



Newsletter

SUMMER 2024



SOUND OFF -- IT'S SUMMER AT RBI AUSTIN!

Our new favorite sound from the ballpark? Post-game interviews with players representing the **1,551 kids on 96 RBI Austin teams** this summer! Like never before, we've had an opportunity to spotlight our RBI Austin kids and hear what their teammates, coaches, and the game means to them in their own words.

We are sincerely grateful for our 301 summer volunteers and our amazing summer league sponsors who helped create a fun environment where our players could not only be engaged and developed, but also express themselves freely!

SUMMER STATS

1,551 KIDS

Number of RBI Austin kids on a summer team

96 TEAMS

301 SUMMER VOLUNTEERS



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



It's not too late to catch up! Visit our social media pages for interviews, photos, and all things summer league; then flip to the next page to discover more ways God has demonstrated his faithfulness to us through the hands, feet, and generosity of people like you! Full stories at rbiaustin.org/blog.

RBI AUSTIN ALUM SPOTLIGHT

Lena Garces started playing for RBI Austin when she was 7 years old. Early on, Lena recognized two things: that RBI Austin was family-oriented, and that prayer was a part of her softball team's regular rhythms.

A bonus part of her experience was watching her coaches give every player on her team a chance to play.

Now Lena gets to instill those same values in a team of her own as Head Coach for our T-Ball Orioles, and we couldn't be more delighted!

"It feels amazing to be the coach of my own team and to accomplish this goal of mine. Being a head coach is one of the most rewarding opportunities. I also feel blessed with the opportunity to get to coach my little sister," Lena shared.

Prior to becoming a head coach, Lena served as an assistant softball coach, with the hopes of being a role model and teaching the next generation of players about the game.



Head Coach Lena and the T-Ball Orioles pose for a selfie at the ballpark this summer.

"I have had a mixture of good and bad coaches, [and] the different kinds of coaches I have had helped me to develop into the coach I am today," she said.

There's no doubt in our minds that Lena is well on her way to becoming not just a good coach but one of the best kinds of coaches any of our players could encounter.

Witnessing Lena's enthusiasm to serve in this way truly warms our hearts. The RBI Austin T-Ball Orioles are in good hands!

NOLAN RYAN FOUNDATION GRANT

Earlier this month, the Nolan Ryan Foundation awarded RBI Austin with a check for \$500,000 at the Round Rock Express Hall of Fame Night.

This endowment will go towards our Home Field Advantage Capital Campaign, which will provide a permanent home where our RBI Austin kids can be engaged and developed athletically, academically, and spiritually - 365 days per year.

To date, we have raised over \$5 Million of our \$6.8 Million capital campaign and we are seeking additional funding to complete the campaign. To learn more about this project and the latest fundraising status, please reach out to RBI Austin Executive Director, Matt Price, at matt.price@rbiaustin.org.



Cat Osterman accepts the check from Reid Ryan and the Nolan Ryan Foundation staff alongside Matt Price, Executive Director of RBI Austin, and Andy Harris who sits on the Board of Directors (far right). They were joined by long-time program participants, Jordan Benjamin and Laude Reyes (center).