

## Holiday Program Offers Hope for Family During Difficult Year

Sarah Meyer's family has many fond holiday memories. She enjoys seeing her children's eyes light up when they see the wrapped boxes under the tree. She says they giggle, gasp and squeal as they tear away the wrapping paper.

**"It's important for children to receive gifts during the holidays, not just for the presents themselves, but for what the act of giving represents," said Sarah. "Gifts can help children feel loved, valued and remembered."**

A single mother of five, Sarah has lived at Homestead Oaks for 10 years. Now, it's just her 14-year-old son and 13-year-old daughter living with her. Child support payments stopped coming last year, so their primary source of income is Sarah's disability check.

The children had grandparents who helped the family pay for rent, clothes and dance lessons. They both passed away earlier this year. Sarah's father and grandfather also died in September. The family is not only dealing with these personal losses, Sarah is struggling to pay for their living expenses. She says this is their first year when having no gifts under the Christmas tree is a real possibility for them.

Sarah is hanging her hopes on Foundation Communities' Home for the Holidays program. The program connects generous sponsors with residents in our affordable communities whose holiday wish lists they can fill. The Meyer family has had sponsors in previous years, and they're really



hoping to have one this year. Sarah has this to say to all the sponsors:

**"Your generosity brings so much joy and hope to families who might otherwise go without during the holidays. Your gifts don't just fill boxes; they fill hearts."**

This year, over 700 families are seeking a sponsor through Home for the Holidays. The deadline to sign up as a sponsor is December 5. You can also make a donation so we can buy gift cards for any families that are not sponsored. Our goal is to support every family that requested support. Go to [foundcom.org/](http://foundcom.org/)

**holidays**, or use the QR code below to learn more about the program and to participate.

Money donated to Home for the Holidays will also support our Emergency Rent Assistance fund for 2026. This resource helps residents maintain housing and find relief during times of hardship, such as a job loss, or a serious family illness. As of November 1, we have extended **\$165,155** in rent assistance for **177 households** in 2025. Now, the fund is virtually depleted. We hope you can help us raise **\$200,000!**



## Celebrating Progress on Burleson Studios

Construction crews are on track to complete Burleson Studios by next summer. On October 15, we held a celebration of the progress on this supportive community for single adults who have struggled maintaining housing.



We also thanked the various partners that funded the development. You can watch video of the celebration at [foundcom.org/blog](http://foundcom.org/blog).

## Other Construction Updates

Foundation Communities is redeveloping **Crossroads Apartments** and adding 18 more apartments for a total of 110. We are also adding a Learning Center and Healthy Food Pantry. All Crossroads residents have been relocated, and those eligible received financial assistance in accordance with federal relocation guidelines. Residents will be invited to return when construction is complete in late 2027.

We are now actively leasing and moving families into 110 new homes in **Juniper Creek Apartments** on North Lamar.

Another new community for families, **Norman Commons Apartments**, should be approved for move-ins by late November. Leasing will begin in December.

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## Prosper Health Coverage Overcomes Obstacles to Continue Serving

"There was no question that one way or another we were going to open our doors on November 1st. So here we are. Bring it on. We're ready!" Foundation Communities Executive Director Walter Moreau teared up as he made this declaration at the Prosper Health Coverage kickoff on October 31. Getting ready for the program's 13th open enrollment season has not been easy. In February, the federal government withdrew \$2.4 million from Prosper Health Coverage, money used for staff and outreach to uninsured Central Texans. We are very grateful that Central Health replaced half of that lost funding, \$1.2 million.

Getting ready also involved doubling the number of volunteer enrollment counselors to 200. They are now working to help clients find the best Healthcare.gov plan for them. That help is more important with the federal government limiting coverage and subsidies for plans through the Affordable Care Act, causing some premiums to double.

Also speaking at the kickoff were Congressman Lloyd Doggett, Central Health President and CEO Dr. Patrick Lee, and Paul Scott, the CEO for HAAM (Health Alliance for Austin Musicians). HAAM musician Lindsey Verrill (pictured here) talked about how easy the counselors make signing up for health insurance. She also performed. You can watch the entire kickoff at [foundcom.org/blog](https://foundcom.org/blog). Open Enrollment ends January 15, 2026. **If you need health insurance you can afford, set up an appointment by calling 512-381-4520, or go to ProsperHealthCoverage.org.**



Artists and musicians from our supportive housing communities were in the spotlight on September 25th at the annual **Art Show** at Bluebonnet Studios.



Supportive housing residents ran, walked, and rolled around the building at the **Spring Terrace 2-Miler** October 30th. This fun event inspires residents to move and get healthier.

Thank you, everyone who attended our **Welcome Home Luncheon** on October 22nd at Parker Lane Apartments.



To view a highlight video from the event, go to [foundcom.org/WHLvideo](https://foundcom.org/WHLvideo).



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 32 properties in Austin and North Texas.



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