



# 2025 Welcome Home Luncheon

## Rooted in HOPE

Thank you for playing a crucial role in our annual fundraising event for 2025. Foundation Communities only has one fundraising event a year - and this is IT!

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

We don't sell tickets or tables to the luncheon. Instead, we carefully recruit Luncheon 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!

**Wednesday, October 22, 2025**

**11:00AM - 1:00PM**

**Parker Lane Apartments**

## Included in this Packet

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

## Our goals for this year's 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 the several years before COVID-19, we actually surpassed this amount!*

More than just reaching our financial goal, we also hope to grow our special circle of **long-term, dedicated supporters who make a multi-year pledge to us – our Home Builders - and Recurring Donors**. Securing pledges and recurring gifts at this luncheon helps us guarantee that we can continue to provide the vital services that FC residents depend on.

## Your role as Luncheon Host:

- First thing to do –**say YES, you'll join us!**
- Invite your guest prospects to join you on event day (This year, we'll deploy community seating at long tables). With around 50 Luncheon Hosts in total, we should be able meet our goal of ~450 guests total.
- **Think strategically in choosing people who you think will want to invest in our work.** This doesn't mean that they necessarily have a ton of money – just a big heart and the capacity to give at some level. **Our target gifts range is \$5K pledges over 5 years -OR- Recurring Annual Gifts of \$1K, with no end date!**
- Starting in mid-August, we will send you weekly email guidelines with important updates & tools. ***Please read and use them to your advantage!***

## Key dates to remember:

- **Mid-June** – look for the ‘**Save the Date**’ email to start sending to your guest prospects!
- **Mid-August** – Our weekly Luncheon Host email communications start: **please be sure to add [welcomhomeluncheon@foundcom.org](mailto:welcomhomeluncheon@foundcom.org) to your safe senders list on email!**
- **Thurs, September 11** – **Join us for our virtual Luncheon Host Kick Off event at lunch!**  
Details and link to join will follow, 12:00-12:45PM
- **Tues, Sept. 23** – We suggest that you have 4 of your guests confirmed (4 weeks)
- **Tues, Oct. 7** - **Join us for our virtual Know Before You Go!** Invite with link to follow, 12:00-12:45PM; we suggest that you have ALL guests confirmed (2 weeks)
- **Tues, Oct. 14** – **Deadline for all RSVP info to FC** (1 week)
- **Weds, Oct. 22** - **Welcome Home Luncheon**



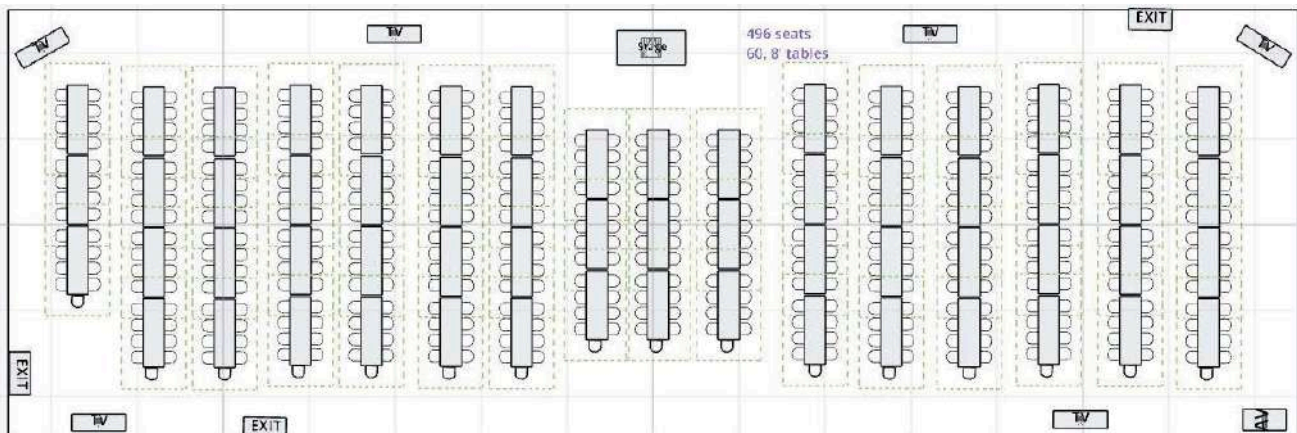
**Pic: Students in our Parker Lane Learning Center during FC's 2025 Spring Break program.**



Pic: FC's 2024 Welcome Home Luncheon at Homestead Oaks

## 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 you think will **want to invest** in the work we do.
- When inviting guests to sit at your table, **let them know what inspires you about FC.**
- And, let them know why you believe they will be inspired.
- See our seating map for 2025 below:





**Pic: FC's 2024 Welcome Home Luncheon at Homestead Oaks**

## **FAQs about the 'Welcome Home' Event:**

### **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 \$5,000! When you and your guests pledge to give over time, it allows us to better plan and budget for future residents.

### **What will the 'Welcome Home' program be like and how long it will last?**

- The 'Welcome Home' event will last one hour, and we promise to start and end on time. We recommend arriving a little early to enjoy a tour of our property – one of the best parts of the event! 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 accommodation for guests with limited mobility. We will also be sure to include detailed parking instructions in the event rsvp reminders to you and all your guests.

### **What will be served?**

- We'll have a variety of sandwiches and salads served family style - we keep it simple!

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

- Many guests will be coming straight from or going to work, so we suggest business casual and close toed shoes appropriate for walking across a parking lot and community site.



Pic: FC's 2024 Welcome Home Luncheon at Homestead Oaks

## FAQs about Foundation Communities:

### How many communities does Foundation Communities have?

- We currently own and operate 30 affordable housing communities here in Austin **including TWO opening this year** – and two more in the immediate pipeline. We are home to more than 9,000 residents, and our new projects will allow us to serve 1000+ new FC residents! Ten of our current communities are for single adults typically living on veterans' benefits, disability income, or social security and 20 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 no-cost support services Foundation Communities offers?

- **Education:** More than 550 children participate in our out-of-school and summer learning programs at Foundation Communities, while their parents can increase their literacy and life skills with English as a Second Language and college classes in collaboration with UT and ACC.
- **Financial Stability:** This year more than 15,000 families have received free income tax preparation. That generates close to \$20 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 40,000 individuals in affordable health insurance plans since 2014. Our health programs also include Healthy Food Pantries at ALL our communities, fitness and nutrition classes, access to integrated primary and mental health care, substance misuse 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 2nd 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% of our annual operating budget through the rents our residents pay. We raise the other 30% through grants and individual gifts – **pledged primarily at our annual Welcome Home events.**



Pic: FC's 2024 Welcome Home Luncheon at Homestead Oaks