



In 2015, Marina Santos and her four children were living at the CM Allen Homes but had to move out because of the Memorial Weekend Flood. She accepted a unit at Allen Woods when that became possible. She enrolled in the Family Self-Sufficiency program in 2018. At that time, her goal was to become a nurse. She was attending ACC as part of the Capital Idea program. She remained steady on that course, doing seasonal work here and there to supplement her income, until the COVID shutdown disrupted her life. She was not able to stay on top of her kids' education at home and her schooling as well as work a part-time job, all at the same time.

During the summer of 2020, she decided to leave the Capital Idea program and look for full-time work. In addition, what was going on in the world caused her to reconsider whether she wanted to have a medical career. She accepted a full-time position with White Knight Pest Control in Buda. She was excited about the career advancement opportunities in that growing company. She started in customer service and was working from home. It also helped that the kids were

getting help at the PODER Learning Center, just down the street, and were very happy to be able to get out of the house and interact with other kids.

She eventually began working in the office in Buda. She was promoted to Customer Care Manager last fall. At her exit interview, Marina said, "I am looking forward to working on my credit and looking for a house." As a graduate of FSS, Marina remains eligible for services from FSS coordinators so we will continue to be here to support her on her journey. ~ Stewart Dale Spencer

Alyssa LaPlant-Israel has been a long time resident growing up in the Allen Woods community and has been involved with the PODER center throughout the years. We watched her grow up, graduate high school, and return to be active in volunteering with the PODER center and helping coordinate the much loved coffee donations for our Socials and Bingo events!

Recently she has been working hard to juggle work and school. Through her hard work she has taken a big step forward by getting her own house here in the San Marcos Housing Authority!

Alyssa plans on continuing to work at Starbucks, with a goal to becoming a store manager, while working towards her college degree at Texas State in business to open more doors for her career.



ALLEN WOODS HOMES — PODER LEARNING CENTER



The PODER Center Celebrated Easter this year with a fun Bingo Event hosted by Edward's Home Health with many great prizes, from gift baskets to giant chocolate Easter bunnies! The children at the after-school program also celebrated Easter with a big Easter egg hunt! They had to search indoors and out to locate all the Easter eggs, as well as the well hidden golden egg to receive a special treat!



If you are interested in Bingo or our Socials, we hold a social on Monday at 10:00 to 11:00 AM, and Bingos every Wednesday at 10:00 to 11:00 AM!

If you are interested in signing up your child for the PODER after-school program please contact Matt at 512-396-3367 to inquire about applications!



Springtown Villa

I would like to introduce to you, Mary Kemp. During the month of March, Mary began teaching a bible study class here at Springtown Villa. She begins her class at 9:00 AM on Thursdays. Mary is available for anyone that is interested. If you have any questions just drop by. You can count on Fred being there.



You might not think that our Art Class has something for everyone, but it does. If you come to our class you can draw or paint freehand if you like. For those of us that aren't as confident in our skills, there are also the options of painting with instructions and painting by number. Pascacio tried his hand at doing some art but I think he was just as interested in free coffee and conversation.

Easter can be celebrated in many different ways. It can be fun for both young and old alike. These guys look happy because they just won the door prizes. Their smiles got even bigger when we pretended like we were little kids again and went on a Easter egg hunt.



C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE



KAD Easter Fun

We had a hopping good time around the KAD Center for all of our Easter activities. We had lots of eggs for the kids to find in our two egg hunts! The Easter bunny came to visit as well, and the children got to take pictures and get a treat. We had a visit by a special bunny named Benito, a former KAD student who is now in college. He even played the guitar for the kids! We had a full house at our Bingo Easter party. Thank you to former resident Cynthia Watts and Kappa Delta Chi for all your help.



Texas State Bobcat Day

We took 13 youth to Texas State Bobcat Day as part of our College Readiness Initiative led by a Social Work class.



Texas State KAD Nutrition Class

Texas State students hosted a nutrition class with healthy snacks and fun games for the KAD kids. They really enjoyed it!

CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER



Arandaris, one of our amazing after-school volunteers from last semester, reached out and offered to bring goodie bags for all the children of Chapultepec! Her organization, Caminantes, a Hispanic Ministry of Our Lady of Wisdom at Texas State University put together these wonderful gift bags and colored on each one to make sure all the kids know they are special and cared for! Thank you Arandaris and Caminantes!

Thank you Sozo Church SMTX for volunteering your time and resources to help us have an wonderful Easter egg hunt and carnival event! We had a blast playing the carnival games, getting our faces painted, snow cones by Kona Ice, and of course finding all the Easter eggs!



Events

May 10 - Interview Skills
Class at 6 PM on Zoom
(reach out to Lydia@smpha.org
for the Zoom invite)

May 26 - Food Wise Cooking
Class 6 PM





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4		6	7
	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29		31	<p>Click on the images to learn more about May 2022. Access an electronic copy from our website at smpha.org.</p> <p>Check the resident services office at your site for special events for your neighborhood!</p>			

LEADERSHIP**Board of Commissioners**

Gloria Salazar — Chairperson

Mittie Miller — Vice-Chairperson

Adriana Castillo — Commissioner

Rachel Durrance — Resident Comm.

Executive Director

Lana Wagner

*Commissioners meet on the 4th
Tuesday of each month @ 6:30 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