



# Casa Marianella

Los Amigos de Casa Marianella - 2016



# A PEEK INSIDE

The Staff of 2016

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*Melissa Buhrt*

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*Evie Tadesse*  
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*Miriam Fiorentino*  
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*Ximena De la Fuente*

*Posada Esperanza*

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*Clare Deck*

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*Gilbert Jesus*



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## OUR MISSION

Casa Marianella creates community with Latin American immigrants and international asylees by providing hospitality and promoting self-sufficiency.

## SERVICES OF CASA MARIANELLA

*In addition to providing shelter and support to recently arrived immigrants, Casa Marianella is also proud to offer:*

### **ESL (English as a Second Language) Classes**

Monday-Thursday, 7:30 PM-9:00 PM; beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. Classes are FREE and open to all! No registration required!

### **Oriental Medicine Clinic**

The clinic is open every Monday and Friday with appointments upon request.

### **Legal Services Clinic**

Our legal clinic provides assistance with a wide variety of immigration law matters for current and former Casa residents and, as time allows, for other individuals who qualify.

# A MESSAGE FROM JENNIFER LONG

In its 31st year, Casa Marianella continues to provide hospitality to immigrants and refugees from around the globe. This past year we housed 314 people from 37 countries in our two shelters. Each of our residents receives food, a warm bed, case management, ESL classes, legal services, and access to acupuncture and herbal medicine. Most importantly, we are a community. Our residents come to us from the streets or from war zones or detention centers and they find at Casa a welcoming space filled with people like themselves. Together, they do the work of rebuilding their lives. We who work at Casa have the privilege of watching this arduous and energetic process of starting over in Austin, Texas.

In 2016 we have experienced more crowding than ever. This is fitting consider-

ing that 65 million people are displaced worldwide, and that the displaced are desperately struggling to find places of respite. Casa's biggest problem currently is that there is no network of similar shelters around the country. There are several immigrant shelters in Texas, but outside Texas there is very little. The result of this absence of services means that our country can't adequately receive the people who are coming to our borders looking for refugee status. Our biggest need at the current time is to somehow find partners around the US to participate in welcoming our neighbors.

Casa Marianella's model relies on the generosity of the community. Our staff devote a year or more of their lives to this work with little compensation. In addition we have hundreds of community volun-

teers who teach our ESL classes, tutor our children at Posada Esperanza, cook our meals, mentor our residents, paint our houses, and get to know our community. As Bryan Stevenson has said, the first step in overcoming injustice is proximity. At Casa we have the opportunity to dialogue with people who have been subjected to unspeakable injustice.

We welcome you to participate with us in this work. If you have a room to rent in your house, please consider helping us out in this way. Casa is fed by generosity. Human history has seen a constant stream of people who have had to move around. I hope you will join us in making room for our newcomers who have the same human rights to safety and dignity that we all have.

# SISTERHOOD PATTI MCCABE

The women who are living at Posada Esperanza have created a sisterhood. For sisterhood to take root, perhaps all that is needed is to be together, now, in peace. While this sounds so simple, our Posada mothers know this is not to be taken for granted. These relationships can be a lifeline. They can create quality of life for their families. For so many of our Posada ladies, beloved family members are far away, jailed, or even dead. The void created by this world's injustice could so easily be filled with anger and depression, but the Posada women do the hard work of reaching out to one another with respect and kindness. And in these acts they create a new sisterhood for each other.

Sofia, who is a mother of four children, took Simret under her wing when she arrived to Posada shaken and seven months pregnant. They share language, food, and loss of their home country of Eritrea. Sofia stayed by Simret's side for her two-day labor and helps to care for the baby. Simret says that Sofia is like a mother to her. Simret in turn helps Sofia with her children,

as tending to four children on your own is a huge feat. It's as if destiny brought these two women together to live in the same house. Both these women have a generous, loving character, and their coming together at Posada has enabled them to seamlessly provide the support the other needs most at this time.

Cooperation and respect cross all cultural and language lines these days at Posada. But the women are also able to find within the community other women who share their language, religion, culture, and food. You can feel the comfort that they experience with each other as women gather around the table quietly chatting and eating from the same meal. The Posada women appreciate the sharing of cooking duties, kindnesses to each other's children, and the comfort of relaxing into their own culture.

The bond formed between the Posada women helps to bring joy and ease to their days but it also provides a network of support for when tragedy strikes. This

summer our beloved four-year-old Dixon, who had previously lived at Posada, died tragically. If it weren't for the relationships created at Posada, Dixon's mom Mabel might have been alone during this unspeakable time. Families that had stayed at Posada throughout the years poured into her home to hold her and weep with her in the horror and grief.

The Posada Esperanza program is quietly creating the environment for this community to be able to grow. The staff is there helping the families to make steps toward their goals, creating a positive tone in the community, and helping to keep order and peace in the day. Feeling safe in this place, the families can bring their best selves to the creation of new relationships, relationships that will bring tangible and intangible benefits to their families' lives.

Thank you to the supporters of Casa Marianella for giving the Posada families a foundation where they can create a new sisterhood.

# CASA MARIANELLA IN THE YEAR 2016

THE 2016 ED WENDLER AWARD

## RAICES

Casa started in 1986 when a man named Ed Wendler donated a house to be used as a shelter to welcome immigrants who were fleeing violence in Central America. Each year, the Casa Marianella board gives an award in honor of Ed Wendler to a person or organization who has provided outstanding service to the immigrant community. This year we gave the award to the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services, or RAICES.

RAICES started the same year as Casa and in response to the same humanitarian crises. Over the last thirty years, RAICES has provided crucial legal services and education to thousands of immigrants and their families. They have continuously grown and adapted to meet the changing needs of the immigrant community. Through their Children's Program, RAICES provides legal representation, education and referrals to thousands of unaccompanied children each year who have come here fleeing violence and persecution. RAICES has played a pivotal role in organizing the pro bono efforts to meet the legal needs of mothers and their children at the Karnes immigration detention

center. Last year RAICES launched a program to provide emergency shelter to immigrants in San Antonio upon their release from detention. In addition to their direct services, RAICES's advocacy work helps influence the national discourse on issues affecting immigrants.

The Ed Wendler Award for Outstanding Service to the Immigrant Community was accepted by Executive Director Jonathan Ryan and several members of the RAICES staff at our annual benefit event in April. We are truly grateful to RAICES for their decades of service and we look forward to the next 30 years of collaboration.

"The United States is a country of immigrants. We embrace our differences, drawing the best ideas from every part of our diverse society. Studying and obtaining citizenship is merely the beginning. Remain civically engaged; register to vote; and exercise your hard-earned right to vote every election so that the great fabric that makes our democracy unique reflects what makes you unique."

- Congressman Lloyd Doggett October 2014 Press Release Supporting RAICES' Citizenship initiative

## CASA FEATURED IN DETENTION EXHIBIT

AN EXCERPT FROM SONIA SINGH

UT Austin's latest exhibit, Spatial Stories of Migration and Detention, highlights how architecture impacts detainee punishment. Casa Marianella is proud to be a part of this exhibit, with some of our residents lending their stories and experiences to UT Austin's exhibit with the hope that their voices will help improve the current detention situation in Texas.

Although scarce, there are resources for refugees once they are released from detention. One of them is Casa Marianella, and we are very proud and honored to be featured in this exhibit as an example of how architecture can positively affect refugees starting a new life in the United States. "Ultimately, Casa is a



residence rather than an institution." A paragraph from statesofincarceration.org details their findings: "With more detention centers than any other state, Texas can imprison an estimated 34,767 migrants daily. Despite Immigration and Customs Enforcement's mandate to 'ensure the safety, privacy, and basic human rights of all detainees,' the architecture of detention tells a different story. The buildings' geographic location, materials, and spatial organization, as well as migrants' experiences detained, reveal how 'administrative' detention punishes. Detention centers are located out of public view, and largely impervious to investigation—although taxpayers finance the buildings."

FOR COMPLETE ARTICLE, VISIT: [WWW.CASAMARIANELLA.ORG](http://WWW.CASAMARIANELLA.ORG)

# CASA MARIANELLA IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

## Elise Harriger

Casa Marianella's legal clinic, Casa Marianella Immigration Legal Services (CMILS), exists to provide free immigration legal services to residents, ex-residents, and community members living under the poverty line. We have assisted many individuals with a variety of matters, such as U visas, T visas, Special Immigrant Juvenile petitions, Asylum, Withholding and Convention Against Torture, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), family petitions, applications for green cards, and applications for work permits.

This past year, due to the long wait for hearings in the immigration

court, CMILS conducted free group clinics to help asylum seekers lodge their asylum applications. CMILS, along with volunteers from American Gateways and the University of Texas School of Law, helped asylum seekers make use of the lodging process, which allows them to obtain work authorization more quickly than they would otherwise. This is very important so that individuals can work and support themselves while they await their hearings in immigration court. This year, CMILS will partner with American Gateways and Refugee Services of Texas to serve even more asylum seekers through this lodging-clinic model.

We are excited to continue our work to help some of our most vulnerable Texans.

*CMILS SAYS THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL DONORS!*

We could not do our legal work on behalf of Casa residents and the immigrant community without you.



# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE UPDATE

## Kathleen P.

With an emphasis on creating hopeful, empowering, and encouraging environments and dynamic, interactive, and practical lessons, this year's 57 volunteer adult English as a Second Language teachers have played a significant role in fulfilling Casa's mission of providing hospitality to asylum-seekers and immigrants from around the world and helping them develop the skills and knowledge they need to start their new lives here.

In addition to preparing and teaching lessons four nights a week in three levels of classes, developing teaching skills through 14 hours of ESL instructor training, collaborating with colleagues at teacher meetings and while planning sessions, and participating enthusiastically at Convivio and other Casa events, our teachers are beloved by all for their role in helping to create Casa's warm, welcoming, close-knit community. "As soon as you enter Casa, you are woven into Casa's fabric," said teacher Cutter Uhlhorn.

Many teachers, including our experienced Literacy First AmeriCorps volunteers, go on to other important community service careers such as teaching at public schools, working at Refugee Services of Texas or other nonprofits serving immigrants, volunteering with the Peace Corps, reporting on immigrant and refugee issues as journalists, making documentary films on refugee issues, and teaching abroad. "Teaching at Casa has opened my eyes to how much refugees and immigrants risk coming to the U.S." said Grace Wasson.

# FORMER RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT SHARMA HASSAN

## Gus Bova

Sharma Hassan lights up the Casa Marianella office the moment he enters it. At 20 years old, his broad smile and warm attitude make everyone enthusiastic to see him. “The first time I came to Casa,” he told me for this article, “I knew I was finally in a place where people loved me by heart.”

Sharma, who grew up between Somalia and Kenya, had a long, often-loveless journey to the United States. Like many from his part of the world, Sharma first left Africa in a plane to Brazil, before moving his way up through Latin America country-by-country.

Sharma says he tried making a life for himself in both Brazil and Panama, but the obstacles were too much. He spoke no Portuguese or Spanish, and he could barely find work; most often, he said, he slept on the streets. Desperate, he finally decided to pitch in with some other



African immigrants he’d met and head to the United States – where at least he could use the English he’d learned in Kenya.

Like most asylum-seekers, 18-year-old Sharma met a rude reception when he finally arrived at the US-Mexico border. “Finally I made it and they put me in a cell,” he said, referring to an immigrant detention center, “and they treated me like a criminal.”

After a month in detention, Sharma said, “all my hopes started to die.” In the end, though, he was one of the lucky ones – a pro-bono lawyer agreed to take his case and, after 4 ½ months, he won asylum and left for Casa Marianella’s doorstep.

During his stay at Casa, Sharma charmed everyone he met and got along with residents from all countries. Over time, he found work both as a taxi driver and a Somali-English interpreter, and moved out into an apartment of his own (which he currently shares with another Casa ex-resident). Thankfully for us, though, Sharma isn’t one to be a stranger.

When I asked him what he likes best about life in America, he answered: coming back to Casa and helping people who are going through what he once did. “I came through a hard time,” he said. “I can understand what they went through, so I can help them.”

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT NIKKI REES

## Gus Bova

Nikki Rees, the former Co-director of UT Austin’s Orange Bike Project, first connected with Casa through its ESL program. After a while though, she realized Casa needed her bike repair skills even more than her teaching skills, and she became Casa’s volunteer bike mechanic.

A year and half later, she’s still helping staff and residents fix the shelter’s collection of bicycles, and teaching them maintenance skills along the way. She says some of her favorite parts of the job are learning the Spanish words for bicy-

cle parts, and learning alternative repair methods from residents (those who biked in their home countries often learned to improvise, making do with few bike-specific tools).

Today, Nikki has graduated from UT and is applying to Physician’s Assistant programs. Her studies may take her away from Austin and Casa, but we know she’ll continue to do good work.

“Right now I have bike skills, so that’s what I can offer people,” she said, “when I have medical skills, I’ll offer those the same way.”



The Casa Bike Program, which began about 5 years ago, provides residents with a convenient form of transportation that empowers them to find employment, explore the City, and meet their basic necessities. The program is always accepting donations of the following: bikes in good repair, bike locks, bike lights, bike tubes, and assorted maintenance products like WD-40 and grease. Donations accepted at any time.

# A COMMUNITY FILLED WITH GENEROSITY

## Posada Remembers A Special Little Resident



"We will miss our little friend and his lovely smile."



"When I started volunteering, I was greeted on my first day-- and in the first few minutes--by Dixon."



"I will forever remember Dixon playing in the park, chasing ducks and eating a popsicle the size of his head."



"His charm, energy and kindness was infectious."



"Only four years old, he made me feel so welcome."



"Thank you for your gentle spirit!"



"Dixon's smile and light have truly touched people beyond his life."



"Dixon made a very strong impression on me. Such a spirited boy with a big personality."

For most staff, volunteers, donors and friends that have come through our doors this year, the first face they met was Dixon's. The 4-year-old's infectious smile, curious questions and bursts into song served as our welcome wagon during his family's stay at Posada Esperanza. Visitors would best remember his love of Elsa from Frozen, his sweet tooth, his giant personality and his laugh of pure joy. He also probably asked, "What's your name?" and "Where's your car?"

His mother Mabel constantly served Posada Esperanza with her generosity and hospitality. In many ways, she kept the shelter running: taking the trash and recycling out every

Thursday night, offering bus orientations to new residents and sharing a cup of oil or sugar with any mother that was short. She worked numerous cleaning jobs to provide for her family both in the United States and in Honduras. Yet, she never put her work before her children: Mabel took multiple buses each way to drop both boys off at daycare and school and was always there to pick them up at the end of the day. She is a paragon of maternal love, compassion and joy.

Sweet Dixon died tragically on August 13, leaving the entire Casa Marianella community to mourn such an immeasurable loss. Current and former residents, staff, volun-

teers, donors and generous strangers came out of the woodwork to surround the family in love and compassion. An online fundraising campaign started by a former staff member raised nearly \$18,000 to cover funeral costs and travel expenses.

Moving forward, we hope to remember this special little boy for his larger-than-life spirit, instead of for this tragedy. Let the words of those that knew him and some of our favorite photos demonstrate just how joyous and beautiful baby Dixon was.

Anyone interested in supporting Mabel and her family during this time can contact Posada Esperanza at [posadaesperanza@yahoo.com](mailto:posadaesperanza@yahoo.com).

# CATCHING HEALTHY HABITS

## Shelby Bachelder

Thanks to the lovely Karen Wolman applying for a mini-grant, Posada Esperanza was able to incorporate the CATCH curriculum into our programming this summer. CATCH, or the Coordinated Approach to Child Health, incorporates healthy lifestyle learning in many different areas of a child's life. In order to experience the best overall outcomes from health education, it is necessary to use this coordinated approach so that children are receiving positive reinforcement from many different sources.

CATCH specifically combines learning in the classroom, the Eat Smart school nutrition program, a Physical Education program, and a Family program. Posada staff received a large textbook of lesson plans and activities that touch on all of these areas. The textbook was easy to comprehend and was a brilliant hands-on activity for many of Posada's volunteers. The script for the

class was right on the page, and the materials for the activities were easy to generate or were provided in the programming.

CATCH helped us kick it up a notch on our Fitness Fridays and Sabados Saludables! With our moms close by, staff, volunteers and residents taught healthy lessons, got outside and exercised, and learned some healthy habits. Now our kiddos can get positive, healthy lifestyle messages from many different realms of their lives at Posada!



# THANKFUL FOR "THE BE THANKFUL PROJECT"

## Katie Smith & Sonia Singh

Late last year, Posada staff member Brittany Hirschorn was scouring Craigslist, securing donations and low-cost items to furnish a resident's new apartment. She found a listing for a brand new rice cooker and reached out to its owner, Donna, to see if she'd consider donating it. Generously, she agreed and just jotted a line at the end of her e-mail response, "Is there anything else you all need?" One small question lead to nearly a year of generosity and community support for Posada's women and children.



"When I made my first visit to the shelter," says Donna, "I realized that they needed much more help than they were letting on." She reached out to her online network and created a Facebook campaign, "The Be Thankful Project," intent on continuing to support Posada's needs, big and small.

The project has donated everything -- from thousands of baby diapers to new stoves and refrigerators for Posada's busy moms. Most recently, the group's proceeds have



# RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT ELBIA

## Clare Deck

One of the first interactions I had with Elbia was while she was doing a video call with two of her kids. She is from Concepción Chiquirichapa, Guatemala, where her daughter, 12, and two sons, 9 and 4, live. During the video call, I was introduced to Elbia's daughter, who was wearing a beautifully colored woven shirt. I later learned that the shirt was an example of the kinds of traditional Guatemalan textiles she grew up making. Elbia's mother taught her from a young age how to weave these colored textiles and then make them into shirts, skirts, and even bracelets. Elbia particularly loved creating these multicolored works of art, especially the bracelets, to which she would add words or names and give as gifts.

Elbia traveled to the United States in 2015, and was held in detention for over a year. While she was in detention, she spent her time making the same bracelets she had loved making during her life in Guatemala. A volunteer group who came to the detention center brought her the materials for making the bracelets and even awarded Elbia a certificate

for teaching their group and other people in detention how to crochet.

During that year, in order to get legal help with her case and to get herself out of detention quicker, she took out a loan back in Guatemala in order to pay a large sum of money to someone who claimed to be a lawyer here in the U.S. Unfortunately, the person who she paid did not give her legal help, and did nothing to aid her case, yet he took all of the money Elbia had paid, leaving her family with a loan to pay off that had an interest rate of 5% a month.

Elbia came to Posada Esperanza directly from detention, and is now in the process of seeking asylum. She works long hours washing dishes downtown to earn money to pay off her loan, but between attempting to pay off a rapidly increasing debt and sending money to support her family back in Guatemala, she is left without money to be able to fully support herself here in the U.S. With the interest quickly accumulating and increasing the amount of money she owes, Elbia is concerned about what the future holds for her and her

family back in Guatemala.

Despite her difficult situation, Elbia consistently lights up Posada's community through her wide smile, bright laugh, and hardworking spirit. We often take the same bus from Posada, as she heads to work and I head home, and her comfort in striking up a conversation with me about my own time in Guatemala, and how we're both faring in Austin--a new city for us both--easily makes my day. Her native language is Mam, a Mayan language, and so we both laugh at our struggles with speaking Spanish and trying to remember when to use the formal form of "you." Elbia's commitment to working hard and spreading joy through her smiles and lovingly crafted bracelets is apparent to everyone at Posada. She inspires me everyday to bring joy and light to everyone I encounter.

If you would like to support Elbia during this difficult time for her, or perhaps even buy one of her personalized bracelets, email [posadaesperanza@yahoo.com](mailto:posadaesperanza@yahoo.com).



To the left:  
Elbia  
with her  
daughters.

To the right:  
Elbia with  
her mother.



# CASA MARIANELLA BY NUMBERS 2016



Casa Marianella opened its doors on January 26, 1986 in response to the arrival of refugees fleeing from Central America to Austin. The house is named for Marianella García Villas, a Salvadoran attorney and human rights organization founder who battled against human rights violations in El Salvador until her assassination by government troops in 1983. Casa Marianella was donated by Ed Wendler to the Diocese of Austin for use as a shelter.



## THROUGH OUR DOORS

- 41 FAMILIES
- 314 PEOPLE
- REFUGEES, ASYLEES, IMMIGRANTS



Casa Marianella provides shelter, food and full supportive services to homeless immigrants. Our shelters are home-like facilities designed to meet emergency or transitional needs so vulnerable and injured people can resolve their immediate crisis, get stabilized and once again become independent, which then opens up space for new residents. In 29 years, our population has evolved from survivors of the Salvadoran war to asylum seeking refugees and other immigrants from over 40 countries.

## 37 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Angola	Haiti
Bangladesh	Honduras
Bolivia	Iran
Brazil	Iraq
Burkina Faso	Mali
Burundi	Mexico
Cameroon	Nepal
Central African Republic	Nicaragua
Colombia	Nigeria
Costa Rica	Peru
Cuba	Republic of Congo
DRC	Rwanda
El Salvador	Saudi Arabia
Eritrea	Sierra Leone
Ethiopia	Somalia
France	Sudan
Gabon	Togo
Guatemala	USA



## Languages Spoken

- Staff: 7
- Residents: 19

English, Amharic, Tigrinya, Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, Burmese, Swahili, Hindi, Akan, Nepali, Arabic, Urdu, Quechua, Bengali, Haitian Creole, Farsi, Kurdish.

# M.I.S.M.A 2016

This year, M.I.S.M.A received a 25K grant from the National Domestic Workers' Alliance (NDWA) to conduct a research project of our own design. We partnered with UT and conducted a four month long study on the working conditions, culture and power of domestic workers in Austin. In September, we attended the bi-annual NDWA assembly and joint summit with the "We Won't Wait" Women of Color Policy Agen-

da conference. We took a delegation of five M.I.S.M.A members to Washington DC and attended the "We Won't Wait" Women of Color Policy Agenda Summit.

This has been an amazing year! We launched our new website at [www.Trabajadoras.org](http://www.Trabajadoras.org), increased our active participant membership by 40% and found a new office home at Plaza Mariposa with PODER, Resis-

tencia Bookstore, ATXEJ, Equilibrio and Latinitas. We are preparing for our 5th annual Posada Navideña.

M.I.S.M.A is a domestic worker organizing project birthed out of Casa Marianella's women's program. MISMA stands for "Mujeres Inspiradas en Sueños, Metas y Acciones" (Women inspired in dreams, goals and actions). You can support our work by donating via our website.



# JOIN US FROM 6PM-8PM EVERY LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH FOR



# CONVIVIO

A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY WITH LIVE MUSIC, DANCING, AND A VARIETY OF CULTURAL DISHES!

## WISH LIST

DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED AT CASA MARIANELLA FROM 9AM-7PM DAILY..  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

### POSADA ESPERANZA

- FIRST THROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL
- COLORING BOOKS
- CRAYONS, MARKERS, PAINT & OTHER CRAFT SUPPLIES
- POTS AND PANS
- DISHES, SPOONS, FORKS, SHARP KNIVES
- DIAPERS (SIZES 4 OR 5) & BABY WIPES
- SANITARY NAPKINS
- WINTER JACKETS AND PANTS FOR CHILDREN & MOTHERS

### CASA MARIANELLA

- SOAP, SHAMPOO, TOOTHPASTE, BRUSHES, RAZORS, TOWELS & BEDDING
- MEN'S CLOTHING
- UNDERGARMENTS & SOCKS
- FRESH FRUIT, VEGGIES, MILK & EGGS
- KITCHENWARE
- UMBRELLAS
- BIKE LOCKS & BIKE LIGHTS



# Casa Marianella

821 Gunter Street  
Austin, TX 78702



## Our Key Collaborators

City of Austin  
Travis County  
American Gateways  
RAICES, Inc.  
Bernard Kohler Center  
UT Immigration Clinic

Catholic Charities  
Refugee Services of Texas  
Caritas of Austin  
Justice for our Neighbors  
Workers Defense Project  
Equal Justice Center  
Capital Area Counseling  
Center for Survivors of Torture

CommUnity Care Clinics  
Capital Metro Transit  
Yellow Bike Project  
Capital Area Food Bank  
Keep Austin Housed AmeriCorps  
Jesuit Volunteer Corps  
Episcopal Service Corps

## Religious Congregations

Central Christian Church  
University Christian Church  
St James Episcopal Church  
St George's Episcopal Church  
St Matthew's Episcopal Church  
St David's Episcopal Church  
Friends Meeting of Austin  
1st Unitarian Universalist Church

Live Oak Unitarian Church  
Wildflower Unitarian Church  
Unity of Wimberley  
Unity of the Hills Church  
The Catholic Diocese of Austin  
St Catherine of Siena Catholic Church  
St Austin Catholic Church  
Santa Julia Catholic Church  
Cristo Rey Catholic Church  
University Catholic Center

St John Neumann Catholic Church  
St. Elias Antiochia Orthodox Church  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
First Presbyterian Church  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
United Methodist Women of Central Michigan

## Groups

Still Water Foundation  
Episcopal Health Foundation  
Religious Coalition to Assist the Homeless  
Impact Austin Foundation  
Donald D Hammill Foundation  
Shield-Ayres Foundation  
Travis County Medical Alliance  
Rachael and Ben Vaughan Fdn.  
Lola Wright Foundation  
Lowe Foundation  
Trull Foundation  
National Christian Foundation  
Poorman Foundation  
Women's Fund of Central Texas

Rocket Science Realty  
Crop Walk  
Amplify Austin  
Pan American Round Table  
Tom Adams Computer Rescue  
Dell Employee Giving  
Texas Coffee Traders  
Bon Appetit  
Keep Austin Fed  
Wheatsville  
Trader Joes  
Treasure City Thrift  
State Bar of Texas  
Austin Bar Foundation  
American Immigration Lawyers Fdn.  
Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation  
Immigration and Nationality Section

of the State Bar of Texas  
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service  
4Girls Foundation  
Deats, Durst, & Owen PLLC  
Roach & Newton LLP  
Travis Country Women Lawyer's Fdn.  
Labor & Employment Section of the State Bar of Texas  
University of Texas School of Law  
University of Michigan School of Law  
Grassroots Leadership  
Austin Community Fdn.  
Austin American-Statesman  
H-E-B  
St Edward's University