After more than a year of social distancing and remote interactions, the reduced static and collective pause has also meant that we're even more tuned in to the issues in our neighborhoods and communities. And it has also given us time for the awareness and reflection that takes place before action.

With this in mind, our goal for See Us Give this year was to guide our neighbors toward finding their charitable passions, and helping them to chart a path for reconnecting with the community. Our hosts and community partners helped us reach Central Texans from all walks of life — 71% of participants were first-time attendees to I Live Here I Give Here's programs, and we saw a 23% increase in racial/ethnic diversity compared to See Us Give 2020.

During the month of June, nearly 200 locals met in small group dinners at 15 area restaurants and virtually. Antonelli’s Cheese Shop owners Kendall and John Antonelli delivered a poignant and inspiring fireside chat about the foundation of giving that is at the heart of their business. They also got personal and introduced attendees to their “philanthro-plan,” a family guide to giving back to the community they cherish. After the keynote, conversations among attendees were guided by volunteer hosts and inspired by mentors who have a history of community service and are committed to making Central Texas the most generous region in the country. Though the topics varied, the conclusion was the same: Passions can set us on a path of giving that takes a variety of forms that are personally meaningful, uniquely local, and easy to incorporate into daily life.

I'm grateful to all of our participants who stepped into those conversations and to the program chairs, mentors, hosts, sponsors, and venues who created a space for us to share them.

With deep appreciation,

Courtney Manuel, CEO
I learned to think outside of the box when it comes to the different ways I can give.

It was so refreshing to hear from people that are so interested in philanthropy and getting involved in our community. It reignited my passion to do the same.

When we came up with our business plan, we knew that we wanted to be an active part of our community. We said, 'It's not worth doing if we're not giving back to the community, supporting the people who support us.'

-I KENDALL & JOHN ANTONELLI

I love the Antonellis' idea of a 'philanthroplan' and will incorporate that idea into my family's quarterly meeting about where we want to focus our volunteerism.

-DID SEE US GIVE CHANGE HOW YOU THINK ABOUT GIVING BACK?

71% SAID 'YES'

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY KENDALL & JOHN ANTONELLI
ANTONELLI'S CHEESE SHOP

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

196
Giving can come in many different forms. And no matter what inspires you, there are people, places, and organizations to help foster those passions.

“This was one of the best virtual events I have attended. I felt very seen and heard within my breakout group.”

98% said 'likely' or 'very likely'

71% first-time attendees to ILHIGH programs
I LIVE HERE I GIVE HERE IS THANKFUL TO OUR INCREDIBLE SPONSORS, VOLUNTEERS, COMMUNITY PARTNERS, AND VENUE HOSTS WHO HELP US BUILD A MORE GENEROUS CENTRAL TEXAS FOR ALL

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Co-Chairs
Zach Cannon, The Burt Group
Reese Cisneros, Strategies by Reese
Brittany Morrison, Heritage Title
Chris Miller, Southside Bank

Keynote Program
Kendall & John Antonelli, Antonelli's Cheese Shop
Taylor Ellison, CBS Austin

Mentors
Cindy Abell · Blake Absher · Stephanie Adriaenssens · Esther Alexander
Buck Bracey · Lara Burns Boyda · Arlo Bush · Robin Clemons · Joel Coffman · Kristen Day
Christina Gorczynski · Tim Hayden · May Ledesma · Kristin Marcum · Tala Matchett
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Rebecca Reynolds · Kylie Riebe · Jackie Sekiguchi · Molly Sherman
Kathy Smith-Willman · Sarah Tober · T.J. Turner · Heather Venard · Alisa Cohen Victoria
Anne Westdyke · Terri Broussard Williams

Hosts
Chandler Abbott · Rakhi Agrawal · Paulina Artieda · Maria Brown-Spence
Laura Coaxum · Katie Comer · Jo Cassandra Cuevas · Sam Dowd
Heather Emerson · Brandon Flowers · Noopur Gupta · Lexie Hall · Nicole Haynes
Christine Herlin · Sareek Hosein · Kizzy LeJay · Jeff Mah · Danny McKinley
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