

The Herald

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HATC Program Spotlight

Continuum of Care

The Housing Authority of Travis County's Continuum of Care (CoC) Initiative, entitled *Upward* was awarded \$906,807 to provide rental assistance to homeless participants from HUD's Continuum of Care grant through a competitive application process. The new grant year became effective June 1, 2018. *Upward* is an HATC and [Integral Care](#) collaborative that provides scattered site Permanent Supportive Housing to at least 74 chronically homeless individuals or families living with mental illness within Travis County. A [Housing First approach](#) is utilized to provide low barrier access to permanent supportive housing.

Aside from the issue of finding Suitable Affordable Housing particularity outside of areas of high poverty concentration, CoC participants face many of life's challenges, to include:

- lack of income;
- accessing mainstream benefits such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- medical care/mental health needs;
- employment opportunities;
- miscommunication with landlords

These barriers reaffirm the critical importance of the associated array of supportive services funded through the CoC grant.

Upward plans to continue to utilize a holistic approach recognizing that housing intervention is crucial and facilitates empowerment and helps participants realize their full potential.

HATC Foundation Initiatives

Resident Scholarship Program

The HATC Foundation recently established the Annual Resident Scholarship Program. Through an application process, three (3) Class of 2018 Seniors residents - Jaque Stephens, Maryha Ojeda, and Eric Parker, Jr. - have completed the application process and have been selected as this year's Resident Scholarship Program recipients. These HATC residents will be awarded a Paid-in-Full Associates Degree Scholarship to attend Austin Community College (ACC). This Resident Scholarship Program will be an Annual activity to afford select residents an opportunity to continue their educational goals. This scholarship will be sent directly to Austin Community College (ACC), indicating that it will be used for tuition and fees only. This scholarship is 60 credit hours Associates Degree Award, with an estimated total cost of \$ 5,100.00.

Austin Sunshine Camps

In our first year partnering with Austin Sunshine Camps,

we have sent 12 HATC resident youths to summer camp! Our youth are learning to be more confident, and develop leadership abilities, problem-solving skills, and developing friendships that last a lifetime. Additionally, campers learn to resolve conflicts, value diversity, and learning to embrace the success of the teamwork. Fun becomes the foundation on which courage, self-respect, cooperation, and leadership are built. Austin Sunshine Camps offer two locations for campers: Zilker Camp and Lake Travis Camp.



HATC Foundation Partnership Highlights

Literacy Coalition of Central Texas

The HATC Foundation is excited to announce the Job Readiness Program (JRP). This program is free to our HATC residents and will launch in September at Alexander Oaks Apartments. The Job Readiness Program (JRP) endeavors to give residents the tools to start future careers instead of jobs by teaching computer skills that are essential for a majority of modern careers and soft skills valued by employers. For more information please go to [The HATC Foundation](#).

Austin Public Library

Bookmobile Time Change:

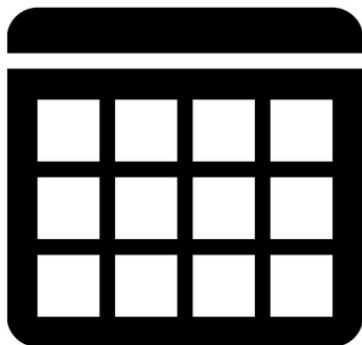
Beginning August 23rd the Austin Public Library Bookmobile will visit the Alexander Oaks Apartments neighborhood from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM each Thursday.

Summer Reading:

If you're participating in the Summer Reading Program, we would like to remind you that the program is coming to an end the first week of school. Don't forget to track the time you've spent reading this summer on your summer reading sheet and return it for a prize!

Library Cards for AISD Students:

All students enrolled in Austin ISD schools are now eligible for a FREE Austin Public Library card. Parents will not have to go to a library in person to sign children up for these special cards. Your child is eligible for a new Austin ISD card even if they have fines and fees on a previous card. Be on the lookout for a library card application in your child's back-to-school paperwork.



Upcoming Events

Back to School Kickoff Celebrations

August 13 at Alexander Oaks Apartments from 11am-12pm

August 14 at Eastern Oaks Apartments from 11am-12pm

August 15 at Summit Oaks Apartments from 11am-12pm

HATC Community Resource Fair

Saturday, September 15th
at the Austin Public Library, Central Library
from 10am-2pm

**Inaugural Deck the Halls 5K
Fun Run and Walk**

Sunday, December 9th
at Travis County Expo Center

JOIN the RACE!

HATC provides affordable rental housing and supportive services to low-income families through Housing Choice Voucher, HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), and Continuum of Care Programs. Additionally, HATC owns and maintains five (5) affordable multi-family housing developments: four (4) duplex-style family developments, three (3) of which are subsidized via Section 8 Project Based Rental Assistance (PBRA); and one (1) development devoted to Seniors.

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