



## KEY UPDATES | July 2017

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A "Save the Date" graphic for the 2017 AVANCE-Austin Valor y Sueños Luncheon. On the left is a photograph of a smiling woman with long dark hair embracing a young boy. On the right, the text reads: "Save the Date" in a red cursive font, followed by a colorful floral graphic with "2017" in the center and "Valor y Sueños" on a banner below. The event details are: "2017 AVANCE-Austin Valor y Sueños Luncheon", "The Courage to Dream" in red cursive, "Wednesday, November 1, 2017", and "11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | JW Marriott".

Happy Summer, AVANCE Friends!

I hope your summer is shimmering with moments of sweet relaxation and celebration time with family and friends. The July days are skipping away with our summer programming and preparations for upcoming events, and I wanted to stop in for a quick line to share all the great happenings at AVANCE this summer.

We are still shining with pride and joy for our 2017 AVANCE-Austin graduates. We have harnessed the inspirational vibes from graduation to launch our summer health and literacy program, H-E-B Read 3. We are ecstatic to be in our third year with such a wonderful community partner to offer an interactive course for mothers and children centered on making reading and nutrition accessible and fun! While we're soaking up and enjoying H-E-B Read 3, we are also looking forward to seeing you at upcoming community events that will continue to help AVANCE foster its mission to unlock potential. Make sure to mark your calendars with the events noted in the newsletter - especially our [Valor y Sueños Luncheon on November 1st](#), which promises to be a day of inspiration and community building. This year, we will celebrate 20 years in this community and we would like to make it our biggest and best ever!

Wholehearted thanks for your continued championing of AVANCE-Austin.

Best wishes,



Marie Felan  
Executive Director

## LA GRADUACIÓN 2017

### ¡Felicitaciones!

Congratulations to the AVANCE-Austin Class of 2017!

This May, we honored the accomplishments, courage, and strength of 86 parents and 96 children who completed the **Parent-Child Education Program**. For nine months, our dedicated families committed to a weekly four-hour parenting and early childhood education program to help take their children down the path of success. Ours was the first of many graduation ceremonies for these families who, by completing the program, prepared their young children to succeed in school and increase their own skills and potential. These children will go on to achieve great things because they have the support of their first and most important teachers: their parents.

[Enjoy more photos from graduation!](#)



### Celebrating Community

The speeches from the graduating mothers were a highlight of the ceremonies. Each ceremony spotlighted mothers who had been selected by their classmates to represent the class and voice their own personal journey in the program.

Santa Aguirre and Wendi Carbonates, the nominated speakers from Friday's class, shared the stage and spoke to the challenges, joys and sense of community fostered at AVANCE:

"It takes a village to raise a child," Santa Aguirre enthused. "Thanks to AVANCE, we all have found our village." This theme of community was a thread connecting emcee Claudia Talamantez's heartfelt introductions, and in the keynote commencement speeches given by

renowned reporter Joy Diaz and District 2 Austin City Council Member Delia Garza. Their empowering speeches illuminated the energetic jubilation exuded by the graduates, praised the mothers for their hard work and dedication, and propelled the families to continue to soar.

You'll have the chance to embrace our village, hear firsthand from AVANCE program graduates, and more at our annual [Valor y Sueños Luncheon on November 1st!](#)



### Mil Gracias to our Community!

Our community of partners is a key element in the success of AVANCE-Austin and our graduating families. We are so grateful for our determined families, our dedicated and compassionate AVANCE staff and educators, our Board of Directors for their leadership and support, our committed school partners, and the many supporters who believe in our mission. With your continued partnership, we will graduate yet another successful class of AVANCE-Austin families in 2018!

## BE A CHANGEMAKER!

*Austin*  
**AVANCE**

**CHANGEMAKERS**

*A Commitment to Unlock Austin's Potential*



Thursday, July 20  
6 PM - 8 PM



Wright Bros. Brew & Brew  
500 San Marcos St.  
Suite 105  
Austin, Texas 78702

### Launch Party

Get charged up to make an impact in your community now!

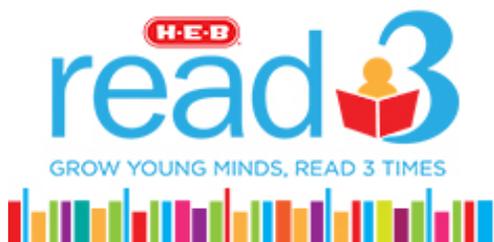
Enjoy a summer evening of cool refreshments and meet new friends as we kick off an exciting opportunity to give back and get involved in shaping change. RSVP greatly appreciated!

Mil Gracias to our Host Committee: Phillip Martin, Amber Walker, and Dulce Ruiz

RSVP Today

## H-E-B Read 3

### Nurturing A Love For Learning



This summer, AVANCE-Austin teamed up with H-E-B to provide parent-child educational courses on nutrition and early childhood literacy. In our third year of this exciting community partnership, we welcome more than 90 parents and children for an interactive and engaging seven week program that stirs up love for eating well and reading. Each week, H-E-B demonstrates a new healthy recipe to try at home, like homemade pico de gallo, and gifts moms with two free books, such as Dr. Seuss's classic, *Green Eggs and Ham*. Dr. Seuss would indeed be pleased!



### Summer Snack Tip

H-E-B has been serving up healthy snacks and treats throughout the summer weeks, like a whole wheat turkey wrap with apple slices and a design-your-own trail mix with nuts, pretzels and favorite cereals.

One of our favorite dishes has been homemade pico de gallo with cantaloupe, cucumber, onion and cilantro. Delicious and nutritious!

**Recipe:**

- \* ¼ cup diced cilantro
- \* 1 cups diced cantaloupe
- \* ½ cup minced onion
- \* ½ cup diced cucumber



## SUMMER SPOTLIGHTS



### Amber Walker

Ever wonder what it'd be like to take six weeks of paid time off to volunteer for your favorite nonprofit? Our board member, Amber Walker did just that this summer at AVANCE. As a recipient of the Wells Fargo Volunteer Service Leave program, Amber worked closely with staff on a special project to enhance capacity.

[Read more about her journey.](#)



### Jessica Donaldson

"AVANCE has given me an opportunity to give back to my own community," reflects Jessica Donaldson, the AVANCE-Austin intern at H-E-B Read 3's summer camp. Originally from a Spanish-speaking household in East Austin, Jessica seized the opportunity to complete her Texas State capstone project on bilingual education at AVANCE.

[Follow Jessica's story.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Kendra Gives Back**

Tuesday, August 22  
6pm - 8pm  
Kendra Scott North Lamar  
3800 N Lamar Blvd  
Suite 140

*Indulge in bling for a good cause!  
Enjoy a fabulous evening of fun, fashion, and philanthropy - 20% of proceeds will benefit AVANCE-Austin.*

[More Information](#)



**Charming Charlie Chic Charity Event**

Saturday, August 12  
& Sunday, August 13  
12pm - 5pm  
Charming Charlie  
at Sunset Valley  
5207 Brodie Lane

*Delight in a feel-good shopping spree during **tax-free weekend!** A percentage of purchases made during the days & times listed above will benefit AVANCE-Austin.*

[More Information](#)



**Valor y Sueños Luncheon**

Wednesday, November 1  
11:30am - 1pm  
JW Marriott  
110 E 2nd St

*Join us for our annual luncheon benefiting AVANCE-Austin to honor the courage and dreams of our AVANCE families and community.*

Sponsorship opportunities now available!

[More Information](#)

STAY CONNECTED!



AVANCE-Austin's evidence-based dual generation approach is closing the gap and unlocking potential for children from low-income, Spanish-speaking families. Each year, AVANCE provides 25,000 hours of instruction and over 1,000 home visits to 300 parents and children.

It's more than a program to them. It's a journey.

To find out more about how you can help close the gap and unlock potential, contact us:

**AVANCE-Austin** | <http://austin.avance.org> | 512-414-6127



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7/25/2017

Happy Summer from AVANCE-Austin!

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