

A Legacy of Giving Results 2008-2009

The Drive

For the '08/09 Drive, three A Legacy of Giving schools placed in the top ten overall national rankings. This year, The Drive in Austin chose to focus on two faces of poverty: food and basic needs. A partnership with The Capital Area Food Bank and its affiliated agencies challenged participating schools to not only donate food, but other basic essentials (clothing, diapers and backpacks) as well. Fourteen schools participated in The Drive. PODS storage units were donated to each campus for food and clothing collection. Students at some schools wrote quotes, poems and messages on their PODS. The results and overall national rank:

1. Ann Richards: #5 nationally (returning \$37,999 in economic value to greater Austin)
2. Akins: #7 nationally (returning \$24,059 in economic value to greater Austin)
3. Trinity: # 8 nationally (returning \$20,718 in economic value to greater Austin)

National Rank, by class segment

1. High Schools: Akins #2 for high schools
2. Middle Schools: Ann Richards #3, Paredes #8, O. Henry (different classes) 13th, 16th, and 18th
3. Elementary Schools: Trinity Episcopal #2, Caraway 4th grade #13, Caraway 3rd grade #15

Students from 14 schools "packed the pods" with canned food, clothing, and toiletries during the Thanksgiving season, collecting 32,244 pounds, equating to \$182,322 in economic value returned to Austin!

08/09 Earth Day

All 14 schools participated in Earth Day, held in March and April. Most focused on the Earth Day curriculum and A Legacy of Giving's partnership with Keep Austin Beautiful. Several schools tied Earth Day in with the Sooch Empowerment Challenge. Students at each of the 14 schools chose among several Keep Austin Beautiful projects such as Campus or Creek Cleanups, Garden or Native Habitat Installation, and Campus Recycling Drives. Seniors from Akins High School chose a unique approach to their Earth Day project, which was to conduct a beach clean-up in Galveston, TX. This clean-up was created to help with the devastation of Hurricane Ike last fall.

1. High School National Rank: Akins # 2 (\$2,200)
2. Middle School National Rank: Paredes #3 (\$1,125); Martin #11 (\$1,800); Ann Richards # 10 (\$10,150)

Students from 14 schools participated in Earth Day recycling and beautification projects returned \$34,273 in value to the greater Austin community.

Wildcard:

Wildcard events allow participants to develop their own projects or choose from a list The LEAGUE provides. This year, eight of 14 schools conducted an Art from the Heart activity, in which they created original art for recipients of their choosing. Recipients included homeless shelters, orphanages (local and abroad), geriatric homes, the African Children's Choir, children's hospitals, and U.S. soldiers. Another Wildcard was Hurricane Ike Relief, initiated Barbara Talley's Kiker Elementary class. Also, five schools participated in a financial literacy wildcard; the students created ways to teach others about financial responsibility.

Art from the Heart (project descriptions attached) from Clayton, Perez, Kiker, Dobie, Webb, Caraway, Trinity, and St. Gabriel's generated \$14,547 in economic value for Austin.

Other Wildcard projects:

1. Kiker Elementary Hurricane Ike Relief - \$12,501
2. Akins High School Special Projects, including 'High School for A Day' - \$3,340
3. Financial Literacy Five Schools - \$9,477. Webb Middle School was chosen as the winner among the five participating schools and honored at the National Youth Service Learning Conference in TN.

Wildcard activities added another \$40,000 of value to our community and elsewhere.

In '08/09, participating A Legacy of Giving schools provided \$285,110.15 in economic value to the community.