



FEATURED MEMBER FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES

HEALTHY WORK ENVIRONMENT,
ENERGY, AND WATER



Background: Going Green

Foundation Communities owns and operations 19 affordable housing communities in Austin and North Texas; all of the property managers and lead maintenance staff at these communities are Certified Green Property Managers. Over the last 4 years, Foundation Communities has provided more than 150 hours of green operations and maintenance training, resulting in the certification of 60+ full-time staff. This program has significantly minimized the non-profit’s carbon footprint- reducing water consumption by 12% and energy consumption by 2-26% at most properties.



Key Impact: Healthy Work Environment, Energy, and Water
AGBL Status: Platinum Member | 2014
Liasion: Susan Peterson, Director of Green Initiatives

Process: How did they do it?

This certification process, made possible through the National Affordable Housing Management Association, has benefitted the health and well-being of both staff and residents. It has also reduced operational expenses, improved asset durability, and provided important professional development opportunities.

Foundation Communities is a local, homegrown nonprofit that provides affordable, attractive homes and free on-site support services for thousands of families with kids, as well as veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. The organization offers an innovative, proven model that empowers residents and neighbors to achieve educational success, financial stability, and healthier lifestyles.



Commit – Foundation Communities is dedicated to fostering a culture of sustainability that directly impacts the welfare of staff and residents throughout its communities.



Engage – Foundation Communities’ Director of Green Initiatives, Susan Peterson, developed programming with those in a position to impart the greatest impact - employees working directly with the built environment as Property Managers or maintenance staff.



Certify – To earn the certification, property managers and lead maintenance staff go through a 16-hour green operations and care training course shortly after hire.



Focus – Foundation Communities closely monitors and tracks the 6 central areas of the training course:

- Green Building Principles and Practices
- Energy Efficiency
- Water Efficiency
- Integrated Pest Management
- Indoor Air Quality
- Green Operations and Maintenance

