be lost. You can learn more about Balcones Terrace and watch video of the entire ribbon cutting ceremony by scrolling down at [foundcom.org/blog](http://foundcom.org/blog).



Foundation Communities  
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## Prosper Health Coverage Awarded More than \$12M

The Biden-Harris Administration has awarded our Prosper Health Coverage program \$2.46 million for the next five years to help Central Texans learn about and enroll in affordable health insurance plans through the HealthCare.gov Marketplace.

Prosper Health Coverage Navigators are trained to help clients choose the best insurance plan. They can also help with enrollment in Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage. Learn more at [ProsperHealthCoverage.org](https://ProsperHealthCoverage.org).



## Volunteers Needed

**Health Coverage** - Enroll clients in affordable insurance plans. Open Enrollment begins November 1.

**Learning Centers** - Assist students with homework, support classroom and enrichment activities.

**English as a Second Language** - Assist students during ESL classes.

Sign up at [foundcom.org/volunteer](https://foundcom.org/volunteer).  
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## Commitment to Sustainability Draws Powerful Praise

In 2022, Foundation Communities signed onto the US Department of Energy's Better Climate Challenge. That came with a commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions at all of our apartment communities and offices by 50 percent over 10 years. We are proud to report we have already achieved reduced emissions by 36 percent.

On September 13, officials with the US departments of Energy and Housing and Urban Development and Congressman Lloyd Doggett came to our Homestead Oaks Apartments. They recognized Foundation Communities for being a national-standout multifamily housing provider in the Better Climate Challenge. After a ceremony, participants toured the community to view its green features.



Learn more at [foundcom.org/blog](https://foundcom.org/blog) and hear residents explain how their families benefit from our commitment to sustainability.



## Resident Creativity Shines at the Art & Wellness Show

There's a wealth of artistic talent in Foundation Communities' supportive housing communities. On September 12, many of these creative residents came to Bluebonnet Studios to do a little showing off! Sample their art and music at [foundcom.org/blog](https://foundcom.org/blog).



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 30 properties in Austin and North Texas.



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