



Mission Plaza
Austin, TX

IMPACT

Spring 2025

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Learning Center Success Story Kicks Off Back to School Drive

Ten-year-old Joahmaad was an average student prior to the pandemic. When in-person classes resumed, he had fallen behind his classmates, especially in reading. When it was time to read aloud in class, the normally well-mannered student would become disruptive. His teacher felt he was doing it to avoid his turn to read because he was afraid someone would make fun of him.

In December of 2023, Joahmaad moved to Daffodil Apartments with his mother and older brother. Both boys were enrolled in the community's Learning Center Afterschool Program.

"I started to like the stories they gave us," said Joahmaad.

"We learned about history and stuff. I think that's what helped me."

Joahmaad said it also helped that his friends in the Learning Center didn't judge him for his reading, and helped him sound out the tough words. Now, when Joahmaad's classmates read to each other in school or the Learning Center, he always wants to go first!

Joahmaad's mother, Ryan, says he now reads all the time at home as it feeds his curiosity. His grades improved to A's and B's, and he even started winning academic awards. Joahmaad's behavior in school improved also. When asked

what she thinks led to the turnaround, Ryan chalks it up to the homework help he receives at the Learning Center, the one-on-one attention from staff and the way the staff makes it fun to learn. She says it's all Joahmaad talks about when he comes home.



"He's like...this is what we made. This is what she taught us. We're gardening," said Ryan. "He had me gardening. We put seeds in the backyard. Moving to Daffodil was a really great experience. The Learning Center just added to it."

You can watch a video about Joahmaad's journey to academic excellence at foundcom.org/blog.

There are many students like Joahmaad who are performing better in school since they enrolled in our Learning Centers. Our students score an **average GPA in school of 3.67!**

You can help us set the students up for more success in the upcoming school year by giving to the Foundation Communities Back to School Drive. Your donations will help us purchase supplies, technology and meals for our 16 on-site Learning Centers. You can even set up a fundraising team so you and your friends can support the students.

To learn more about our Back to School Drive and donate visit foundcom.org/btsd.

Foundation Communities' Growth Creating Affordable Housing Opportunities



The interested lists are open for Juniper Creek Apartments (above) and Norman Commons Apartments. Learn more about all the affordable communities we are building at foundcom.org/future-communities.

By the end of 2026, Foundation Communities will have almost 10,000 residents in our affordable and supportive communities in Austin and North Texas. We now have available apartments all over Austin with rents below market rate - some have leasing specials. Learn more at foundcom.org/austin-housing.

Communities Under Construction

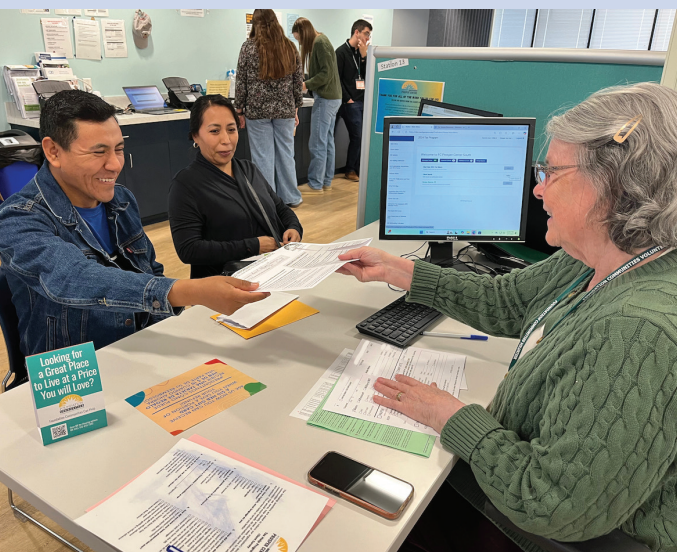
[Juniper Creek Apartments - 11630 N Lamar Blvd](#) - This 110-unit affordable community is set to open this summer with 1, 2, and 3-bedroom apartments. Residents will have access to a Learning Center and Healthy Food Pantry.

[Norman Commons Apartments - 5712 Jackie Robinson St](#) - We plan to open this community in East Austin in late 2025. It will include 156 1, 2, 3 and 4-bedroom, energy-efficient apartments, a Learning Center and Healthy Food Pantry.

[Burleson Studios - 7905 Burleson Rd](#) - This supportive community in southeast Austin will open in 2026 with 104 studio apartments for single adults.

Foundation Communities
3000 S IH 35, Ste 300
Austin, TX 78704

Measuring the Impact of Tax Help Programs



We're proud to report the totals for another successful tax season for our no-cost tax preparation programs in Central and North Texas. We filed **28,990 returns** and secured more than **\$42 million** in refunds for our neighbors, empowering families and building their financial stability.

We also helped clients with past returns, ITINs and responding to IRS letters. We couldn't have done all this without the help of **664** dedicated Certified IRS volunteers.



Our Sierra 5K Color Run on May 17 was a vibrant success. After eight weeks of training, the 3rd–5th graders from our Sierra Vista and Sierra Ridge Learning Centers proudly crossed the finish line.

Showing Appreciation for our Volunteers

At our May 5 Volunteer Appreciation Party, we celebrated the thousands of volunteers who help Foundation Communities serve our residents and neighbors. Across Health Initiatives, Learning Centers, Prosper Programs and more, volunteers show up with compassion and deep commitment. Their impact is felt in every conversation, every meal served, and every life touched.

We also applauded the 20-year anniversary of the UT McCombs School of Business providing volunteer tax preparers for our Tax Help program. Foundation Communities resident and Healthy Food Pantry volunteer, Marie Thorne, delivered an inspiring keynote speech. "There's truly nothing better than seeing the stress melt away," said Marie. "Knowing my efforts build trust with the community makes this role deeply enriching."



Three UT Students at the Volunteer Party

You can find out how to become one of our volunteers at foundcom.org/volunteer. Join us for our Volunteer Impact Fair at Parker Lane Apartments on August 13 from 5:30pm-7pm.

Give a Fresh Start with Welcome Home Baskets

At Foundation Communities, we know the power of a warm welcome. Welcome Home Baskets, filled with essentials like towels, bedding and dishes, help turn an empty apartment into a home. At a cost of around \$100 to \$200, each basket brings comfort and helps residents get a fresh start.

Bluebonnet Studios resident, David, says when he moved in, "Within minutes, I had my basket, and, all of a sudden, I could put a shower curtain up. I didn't have a lot of those more basic things that I really needed. It makes a big difference."

To donate a basket or host a collection party, email: Angela.Avendano@foundcom.org



512.447.2026
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 31 properties in Austin and North Texas.



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