

KEEP IRVING BEAUTIFUL NEWSLETTER



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LOOKING BACK ON 2018, AHEAD TO 2019

KIB's 2018 was full of activities that exemplified the diversity of our volunteers and the range of our programming. Highlights included the following:

Litter Abatement – A total of 11 cleanups, with 610 volunteers giving 1767 hours of service. They picked up more than 7,200 pounds of trash and recyclables, in large events like our annual Trash Bash, cleanups with faith groups (Christ Church, Calvary Church and Latter-day Saints), companies (Javelin), and the Irving Lake Association's Lake Vilbig cleanups. Adopt-a-Spot volunteers worked through the year keeping their locations clean. Thanks to a \$5,000 Lowe's/Keep America Beautiful grant, we purchased supplies – volunteer vests, litter grabber tools, gloves and trash and recycle bags – which our adopters used to collect more than 3,000 bags of trash and recyclables, contributing 5,500 hours of service to KIB's longest-running program.

Community Beautification and Greening – Our beautification projects included painting at Irving Parks and Recreation Centers, with the addition of two locations of the Irving Fire Department this year. A total of 198 volunteers from the corporate community (Vizient, Acosta Cares, Crown Castle, Best Buy, American Standard) and the faith community (Calvary, Cistercian) gave 668 hours in these nine projects. We also had a tree planting with Wells Fargo Auto volunteers at Sam Houston, where they planted 26 large Texas native trees (purchased with funds from a donation by Verizon).

Recycling – Five green events where we helped some of our partners make their events more eco-friendly by providing recycling stations at a fun run, block party open house, and community festivals. We celebrated America Recycles Day with the Irving Family YMCA seniors group for the eighth year.

Blanket Project - We continued this activity originally begun in 2016 which has really gained momentum and brought us together with other non-profits in the area. Seven different groups - Girl Scout troops, faith groups and individuals - made 26 "no-sew" blankets which were donated to Crisis Ministries, Brighter Tomorrows, Irving Cares and Premier High School.

Awards - A big honor occurred at the Keep Texas Beautiful State Conference, when Irving won the **Governor's Community Achievement Award (GCAA)** for the 4th time in our history. This came with a \$310,000 grant from TxDOT which will be used for landscaping in an area of our city. The City of Irving Water Utilities Department and Dr. Roy Vu of North Lake also received first place awards from Keep Texas Beautiful, and KIB honored 13 groups and individuals at our annual Mayor and KIB Awards ceremony.



Javelin volunteers at Champion Trail cleanup, Latter-day Saints youth painted at Running Bear, Wells Fargo Auto volunteers planted trees at Sam Houston, and GSA Troop 6451 (L) made a blanket and wrote letters to donate to Brighter Tomorrows (R).

