

A+ Gives Day 2024 Employee Spotlight

Person 1: Alright ready, 3, 2, 1

Group: Happy A+ Gives Day

John N: Well we just finished over at Safe in Austin. If you've never heard about it before, Safe in Austin's rescue animals rescuing people, which is an interesting concept. They take care of rescue animals and rescue them from crazy situations and then the kicker is they invite kids and adults with disabilities and other, what they term superpowers, and they let them love on the animals. They found that it's really helping them overcome their challenges. So happy that we could come out and support them. Thank you so much for the opportunity A+ and look forward to doing it again next year. Thank you.

Person 2: Vanessa, why did you choose to volunteer with Backpack Friends?

Vanessa: I always love choosing Backpack Friends to volunteer with because I know how much they help our local community and how much that means to them. So it really warms my heart.

Tito: What A+ Gives Day means to me is that I get an opportunity to give back to my community. My family personally benefitted off the Ronald McDonald House and it's awesome that A+ gives me the opportunity to volunteer where I've been helped. That's what A+ Gives Day means to me.

Brianna: I had a great time here in San Marcos.

Joe: Hey this is Joe with A+ Gives Day. We had a lot of fun here at Pease Park just making the park more beautiful. My favorite part of the whole thing was probably walking down the trail and seeing this giant troll. So if y'all haven't checked it out yet y'all go to Pease Park. Come help out and make it beautiful.

Kirsten: Getting to volunteer at the Open My World Horse Therapeutic Center has been amazing. I have several family members who work with and are on the special needs or autism spectrum. And being able to see all the amazingness they get to accommodate and do so these people and kids can have just as fulfilling experiences and be able to be calm and have something that benefits them is outstanding. I love this organization and I'll definitely be returning soon.

John R: Hello. Today we went to the Bastrop Emergency Food Bank. Special thanks to my partners, Esther, Theresa, Steph, and Fernando for coming out there this morning. We sorted out five carts and inventoried new foods coming in to the food bank. And also prepared 272 sacks for individuals in need and we really had a good time. We were out there earlier this morning at 8 o'clock and just had a great time. Great people there and looking forward to doing it again next year.

Suzy: Hey Suzy here. I got to volunteer at the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center today for A+ Gives Day. And it was a great opportunity. Me and the other volunteers got to stuff backpacks and some boo bags for Halloween. We were able to fill up 400 boo bags and over 200 backpacks. And it was just such a blessing to do this for these children who have gone through some traumatic experiences. And what a blessing it is that A+ offers this opportunity for us to do this.

D'Shon: I love A+ Gives Day because not only do we have the chance to volunteer in the community but we're actually encouraged to. I actually grew up with a single mother and I know first hand how hard it is for mothers to get those diapers for their children. I've seen my mom struggle, my sister struggle. People in my life have needed resources just like this and the fact that I'm able to come and support that cause means a lot to me.

Emily: Today we got to volunteer at the Marbridge Foundation. I want to thank Brooke the volunteer coordinator, also Chris who runs the garden and horticulture center, and then Miguel here in the arts center. It was a really great day with residents. We got to talk with everyone, we got to laugh, talk about our favorite movies. And just want to also thank A+ for letting us have this day with everyone here today.

Joshua: Hi there, my name is Joshua Thomas. I'm going to be an MSO one at the Main Branch US 290. This is my second week working with A+ and they let us do A+ Gives Day even though we just started training. I'm at the Williamson County Animal Shelter up here in Georgetown and I wanted to work here because I love animals. I love dogs, I love cats, and it was good just to be able to give back to them, give back to those pups in need in the community.