



Dear Residents,

It was no accident I landed this job twelve years ago and have committed to getting to know and help many of you in all the housing sites, whether in person or in an indirect way with programs. I am so fortunate to have heard many of your life stories, watch your kids grow up in my program, and celebrate small and big victories, including families leaving housing in a more financially stable position. Although neighborhoods have changed and shifted, there has always been a constant sense of *hope, home, and community* that resonate through them because of the people that live in there. I have watched over the years neighbors generously giving food and time to other neighbors, teens helping to build character in younger kids through their own example, and seniors come back to life with laughter and value.

The lessons I've personally learned have been numerous, but I want to leave you with just two of the most important ones. 1. **TAKE TIME.** Take time to laugh, take time to volunteer, take time to take a stroll, take time to spend with your family, take time to get to know your neighbors! Time is so precious and it's easy to rush through life, but you can never get it back and you never know when someone will be gone. 2. **GROW.** No matter how old you are, complacency is the worst thing you can do for yourself. Learn something new, try out a new food, finish that GED, make a new friend! Don't let comfort hold you back from a blessing on the other side of fear.

I've enjoyed my time at the San Marcos Housing Authority and completing this chapter in my life. I will miss you all and although things will be different at PODER, it is often a catalyst for greater changes. I encourage all of you to continue participating in all the events and programs. Take care of each other and show everyone that you're proud that *this is your community!*

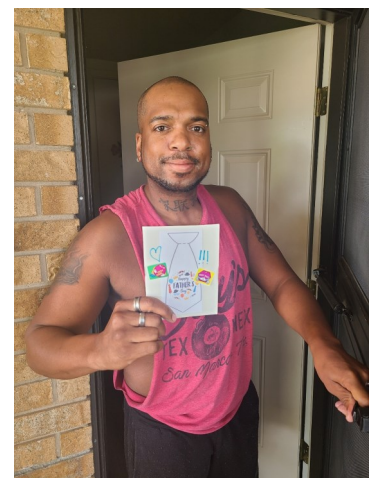
All the Best,

Maria Calcaben

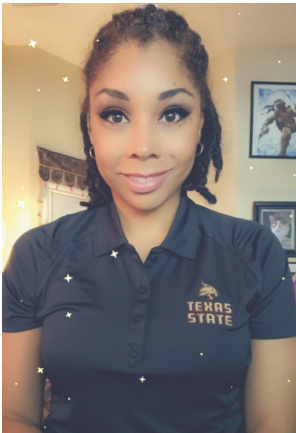
Thanks, Dads!



On Father's Day, we wanted to celebrate and give a big thanks to some strong father-figures in our lives. The kids at the PODER Learning Center made Father's Day cards to pass out to their dads and helped decorate extras to be passed out in the neighborhood. The men that received them were of all ages, young and old, but all were given a reminder of the importance their presence could be in someone's life or in the community. We thank all our dads, whether they are a dad, uncle, grandpa, or father-figure. You make a difference in our lives!
~ Maria



ALLEN WOODS HOMES — PODER LEARNING CENTER



A HEART FOR SERVICE

Hello, my new summertime neighbors, my name is Afsaneh, pronounced like... “OFF-SuANA”. I was born in Temple, Texas, but raised in Austin. I decided to come to Texas State because it is one of the top universities that have developed a Therapeutic Recreation program. Back when I was at Austin Community College, a counselor suggested that I would be a great recreation therapist. At the time, I had no idea what he was talking about. Once the position was explained to me, I knew instantly that majoring in Therapeutic Recreation and becoming a rec. therapist is what I wanted to do. I enjoy helping people and encouraging them to heal and take time for themselves. Everyone deserves the chance to do the things that make them happy. My plan for after graduation is to find a community in need of service. Initially I wanted to work with veterans, but then I felt I was limiting myself. I decided I wanted to help anyone who needs it. Some of the challenges I think I’ll be facing is finding a position in my hometown of Austin, but not be able to afford to live there

anymore. Starting out in this position may not have a lot of financial benefit therefore I may have to move somewhere more affordable. I’m not doing this job for the money, I’m doing it because it makes me happy to help others (insert smiley face)*. In the short time I’ve been at PODER, I’ve already learned so much! What I hope to learn and accomplish during my internship is to make sure I know the community I serve and what makes them smile. Hobbies and activities I enjoy are making costumes for cosplay, kayaking, hiking, sleeping, and working out.

Aiming High

Hello my name is Zachary Felder and I am from Round Rock. I decided to come to Texas State to follow in my dad’s footsteps and because the campus is really beautiful. I am majoring in Recreation Administration and I chose this major because the classes seemed very interesting to me and it sounded like something I’d enjoy making a career out of. I hope to grow my communication skills with the internship, along with my technology skills, quick thinking, being able to take inventory, and being able to manage tough situations better. A few of my hobbies are working out, playing basketball, reading books and graphic novels, and spending time with friends and family.



SUMMER VIBES

The Summer Program has had a great kickoff thanks to some creative interns and volunteers! The kids had a water day, they tie-died shirts, did a scavenger hunt in the park, and performed science experiments. We’ve also combined with the kids at Chapultepec to grow our fun. More exciting field trips and activities are coming in July. If you’d still like to sign up your child for the program, call Matt Teagle at 512-396-3367.



Springtown Villa



Brenda Bell (on the right) is an artist, a motivational speaker, a Tae Kwon Do Instructor, and a certified Easy Tai Chi instructor. We are very fortunate to have an instructor of this caliber. Easy Tai Chi is a form of exercise that concentrates on slow steady movements to strengthen core muscles and improve balance.



Yesenia Robles from First Home Health Care was kind enough to come by and introduce herself to Springtown Villa residents. Very soon they will be certified to provide services in our area. Please stay tuned for updates.

This is Edna Gilmore. She is getting a free blood pressure and glucose screening from Edward's Home Health & Hospice. Edward's provides many different types of health services, including services for people who have special needs.



C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE

Rosalind Franklin was an English chemist and X-ray crystallographer whose work was central to the understanding of the molecular structures of DNA, RNA, viruses, coal, and graphite. She said, "Science and everyday life cannot and should not be separated."

Lydia Dobbins is a ACCEYSS member who visits KAD every Monday. She teaches the kids about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through entrepreneurship and the arts. Our kids look forward to seeing her every Monday because she always brings something new to the table with her cool experiments. On her last visit, the kids made "elephant toothpaste," a foamy substance caused by the rapid decomposition of hydrogen peroxide using potassium iodide or yeast and warm water as a catalyst. Go online to see videos. Fun stuff!



There is no elephant in the room . . . but we are making elephant toothpaste!

Upcoming Events:

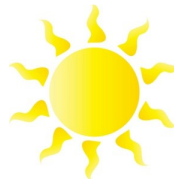
Tuesdays & Thursdays - Kathy's Reading Club @ 11 AM

Mondays - Lydia's Science Group @ 1 PM

Wednesdays - Cenikor activities

Thursday (7/1) - Schlitterbahn Trip

We are so proud of Alexia! Outstanding Performance and Perfect Attendance! Way to go!



Hello everyone! My name is Autumn Spring—yes, two seasons! I am a senior at Texas State University and a Recreation Administration major with a Therapeutic Concentration. Working with the Housing Authority has been an amazing adventure so far and I've come to enjoy working with all of the residents and those in our KAD program. Whenever I am not at KAD, I am at home with my dogs or re-watching episodes of "Friends." I love the residents of C.M. Allen and I enjoy spending my time with them. Ms. Bonnie knows so much and it's a blast to be working with her!

CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER



Summer Program

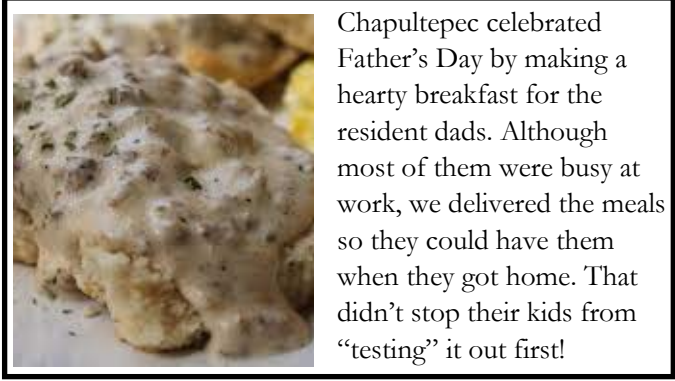
The Chapultepec summer program is underway, and our first big field trip was to the New Braunfels Animal and Snake farm. The children got to meet animals up close in the petting zoo while being educated by the zoo staff. Below, Claire looks pretty happy about holding the baby fox. And the goats always love attention.



Our New Intern

Hello, my name is Taylor Lofton. I am a senior at Texas State University majoring in psychology with a minor in human development and family sciences. I am here to learn how to interact with kids, while gaining experience on how to console, and help them express themselves properly. My main goal here is to give the kids a healthy outlet to express themselves whether it is creatively or through communication. I will be here until the end of July. I will graduate in August. I plan to get my license to become a clinical psychologist. If there is anything else you would like to ask me, please don't hesitate.

Chapultepec Events

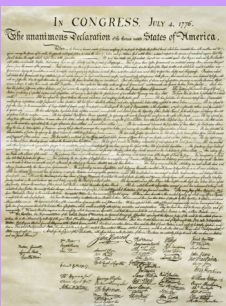


Chapultepec celebrated Father's Day by making a hearty breakfast for the resident dads. Although most of them were busy at work, we delivered the meals so they could have them when they got home. That didn't stop their kids from "testing" it out first!



2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



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.

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5 SMHA Offices Closed	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	30	31



LEADERSHIP

Board of Commissioners

- Nina Linda Ramos — Chairperson
- Mittie Miller — Vice-Chairperson
- Rachel Durrance — Resident Comm.
- Richard Cruz — Commissioner
- Gloria Salazar — Commissioner

Executive Director

Lana Wagner

Commissioners meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month @ 5:30 PM.

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