



# Keep Irving Beautiful Newsletter



## KIB Shows Diversity in its Outreach

April is always a busy month full of activities for Keep Irving Beautiful, and 2020 did not disappoint. Looking back on this month, we noticed how much it represented the diverse outreach of KIB's programs. While this April was certainly different than the previous years, we were able to make a positive impact in many areas.

We'll start with the Blanket Project, which allows our volunteers to contribute while still observing the safer at home guidelines. Eight members of the Baha'i Faith of Irving made 18 no-sew blankets, giving a combined total of 40 hours of service, and a University of Dallas student made three blankets as part of his commitment to community service. The blankets were donated to Irving Cares, the Carol Susat Family Advocacy Center and the Irving ISD Teenage Pregnant and Parenting Student (TAPPS) program.

We had many April projects scheduled with corporate groups, and we look forward to being able to work with these outstanding volunteers soon. In the meantime, the City of Irving Recreation employees stepped up to partner with KIB in an ongoing project of revitalizing the Senter East Building. Over the course of four different days, they spent more than 100 hours applying a fresh coat of gray paint with white trim to interior areas of the building, and it looks fantastic!

KIB recently received a \$5,000 grant from the Fluor Foundation for the purchase of



**KIB and City staff preparing to distribute boxes with the North Texas Food Bank**

trees to be planted in a public space. Partnering with our City Arborist and his team, we planted 21 large (45-gallon) trees at Trinity View Park, and are looking forward to the beauty, shade and wildlife shelter they will provide.

KIB was invited to participate in the North Texas Food Bank's drive-thru food pantry at North Lake College on April 23rd. We were happy to work alongside the Texas National Guard and City of Irving staff to distribute family food boxes.

Keep Texas Beautiful announced that KIB has achieved Gold Star Status and has also been honored with the Sustained Excellence Award. This represents all the great work that is done in Irving by our tireless volunteers, collaboration with city departments, and the generosity of our sponsors.

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**A Baha'i of Irving member with one of the 18 blankets they made.**



**These Recreation staffers are ready to take on Senter East!**



**Some of the 21 trees that were planted by Parks staff at Trinity View Park on April 16 - 17.**

## 50 Years of Earth Day

April 22 marked the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day celebration. The idea started with schools, from elementary through college, with a number of communities across the United States observing Earth Day 1970. An estimated 20 million people participated, and today, according to the Earth Day Network, the estimate is over a billion people who observe Earth Day in more than 190 countries across the world.

North Texas is home to one of the largest events, EarthX, which is usually held at Fair Park over three days, with attendance of more than 130,000 people. This year's event went virtual, with streaming of films, speakers and discussion groups.



**You'll be seeing this logo on this and future newsletters - the KTB 2020 Gold Star Affiliate.**