



## Individuals Making Progress Advancing Communities in Texas

To empower the lives of youth, families and individuals by uplifting communities to make positive changes through social services.

### Backpack to School Bash 2016 – Post Report

**Background:** IMPACT Texas Second Annual Backpack to School Bash and Food Drive as a registered (501)(c)(3) corporation is a charitable and educational bash to provide backpacks filled with basic supplies to “Underserved Students” graded PK- 12 who are starting school and to remove barriers to academic success.

**Goal:** Our target goal is 100 and our planned goal is 150 backpacks filled with school supplies.

**Purpose:** Having the basic supplies has a positive impact on a student’s self-esteem and creativity. This is an exciting fun Bash for students to connect with other students, make new friends and meet community members prior to the new school year.

**Objective:** We invited students from “Underserved Communities” to enjoy a free “Bash full of fun activities. This included students from Title 1 Schools which 50% of the students are living below the poverty level, students residing in affordable housing communities, Girl Scout Troop 1500, recipients of food pantries, children of incarcerated parents and children of military families.

**Outcome:** to provide students with the basic school supplies when starting the new school year. We want the students and their families to support our food drive by donating a non-perishable food item as admittance to the Bash.

**Results:** We provided an online registration that captured demographic data and questions to determine if a student needed an eye exam. We provided backpacks to 160, 148 students were registered and received backpacks filled with school supplies and 12 students who attended the bash but who were not pre-registered received backpacks without school supplies. Regarding 160 students 98 were females (61.3%) and 62 were males (38.8%), 67 students were Hispanic (41.9%), 64 were Black (40 %), and 23 were White (14.4 %.)

The top three school districts the students attended were Pflugerville ISD: 72 students (41.9%), Austin ISD: 33 students (20.6%) and Round rock ISD: 27 students (16.9%.)



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**Results Continued:** Twenty four students (16.3%) attended Title 1 Schools, we designated 30 backpacks to Girl Scout Troop 1500, 23 girl scouts registered (14.4% of the students) and 8 (5%) of students were food pantries recipients.

Baylor Scott and White health care professional were at our Bash, hosting our first “Teddy Bear Clinic” where they conduct a health check up on the student teddy bear. Everything from taking teddy bears temperature to fixing any boo boos! This is an illustration to help prepare kids for their doctor’s visit, so they are less anxious and scared when they come into the clinic. Twenty one students participated which was (13.1 %.)

During the Backpack to School Bash we distributed the following:

Testimonials – Student/Families (new activity)

- 8 completed
  - This information will be uploaded to our website

Survey – Student/Families

- 16 completed
  - 11 student/families agreed to post comments on our Facebook page
  - 5 families agreed to volunteer at our 2017 Bash

We were so excited to have KXAN reporters attend our event and provide news coverage of our Bash. Please view the video at:

<http://kxan.com/2016/08/06/backpack-to-school-bash-helping-underserved-texas-families/>.

**IMPACT Texas:** Our Corporation includes three Board of Directors. During the bash we had one Director who was available to participate and we had 30 volunteers who were able to participate. Pre-Bash we had five volunteers who assisted with prepacking; toiletry packs, first aid kits, dental goody bags and backpacks. The Bash allowed the Corporation’s volunteers, Directors and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to serve our community needs by hosting a successful charitable and educational bash.



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#### IMPACT Texas Continued:

We were able to meet our mission by contributing to our community and marketing our services.

**Cost:** To host this bash the approximate cost was \$9,000.00 which we received in-kind donations in products and services. The Bash was held at the Pflugerville Public Library with no associated cost to the corporation.

**Limitations:** The venue space was limited. We are needing to locate a large venue for future Backpack to School Bash events. Our Temple (Bell County) Bash scheduled at an affordable housing community was cancelled by the “Managers.” Therefore, we were unable to serve Temple community as projected.

#### Improvements:

- New participants – 47 (29.4%) and 35 returning students – 2014-2015
- Round Rock ISD – 27 students participated vs. 10 students last year
- White students served – 23 (14.4%) an increase of (5.9% %)
- Eye Exams – 21 students referred (13.1%)

**Conclusions:** We increased the number of backpacks that was provided last year by 23; therefore, we know there is a need to provide backpacks to students residing in our focused counties; Travis, Williamson and Bell. Please support our corporation by going to [www.impacttexas.net](http://www.impacttexas.net) and selecting the donate tab to make a contribution.

#### Recommendations:

We desire to increase the number of students we served in Temple (Bell County), who reside in affordable housing and attending title 1 schools who receive our backpacks and services. Lastly, we have a goal to increase our services to military families and children of incarcerated parents.

We will continue to recruit sponsors and donors to host solicitation campaign activities to obtain backpacks, school supplies and additional giveaways.