



IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP



My name is Jeanette Alejo and I recently moved out of CM Allen. I lived there for about six years. Owning a home was a dream that was not reachable at one time. It was so far-fetched that I became comfortable with the deck of cards life dealt me, and I accepted the bare minimum. Financial suppression was only one of my challenges. I was a single mother of four children, living in housing, and barely making ends meet. My confidence level was not very high, and my happy moments were few and far between. I don't know all the answers but I do know that after all these struggles, the next step was the best step I've ever taken in my life. I decided to accept an invitation from my sister to come to church.

The Bible says Jesus came for the lost and the broken, and I fit that description! When I went to church, it was as though that sermon was written for me. It was as though I were the only person sitting in the chapel and the pastor was speaking to me. That's called conviction and that was when I met God. After the powerful sermon, the pastor invited anyone who had not accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior to the altar for a prayer of repentance. I answered that call and totally gave it all to Him, and that's when God began to move. I made a commitment to love Him more than anything in this world and to do this thing called life, not by me, but by His spirit and with His strength and hand over it all. I started to talk to Him every day and ask for His help. In church I learned that God would give you all the desires of your heart, if you would just ask for it. So I did. I asked to be free of addictions. He gave me sobriety by delivering me from drugs and alcohol.

On June 23, I celebrated two years of sobriety. No program or rehab did that for me. I asked Him to save my alcoholic boyfriend and give him the desire to marry me and make me a wife. He saved my lost boyfriend. On Sept. 17, I will celebrate two years of marriage. I asked Him to bless my labor and increase my finances. Just four months into my salvation, I was called into my boss's office and he gave me a \$1.05 raise just because he said he saw a change in me. Receiving a raise, and in that amount, before the designated review date, was a miracle....that's how I knew it was God. I thought, "Why stop with the requests now? God, you have honored every one of my heart's desires thus far." So with a faithful heart I asked Him for a home, and one with a big back yard so my girls could play without the fear of being hit by a car. In May, God answered my prayer. My husband and I signed on our first home! And my back yard is HUGE!

Let me make something very clear: We serve a faithful God and He wants to do for EVERYONE what He did (and continues to do) for me. I know other dynamics are involved, like working on your credit and getting debt paid off. Just let Him guide you, pray to be sensitive to His words, and He will teach you to be good stewards of your finances and much more. I was inspired by this verse from the Bible: "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you", says the Lord, "thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11) God bless you!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jeanette is a graduate of the FSS Program. She worked hard to reach her goals and followed the advice of wise counselors. We are very proud of her!

Reminder: Kiddie pools are not allowed.
They kill the grass and can breed mosquitos. Sprinkler toys are a better option. You can water your grass while the kids run around!



ALLEN WOODS HOMES — PODER LEARNING CENTER

Kids and The Power of Play

Hi! My name is **Kaleigh Davila** and I am from Pflugerville. After high school I went to Blinn College in Bryan, where I got my Associates Degree. I knew I wanted to continue my education but I wasn't sure where I wanted to go. After researching different degrees and options, I decided upon Recreation Administration with a concentration in Therapy. Texas State is actually the only school in Texas that offers this degree. Recreation Administration was the perfect degree for me and exactly what I was looking for all along! After graduation, even though I am still unsure of my exact path, I want to work with special education children. My internship at the Housing Authority is helping me to get more experience working with kids. I also want to learn more tips and tricks for facilitating activities. Although I don't have much time right now, I enjoy having some down time to do other things I love. This includes hanging out with the cutest dog! Auzzie is my best friend and we do everything together. From going to the dog park or going on walks, we are the perfect pair!



In celebration of the new movie *Toy Story 4*, United Way's Director of Community Impact, Analia Voss, read the story book version of the movie and brought activities for the kids to get into the spirit. Pictured is Analia helping color a tent. Each group of siblings got to take their tent home for their own adventures!

**Free
Summer
Lunches
for Kids!**



Served @ PODER

Monday - Friday, 11 AM - 12 PM

**Call Maria, Service Coordinator,
for more information:**

512-396-3367.



Help Those to Help Themselves

My name is Gabriella Sanchez. I am originally from Bay City but moved to Houston when I was 8 years old. When I graduated high school in Humble, it was very important to my family for me to go to college because I would be the first person to attend. I went to Texas Tech University for a year. I decided it wasn't the best option for me, so the following year I transferred to Texas State to major in sociology. It was the best opportunity for me to learn to work with individuals that may be dealing with mental health issues and/or real life issues that often get overlooked by society. After graduation I want to get more experience in social services. My passion is to become a counselor and help children and teens cope with challenges in their lives. A lot of people lack the resources they need to help better themselves. Life isn't always easy. It can be very challenging and everyone

goes through tough times, so if I'm able to help even one individual change their life or cope with some immediate situation, that's the only thing that matters to me. Throughout this internship, I hope to be more optimistic and understanding — not only for myself but for others — and improve my communication skills so I can prepare myself for the next chapter of my life! I'm happy to make a difference and dedicate my time to people who can also teach me something in return. That's the best thing in the world and I'm here to help!

Springtown Villa

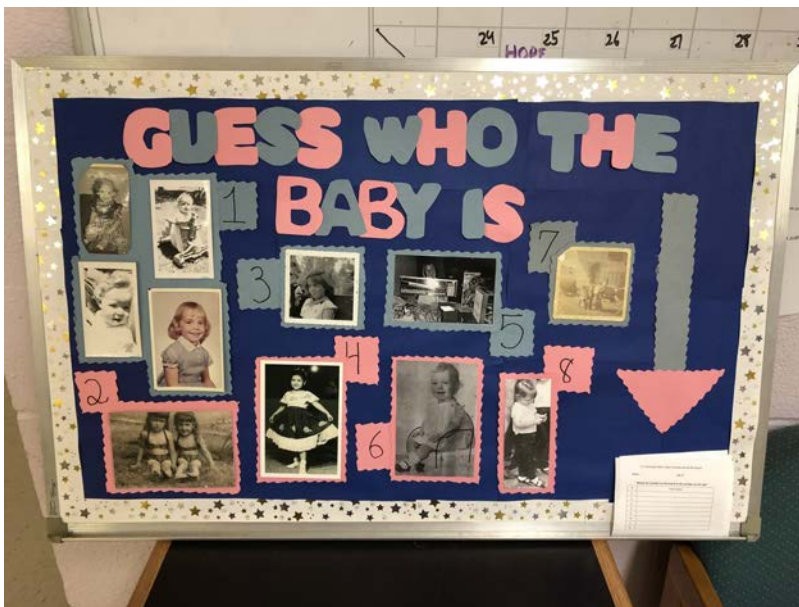
A BRUNCH FOR THE MOTHERS AND FATHERS OF SPRINGTOWN

Last month we celebrated both Mothers and Fathers with a delicious brunch! The residents came together in the community room for pancakes, sausages, pastries, juices, and coffee. Resident council members helped bring the event together. Alan cooked the pancakes, Julie cooked the sausages, and Ruth helped make coffee. It was nice to see everyone's faces and enjoy the company together as they celebrated being parents!



THE MONTH OF MEMORIES

Last month, the Resident Council came up with "Guess Who the Baby Is." They asked the residents to bring baby pictures to put on the bulletin board. After collecting pictures, the bulletin board was put together and residents tried to guess who they were. What started as just a game soon turned into a walk down memory lane for many. We enjoyed hearing all of the stories the residents told us. The best part of this was seeing how happy everyone was as they shared their cheerful memories.



**Resident Council: July 3rd
& July 17th**

Resident Council will be having a bake sale **July 1—3!** Come stop by the **management office** to pick up some sweets and support our Resident Council!

Independence
Day Celebration
will be held on
July 9!



C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE

Hi! My name is Megan Escobar and I am the new intern at CM Allen. I am a senior at Texas State University, majoring in Family and Child Development. I am originally from San Antonio. After graduation, I plan to work



with those in need of help, such as troubled teens and individuals who have experienced abuse. I chose Family and Child Development because I have a drive to help children and families by steering them in a positive direction. I believe my role is to show and teach the importance of child development in several areas: physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually. During these stages I would love to be a helping hand for both the parent and the child. Since I was twelve years old, I would volunteer many places with children in countless situations. Being an intern at the CM Allen Homes and in the KAD After-school Program is a new experience that will help me reach my goals. Outside of school and this internship, I love to do outdoor activities, run, and dance. I am really grateful and thrilled to work with the Housing Authority and to see what's in store for me.

3 Ways to Beat the Summer Heat

Summer is here, which means the temperature is rising. The following list can help you stay cool and beat the summer heat.

1. Stay hydrated!
2. Wear loose-fitting clothing.
3. Fill a spray bottle with water and use it as a refreshing spray after being outdoors.

July Summer Events

Tuesdays

Cardboard Crafts with Mr. Matthews

1—3 PM

Wednesdays

Senior Social

10—11 AM

Thursdays

Hays Caldwell Council Youth Activity

1—3 PM



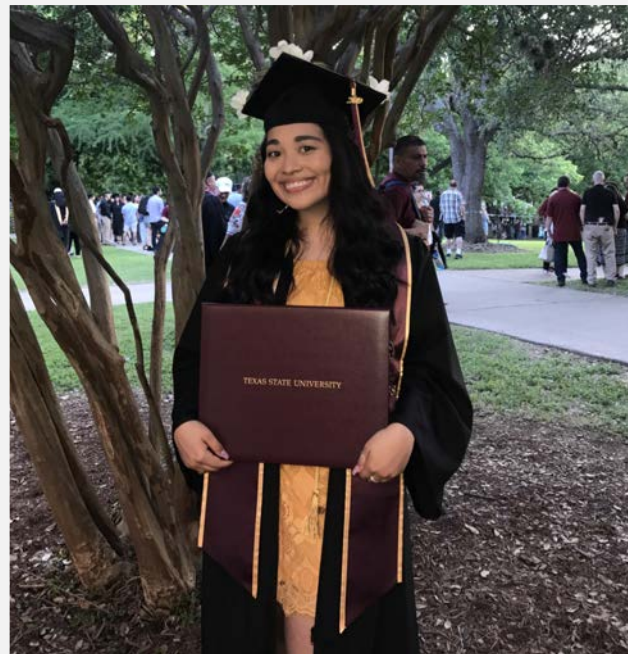
Thank you HCC for coming out and planning a fun activity for our kids. The activities with communication and feelings themes were a **sweet success. In this picture, Chris is helping to guide his brother Nathan to the prize!**



Waiting for the bus to arrive for the Fun & Fit 4Life Summer Camp.

CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER

My name is Sophia Sarabia. I am 22 years old and I am from Houston. I moved to San Marcos 4 years ago to attend Texas State University. I graduated in May of this year. I majored in Family and Child Development where I learned more in-depth about children and families. I completely fell in love with what I was learning and I knew working with children is what I wanted to do for a living. I look forward to this Summer program, and getting to know all of the kids and doing fun activities together!



Hi there! My name is Alex and I am currently a senior at Texas State University, studying Family and Child Development. I hope to work as a Child Life Specialist after receiving my degree. I have recently started working the kids summer program at Chapultepec Homes, and I'm excited for all the fun activities I have planned. In my free time I like to check out local coffee shops and go to live music events.

SUMMER INTERNS



July 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 SMHA OFFICES CLOSED	5	6
7	8	9 Using Credit Cards CALC @ 6 PM	10 FSS ORIENTATION CALC @ 12 PM	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Board of Commissioners @ 5:30 PM	24	25 Food Wise Cooking Class CALC @ 6 PM	26	27
28	29	30	31	July was named by the Roman Senate in honor of Roman general Julius Caesar because it was the month of his birth. Prior to that, it was called Quintilis, the fifth month of the original 10-month Roman calendar.		

LEADERSHIP

Board of Commissioners

Richard Cruz — Chairperson
 Rose Brooks — Vice-Chairperson
 Shelley Sherman — Resident Comm.
 Gloria Salazar — Commissioner
 Nina Linda Ramos — Commissioner

Executive Director

Albert Sierra

HOUSING OFFICES

Allen Woods Homes (Main Office)

512-353-5059

CM Allen Homes

512-353-1116

Chapultepec Homes

512-396-3364

Housing Choice Voucher

512-353-5061

Springtown Villa

512-396-3363

RESIDENT SERVICES

Chapultepec Adult Learning Center

Family Self-Sufficiency

512-396-3364

CM Allen KAD Korner Store

512-392-6273

Allen Woods PODER

Learning Center

512-396-3367

Springtown Villa

512-353-7343