



2024

COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

IT ALL STARTS HERE.

As we celebrated a Rangers' World Series Championship all season long, we were also able to take a step back and recognize the pillar we are in the Central Texas community.

"It All Starts Here" was inspired by the 14 former Express players and coaches who contributed to the Rangers' first championship, but it's more than that. It spans over two decades of Round Rock Express baseball and how professional sports in Central Texas started right here in Round Rock. Since 2000, we've built a community-first organization, laying the foundation for other local sports teams.

Throughout the 2024 season, the E-Train donated over one million dollars in tickets, community appearances, scholarships and more. As we look towards 2025, we're excited to launch new initiatives that continue to put the community at the forefront of our 25th season.

Along the Tracks

\$843,821

MONETARY
DONATIONS

\$227,187

IN-STADIUM
FUNDRAISING

\$193,535

GIFTS-IN-KIND
DONATIONS

\$1,264,543

RAISED & DONATED IN 2024 ALONE!





BASEBALL & SOFTBALL DEVELOPMENT

RBI Austin

The Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation's partnership with RBI Austin expanded this year as the Foundation awarded **\$500,000** to RBI Austin during the 2024 Express Hall of Fame Night. This endowment goes towards RBI Austin's Home Field Advantage Capital Campaign.



Members of the Round Rock Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation ownership & staff alongside RBI Austin representatives Cat Osterman, Matt Price and Andrew Harris.



Express staff with Dell Children's Camp in Motion Campers after their morning clinic on September 14.

Dell Children's Camp in Motion

The Express, in collaboration with Ascension Seton, brought Dell Children's Camp in Motion to Dell Diamond this summer. Camp in Motion is an adaptive sports camp for children with physical limitations. Our staff enjoyed sharing the game of baseball with all campers.

Express Camps

The Express offer year-round baseball and softball camps for the Central Texas region and beyond. The E-Train hosted six camps and served over 270 kids this year.

Youth League Nights

Each year, the Express partner with little leagues in the Central Texas region to host their own Youth League Night. In total, Dell Diamond hosted 10 baseball and softball leagues and raised over \$7,700 for their respective leagues in 2024.

Play Ball Weekend

The MLB-led initiative inspires everyone to play ball from June 14-16, 2024. The E-Train hosted a Play Ball Clinic with RBI Austin that weekend free of charge.



UIL State Baseball Championships

Since Dell Diamond's inception, it has hosted the annual University Interscholastic League (UIL) State Baseball Championships. This year, Dell Diamond hosted the 1A, 2A, 3A, 5A and 6A State Semi-Final and Final games. Each conference bracket consisted of four teams with 20 players apiece.

Looking to 2025 - All UIL State Championship games will be held at Dell Diamond.

THSBICA/CenTex All-Star Games

Dell Diamond hosted the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association (THSBICA) All-Star games and the CenTex All-Star game. Over 80 players, all from different schools, participated in the All-Star games.





**COMMUNITY
OUTREACH**

Covering Home

Covering Home, presented by Thrivent, is a monthly community volunteer initiative comprised of Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation staff. In 2024, our staff members donated **over 300 hours** of our time and resources to the following organizations during Covering Home:

- January - AGE of Central Texas
- February - Lone Star Paralysis Foundation
- March - Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center
- April - Habitat for Humanity
- May - Candlelight Ranch
- June - Partnerships for Children
- July - Hand to Hold
- August - HopeAustin
- September - Round Rock ISD
- October - Nolan Ryan Foundation
- November - Abiding Love Food Pantry
- December - Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center

815
Staff Volunteer Hours



(Left) Helping clear a build site in South Austin with Habitat for Humanity in April. (Top Right) Express and Foundation staff with some of the 730 items donated to Abiding Love Food Pantry in November. (Bottom Right) Assembling weekend meal kits to provide food security for children in Austin area schools with HopeAustin.

Spike Appearances

The Express offer Spike appearances at community events throughout the year. In 2024, Spike made **over 40 appearances** at ribbon cuttings, grand openings, sporting events and more.

Looking to 2025 - Community Appearance requests are back! Local organizations may request appearances from Spike, our staff and Promo Team tabling at their events.



Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter Donation Drive

Before the Express game on May 18, the Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation invited fans to bring new dog toys, store-bought & sealed treats or Benebone chew toys to the game. The pre-game donation drive donated **over 150 items** to the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter helping them provide to all dogs during a spike in capacity.



Teddy Bear Toss

After two successful Teddy Bear Tosses in 2023, the Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation teamed up again this season to collect teddy bears for the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center. E-Train fans were invited to bring stuffed animals to toss onto the field during the July 21 game. This season we donated **over 260 stuffed animals** to the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center. **Thank you, Express fans!**



(Top) View of Express fans enjoying the Brisket Bash. (Bottom Left) Express fan smiling with her BBQ samples. (Bottom Right) Close up of boudin sausage from Brotherton's Black Iron Barbecue.

Round Rock Brisket Bash

In 2024, the Round Rock Express transformed into the Round Rock Briskets and teamed up with Goodstock by Nolan Ryan to bring a Brisket Bash BBQ Tasting to Dell Diamond on July 19! Fans were able to grab a bite from eight BBQ joints around the state of Texas with an exclusive ticket add-on, proceeds benefiting John Brotherton's Pitmaster Foundation.

OVER
\$5,300
**Donated to John Brotherton's
Pitmaster Foundation**



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Educators Rock!

The Educators Rock! program, presented by PNC Bank, celebrated teachers who go above and beyond for their students at select home games in 2024. The Express honored **10 teachers** through the program and **donated over \$1,000** in tickets to local teachers throughout the season.

Reading Program

The Express partnered with the Round Rock Public Library to assist in prizes for their in-house reading program. Spike even made a special appearance at the library and promoted literacy and reading comprehension through his own reading list! Our partnership provided **over 70 tickets** to participants and their families.

The Salvation Army Donation Drive

The Express and Salvation Army teamed up for a



season-long clothing donation drive. All fans could donate gently-used clothing at our designated donation bins and receive tickets to a future Express game.

Good Sport Program

To prevent drinking & driving and promote responsible drinking, the Express teamed up with Brown Distributing to implement the Good Sport Program at each Thursday and Friday Express game.

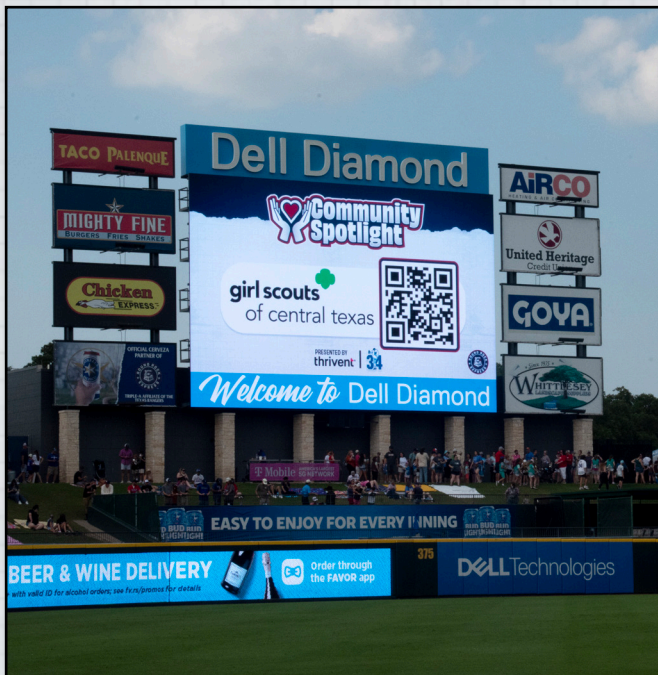
Express Community Ticket Program

The Express Community Ticket Program, presented by Ideal Signs, provides tickets to 501c3 organizations in the Central Texas region that might not have an opportunity to attend an Express game otherwise. Through the program, the Express donated **over \$16,500** in tickets to community organizations in 2024.



Military & First Responder Appreciation

The Express are proud to pay tribute to local military members and first responders through multiple activations throughout the season including Military Appreciation Night, First Responder Night, nightly hero salutes and a discounted ticket program through GovX. In 2024, the Express honored over 30 heroes through our Hero Salute program, presented by Re-Bath Austin, and donated over \$3,000 in tickets to military members, first responders and their families.



Community Spotlight

The Community Spotlight, presented by Thrivent, recognizes 501c3 organizations at various home games throughout the season. This year, the Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation recognized 48 organizations, donated over \$68,000 in tickets and fundraised over \$1,600 for these organizations through the program.

Strike Out Hunger

The Round Rock Serving Center teamed up with the Express at every Wednesday night game in 2024 to strike out hunger in our community. Collectively, we received **over 4,900 pounds** of canned food from Express fans to help feed our community. This canned food donation could wrap around the base path at Dell Diamond **SEVEN** times.

OVER
4,900 lbs
**Donated to the Round Rock
Serving Center in 2024**



Manor ISD Superintendent Dr. Robert Sormani throws out the first pitch at Manor ISD Night on August 3.

ISD Nights

The Express partnered with Samsung this season to host six local ISD nights. District representatives were able to throw out a first pitch during their ISD Night and **2,700** tickets were distributed within the district.



IN-GAME FUNDRAISING

50/50 Raffle

The Nolan Ryan Foundation and Express came together to host nightly 50/50 raffles all season long. All proceeds benefit the Nolan Ryan Foundation community grant program.

\$203,000
 Raised in 50/50 Raffle Sales



Our 2024 Opening Day winner with the 50/50 Raffle Team holding his winnings from the 50/50 Raffle.



The Express auctioned off these pinstripe jerseys at the end of the season. Each jersey was pressed with a unique nickname chosen by each player & coach.

Auctions

The Express hosted five auctions throughout the 2024 season with all proceeds benefiting different organizations including the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter, Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation and AGE of Central Texas.

OVER
\$6,100
 Raised in Auctions



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Baseball Buddies

Academy Sports & Outdoors gives youth baseball and softball teams the opportunity to serve as Baseball Buddies at Express games throughout the season. Teams are able to take the field, meet the players and receive recognition on the videoboard. More than 50 youth teams and leagues participated in 2024.



HELPING  HAND HOME

Honors

400

Nolan Ryan Foundation
Philanthropic Honoree

*For your leadership and generous support
and for transforming the lives of countless
children and families in our community.*



CHAMPIONS
FOR CHILDREN

2024



COMMUNITY AWARDS

Helping Hand Home Philanthropic Honoree

The Nolan Ryan Foundation was recognized as the Philanthropic Honoree at the 2024 Champions for Children Awards Luncheon. The 25th annual awards luncheon celebrates caregivers, organizations, advocates and volunteers for their work with children in need. As the nonprofit arm of the Round Rock Express, the E-Train and Foundation partner throughout the season to provide scholarships and grants furthering youth education and community development in Central Texas.



The Ryan Family accepting the Philanthropic Honoree trophy at the Champions for Children Awards Luncheon.



FRONT-OFFICE INVOLVEMENT

In addition to monthly Covering Homes, presented by Thrivent, our front office serves Central Texas as board members, advisors and more.

Chris Almendarez
President

- Round Rock Police Foundation - Board Member
- Dell Children's North Advisory Council - Member
- RBI Austin - Advisory Board Member

Tim Jackson
General Manager

- Round Rock Chamber of Commerce - Board Member
- Austin Sports Commission - Board Member
- Round Rock Rotary - Member
- Baylor University "B" Association - Vice President

Laura Fragoso
Senior Vice President,
Marketing

- Nolan Ryan Foundation - Board Member
- Round Rock ISD - District Level Committee
- Blackland Prairie Elementary - Campus Comprehensive Needs Assessment Committee
- Professional Women of Williamson County - Member
- Round Rock Area Serving Center - Former Board Member, Director at Large & Treasurer
- Hope Alliance - Former Board Member

Mary Conley Thompson
Executive Director, Nolan Ryan Foundation

- Rodeo Austin - HOWDY Volunteer Committee
- Baylor University Chi Omega (Theta Kappa Chapter) - Advisor
- Professional Women of Williamson County - Member

Oscar Rodriguez
Director, Sales

- RBI Austin - Board Member
- Round Rock Chamber of Commerce - Young Professionals Taskforce & Talent Development Council
- Latinos in Round Rock - Member

Aubrey Painter
Manager, Communications & Travel

- Round Rock Area Serving Center - Board Member

Jules McCormack
Program Manager, Nolan Ryan Foundation

- Professional Women of Williamson County - Member

Connor Truitt
Senior Account Executive

- Georgetown Chamber of Commerce - Member

John Watts
Senior Account Executive

- Pflugerville Chamber of Commerce - Member

Anthony Pollo
Account Executive

- Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce - Member
- Round Rock Chamber of Commerce - Young Professionals Member

Elvis Perez
Account Executive

- Jarrell Chamber of Commerce - Member

Casey Schneider
Account Executive

- Hutto Chamber of Commerce - Member
- Round Rock Chamber of Commerce - Young Professionals Member
- Professional Women of Williamson County - Member

Jackson Ryan
Coordinator, Baseball Operations & Community Outreach

- Nolan Ryan Foundation - Board Member
- Round Rock Chamber of Commerce - Leadership Round Rock Member
- Kinetic Kids Austin - Board of Directors



THANK YOU

IT ALL  STARTS HERE.