

AROUND THE HOUSE

Avondale House eNewsletter



Mark Your Calendar

Mar 15-19: Spring Break, no school

Apr 24: From Our House to Yours Virtual Event at 6:30pm

Avondale House Weathers the Winter Storm

We can all agree that last week's weather was very unusual for everyone in Houston. We are so thankful for our awesome facilities and residential teams who kept everyone safe and warm.



“Prior to the event, our facilities team prepped Avondale House, including the 4 group homes, making sure that pipes were wrapped and prepared to undergo the freezing temperatures”, said Chief Operating Officer, Patti Kelly. But that wasn't all; as the power outages began, two of the generators at the group homes did not start, yet facilities team members travelled through the weather conditions to fix them. “Our newest group home has not yet been equipped with a whole house generator, so the team also got us set up with a portable generator and kept it going throughout the weather event, which meant that they had to find gas and keep it filled while there was no power”, continued Kelly.

Many of our group home staff agreed to do “ride out” shifts, which means they work straight through the weather event. “The residential homes truly are a family; without the selflessness of the residential team, we couldn't have maintained the consistency and routine that our residents depend on during the storm”, said CEO Steve Vetrano. Thanks to everyone who made last week as smooth as possible!

Avondale's fourth house was recently opened, and we need to purchase a whole-house generator that will keep our residents and staff safe when we have severe weather, like the winter

storm that occurred last week.

Will you help us to reach our goal of \$15,000 for this capital purchase? While we hope that the winter weather is over, we have hurricane season right around the corner. Thank you for giving generously!



[Donate to the Generator Fund](#)

From Our House to Yours

We hope you will join us virtually on **April 24th at 6:30 pm** to embrace autism and raise critical funds for Avondale House students and clients. Our event will feature Peter Hotez MD Ph.D. along with many other special guests! The event is free, however, registration is required.

Interested in hosting a socially distanced or virtual watch party with your friends? Know a corporate sponsor who is interested in making a difference in the local autism community? Find details in the registration link!

[Register](#)

FROM
**OUR
HOUSE**
TO YOURS
A Virtual Event

April 24th, 2021
AT 6:30PM
featuring special guest speaker
Dr. Peter Hotez

Water Donation from Texas Relief Warriors

We are so grateful for local community volunteer, Keri Henry, who assisted Avondale House in obtaining bottled water from [Texas Relief Warriors](#) at the height of the winter storm and energy crisis. We are so very thankful to these community servants for making sure our residents

and staff had this essential resource!



Team Member of the Month

Roderick Jackson is Avondale's Team Member of the Month! Roderick has been a part of the Avondale House team since 1997!

Roderick is always willing to help out where he is needed. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Roderick became certified to administer rapid COVID tests for school students and staff. He has proven his ability to adapt and change during these challenging times.

We appreciate his flexibility and commitment to serve our students in and out of the classroom.



Recent Donors

Avondale House wishes to thank and acknowledge these recent donors:

Susie Distefano • Lisa and Terry Freese • Taylor Grimes • Kathy Hendry
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