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GAVA
GO! AUSTIN / VAMOS! AUSTIN

January 2017

Organizing Neighbors in 78745

The La Voz team in 78745, had a successful team meeting with many new leaders in attendance. The residents committed to establishing new relationships in order to address traffic safety issues, and to continue their work in supporting their farms-stand and parks-team.

Park Beautification

Project registration for It's My Park Day Spring is now open! Help us maintain and improve our city's parks and register your park project today. Mini-grants of up to \$500 will be available for park projects.



Improving Safe Routes in 78745

Last month, GAVA geo team, "Community in Action" had a work day painting the sidewalk to increase its visibility and added creative designs. Leaders gathered donations of paint, tools and food from different sources to make this possible. Since then, more kids have been utilizing the sidewalk and the route to the school is safer for pedestrians. Thank you to all the leaders who organized this event!

Creek Connectivity in 78744

A new trail along East Williamson Creek along Creek Bend has officially been approved! The Creek Bend resident team would like to thank Keep Austin Beautiful, Richard Maness and each volunteer that has come out to support the beautification of this creek. Work on the creek will continue this spring!



Food Access in Dove Springs

The 78744 Food Access Team met in early December to discuss some of the next steps and action plans to keep working with the corner stores in Dove Springs participating in the Healthy Corner Store Initiative. The team will be meeting with a couple of store owners in mid January to talk about some opportunities to keep moving forward with the program, in a way that benefits everyone in the community. If you'd like to participate in the meeting contact us!

Dove Springs

Community Garden

(Photo at right:) Dove Springs' Community Garden team decides their winter watering schedule, waters plants, and tends to the garden. Alfredo Padilla and Ruth Ramirez (DSCG team members and Mendez Parents) talk about what they learned in the



Sustainable Food Center's training. The team also got to harvest what they planted in the beginning of the Fall. The next work day is on **Saturday, January 14th from 9 am - 11 am near the CIS portable by Nuckols Crossing and Palo Blanco**. Please join us and also check out this link to hear about this project:

<https://www.smores.com/ee3md>

Promoting Coordinated School Health and an Active School Day at Mendez Middle School

The Mendez CSH team promoted a 4-week competition so that teachers who implemented CATCH in the classroom could win a FITBIT and motivate students to engage in physical activity. Ms. Ramon and Ms. Helmink won the fitbit with their creativity and impacting about 200 8th grade students!





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78745 Calendar

Meeting / Event	Date	Contact
Weekly Farm Stands Stop by every week for fresh, affordable, in-season produce! Now offering double dollars for SNAP purchases. Also inquire about volunteer opportunities!	Wed. @ Sierra Ridge Apartments 3:00 - 5:00 PM, 201 W St. Elmo Rd	Simone Benz Sustainable Food Center simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org 512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell)
Physical Activity Sector Meeting Join the PA Sector group for our last meeting of 2016! PA Sector meetings are opportunities for teams to work on park/green space projects, receive trainings and network with other park groups.	Tuesday, January 17th 6:30 - 8:00 PM Pleasant Hill Branch Library 211 E William Cannon Dr, Austin, TX 78745	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
La Voz Meeting The La Voz team at Foundation Communities will have their final meeting of the year and serve a dinner to celebrate the year's' win	TBD 6:30-8:00 PM Sierra Vista Apartments	Mariano Di Vincenzo GAVA Community Organizer at FC mariano.divincenzo@foundcom.org , 713-854-2627
Austin Interfaith monthly leaders meeting Join leaders from Austin Interfaith member institutions from across the city for their monthly gathering.	Thursday January 26 7:00-8:30pm at Wildflower Unitarian Church 1314 East Oltorf St, 78704.	Kathleen Davis kdavis@austininterfaith.org 512-916-0100
Community in Action Meeting This meeting will be focused on planning projects for 2017 and set up strategies for traffic, physical activity access and food access.	Monday, January 23 10:00 AM Pleasant Hill Elementary	Ivanna Neri Geo Team Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
Cunningham Neighborhood School Meeting Come join us to plan strategies to improve the health of the Cunningham Elementary community.	Wednesday, January 18 3:15 PM Cunningham Elementary	Ivanna Neri Geo Team Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
La Fuerza Meeting The team will strategize on funding opportunities, traffic, safety and food access.	Monday, January 23 TBD	Ivanna Neri Geo Team Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648



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Dove Springs - 78744 Calendar

Meeting / Event	Date	Contact
Dove Springs Farm Stand Join us at the Dove Springs Farm Stand! You will be able to purchase local, organic produce at low prices.	Every Saturday! 10:30-12:30 pm Dove Springs District Park 5801 Ainez Dr.	Simone Benz Sustainable Food Center simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org 512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell)
Estrellas de Paisano (Stars of Paisano) Safety Trail Meeting Resident of the Paisano Mobile homes geo team will continue to advocate for a safety trail for students walking to school near Poinciana park and Paisano Mobile homes.	Wednesday, January 11 6-7pm Paisano Mobile Homes	Estrella de León Geo Teams Organizer 78744 estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548
Physical Activity Sector Meeting Join the PA Sector group for the first meeting of 2017! PA Sector meetings are opportunities for teams to work on park/green space projects, receive trainings and network with other park groups.	Wednesday, December 14th 6:30 - 8:00 PM Pleasant Hill Branch Library 211 E William Cannon Dr, Austin, TX 78745	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
Austin Interfaith monthly leaders meeting A monthly convening of leaders from Austin Interfaith member institutions across the city.	Thursday January 26 7:00-8:30pm at Wildflower Unitarian Church 1314 East Oltorf St, 78704	Kathleen Davis kdavis@austininterfaith.org 512-916-0100
Dove Springs Community Garden Workday The Dove Springs Community Garden team invites all to a work day and to the Community Garden team by Nuckols Crossing and Palo Blanco every 1st Saturday of the month. Everyone is welcome- young and old- please wear gardening clothes and plan to dig in the dirt!	Saturday, January 14th 9 am - 12 pm Mendez Middle School	Sulamita Mora FRC Director sulamita.mora@austinsd.org 512-841-1016

GO! Austin/VAMOS! Austin (GAVA) is a partnership of residents, community leaders and nonprofit agencies who are devoted to improving the health of children and community in Dove Springs and 78745. We are neighborhoods and organizations united for health through improved nutrition and physical activity. For more info on GAVA Dove Springs, or to give your input, contact Carmen Llanes Pulido, GAVA Dove Springs Community Director at 512-633-4312 or carmen@marathonkids.org, or Alba Sereno, 78745 Community Director at (214) 799-3767 or alba@marathonkids.org. Or, find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GOAustinVAMOSAustin and on the web at www.GoAustinVamosAustin.org





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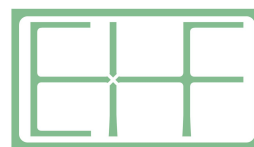


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