



2023 ***COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT***



CHAMPIONS

FOR THE COMMUNITY

2023 served as a year when minor league baseball in Round Rock was back in full force. In the years following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Round Rock Express strived to bolster the community at a time when everyone wanted a semblance of normalcy. In 2023, we fully brought back existing community programs and created new ones with the value of "passionately participating in the community" at the core of each. The E-Train donated over 12,000 tickets (a value of \$220,000) to nonprofit organizations, local teachers, military members, first responders and more so they could be a part of our record-breaking season.

Our championship performance on the field translated to our community as our organization and staff members received prominent community awards. The Express were honored by the Central Texas Community Foundation as the 2023 Nancy Rabb Legacy Award winner. The Nancy Rabb Legacy Award honors an outstanding business for their desire to give back to the community. Our Director, Sales Oscar Rodriguez was also recognized by the Round Rock Chamber as their 2023 Emerging Leader.

As we continue to ride the wave of championships and awards from 2023, we remember that without our phenomenal fans, sponsors, staff, players and coaches our vast community impact would not be possible. With Round Rock being named "the top place people want to live," on the Today Show, and continually growing, we look forward to an even more impactful 2024.





BASEBALL & SOFTBALL DEVELOPMENT

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 **300 kids** this year.

THSBCA and CenTex All-Star Games

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



Group photo from the July Full-Day Express Camp

RBI Austin

Our partnership with RBI Austin includes monetary donations through sponsorships with the Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation. RBI Austin players can participate in Express camps for free. **The Express, in partnership with Adam & Sons, donated game tickets with a value of \$3,000 to the program in 2023.**

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 Championships. **Each conference bracket consisted of four teams with 20 players apiece.**



Dio Arias high-fiving Youth League members in August

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 **14 baseball and softball leagues** raising over **\$9,000 in 2023.**



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



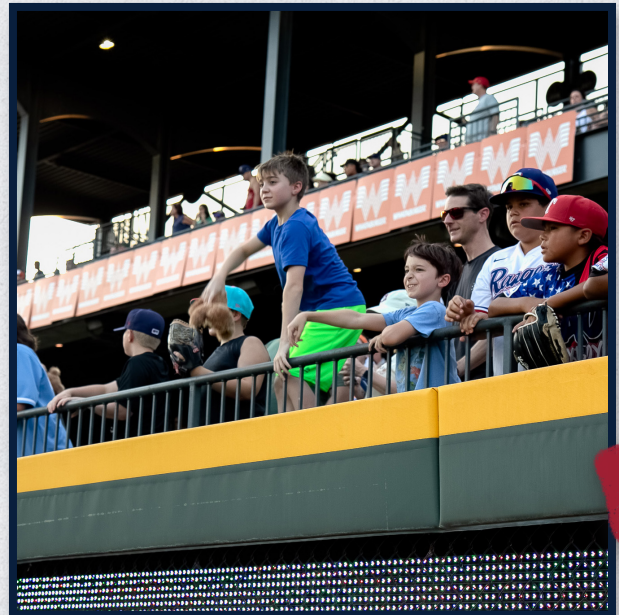
Spike at the Academy Grand Opening in Hutto

Spike Appearances

The Express offer Spike appearances at community events throughout the year. In 2023, Spike made **over 30 appearances** at ribbon cuttings, grand openings, sporting events and more.

Teddy Bear Toss

The Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation teamed up at two home games this season to collect teddy bears for the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center. E-Train fans were invited to bring teddy bears to toss onto the field. **Throughout the 2023 season, we donated over 600 stuffed animals to the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center.**



Fans throwing stuffed animals on the field at the first-ever Express Teddy Bear Toss

Covering Home

Covering Home, presented by Thrivent, is a monthly community volunteer initiative comprised of Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation staff members.

- January - Austin Miracle League and Mission Possible Austin
- February - Ronald McDonald House of Central Texas
- March - Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center
- April - Huston-Tillotson Baseball
- May - Central Texas Food Bank
- June - The Giving Tree of Central Texas
- July - Foster Angels of Central Texas
- August - Round Rock ISD Partners in Education Foundation
- September and October - The Giving Tree of Central Texas
- November - Abiding Love Food Pantry
- December - Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center



(Top) Packing school supplies for Foster Angels of Central Texas in June; (Bottom Left) Setting up Holiday Drive in December; (Right) Volunteering at Central Texas Food Bank



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Educators Rock! Program

The Educators Rock! Program, presented by Mighty Fine, celebrated teachers who go above and beyond for their students at select home games in 2023. The Express honored **23 teachers** through the program and donated **over 7,000 tickets** to local teachers throughout the season.



Express Community Ticket Program

The Express Community Ticket Program, presented by Ideal Signs, provides tickets to 501(c)(3) organizations in the Central Texas region that might not have an opportunity to attend an Express game otherwise. The Express donated **over 600 tickets** to community organizations in 2023 through the program.

The Salvation Army Donation Drive

The Express and Salvation Army teamed up for a season-long clothing donation drive.



Good Sport Program

In an effort to prevent drinking and 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.



Military and First Responder Appreciation

The Express are proud to pay tribute to local military members and first responders. In 2023, the Express honored **24 heroes** through our Salute to our Heroes Program, presented by Re-Bath Austin, and donated **over 2,400 tickets** to the military and their families.

Strike Out Hunger

The Round Rock Area Serving Center teamed up with the Express at every Wednesday night game in 2023 to strike out hunger in our community. Collectively, we received **over 3,200 pounds of canned food** from Express fans to help feed our community.

Community Spotlight

The Community Spotlight, presented by Thrivent, recognizes one 501c3 organization at home games throughout the season. This year, the Express and Nolan Ryan Foundation recognized **47 organizations** and fundraised **over \$4,000** for Community Spotlight organizations.





IN-GAME FUNDRAISING



Independence Day 50/50 Raffle winner

50/50 Raffle

The Nolan Ryan Foundation and the Express came together to host nightly 50/50 raffles all season long. **More than \$195,000** was raised for the Nolan Ryan Foundation Community Grant Program through the raffle.

Auctions

The Express hosted five auctions through the Nolan Ryan Foundation benefiting the Austin Film Society, Latinos in Round Rock, Hope Alliance and the Tunnel to Towers Foundation. In 2023, the Express, through the Foundation, raised **over \$13,500** from auctions for these organizations.



Round Rock Donuts game-worn autographed jersey auction benefiting the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, through the Nolan Ryan Foundation



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Baseball Buddies

The Express, in partnership with Academy Sports & Outdoors, gives youth baseball and softball teams the opportunity to serve as Baseball Buddies at an Express game. **Eighteen youth leagues participated as Baseball Buddies in 2023.**



(Left) Jonathan Ornelas gives Baseball Buddy a fist bump; (Top Left) Baseball Buddies and outfielders huddle before first pitch; (Bottom Left) Sluggers Youth Baseball Team poses for a picture on the warning track



COMMUNITY AWARDS



2023 Nancy Rabb Legacy Award

Nancy Rabb Legacy Award

In September 2023, the Nancy Rabb Legacy Award was presented to the Round Rock Express by the Central Texas Community Foundation. The award honors an outstanding business for their charitable giving and desire to give back to the community in much the same way the award's namesake did.

Read our press release [here](#).

Emerging Leader Award

In February 2023, Oscar Rodriguez, Director, Sales, was selected as an Emerging Leader finalist by the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes an individual, under 40 years old, who has achieved professional success and contributed to the Round Rock community in a meaningful way. At the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce 55th annual Business Awards, Rodriguez was honored as the 2023 Emerging Leader.



Oscar Rodriguez holding the Emerging Leader Award at the 55th annual Business Awards



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

- RBI Austin – Board Member
- Huston-Tillotson University – Volunteer Baseball Coach and Mentor

Laura Fragoso

Senior Vice President, Marketing

- Nolan Ryan Foundation – Board Member
- Round Rock Area Serving Center – former Board Member, former Director at Large and former Treasurer
- Hope Alliance – Former Board Member
- Round Rock Independent School District – District Level Committee

Oscar Rodriguez

Director, Sales

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

John Watts

Senior Account Executive

- Pflugerville Chamber of Commerce – Member

Elvis Perez

Account Executive

- Jarrell Chamber of Commerce – Member

Jackson Ryan

Coordinator, Baseball Operations

- Nolan Ryan Foundation – 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

Mary Conley Thompson

Executive Director, Nolan Ryan

Foundation

- Rodeo Austin – HOWDY Volunteer Committee
- Baylor University Chi Omega (Theta Kappa Chapter) – Advisor

Aubrey Painter

Manager, Communications and Travel

- Round Rock Area Serving Center – Board Member

Connor Truitt

Senior Account Executive

- Georgetown Chamber of Commerce – Member

Anthony Pollo

Account Executive

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

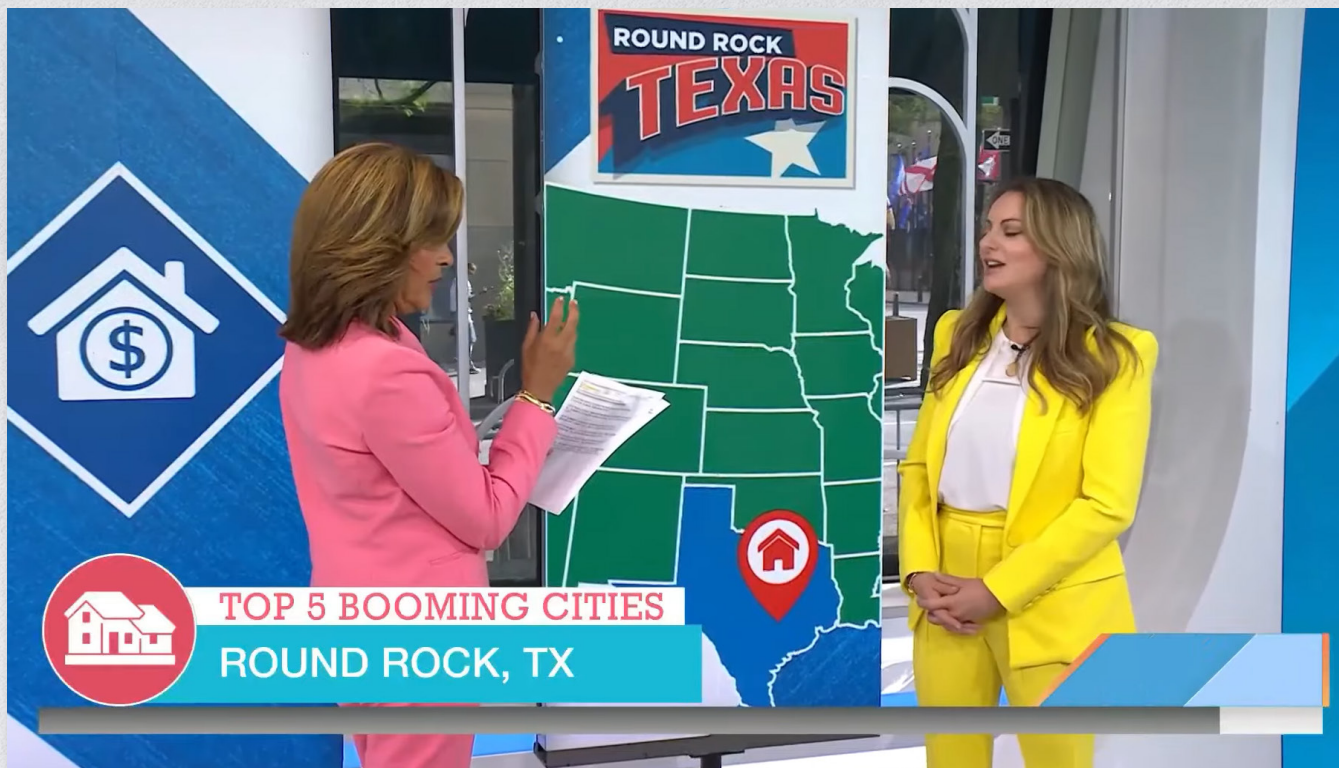
Casey Schneider

Account Executive

- Hutto Chamber of Commerce – Member
- Round Rock Chamber of Commerce – Young Professionals



**ROUND ROCK, TEXAS —
TOP PLACE TO LIVE**



A July 2023 Today Show segment featured Round Rock as the top booming city in the country. Frances Katzen, a Douglas Elliman real estate agent and broker, explains that after the pandemic, people are looking for a city with a work-life balance. Katzen further explains that Round Rock is the top place people want to live because of the range of activities, the community and school districts. The Round Rock Express and Dell Diamond were featured heavily in the video.

To watch the featured segment, click [here](#).

