

Austin South Asian

My staff and **Sewa International USA - Austin** recently dropped off 5,000 masks and bottles of hand sanitizer for Central Texas first responders.

These masks were donated by Sewa International, a local civic group committed to helping others in the wake of disasters.

In Texas, we help each other, and I want to thank **Sewa International USA** for embodying that Texas spirit of compassion.



Sewa International is a Hindu-faith-based, service-oriented, humanitarian non-profit organization, registered under IRS 501(c)(3), whose mission is to serve humanity in distress, aid local communities, run developmental projects for the underserved, and assist people in transformational change through the power of innovation by mobilizing partners, donors, and volunteers.

Sewa International has been actively responding to the Covid19 pandemic across the USA and locally in the greater Austin area as well. To know more about Sewa USA's Covid-19 response, click here <https://sewausa.org/Covid-19>. Sewa has opened a Plasma Registry (www.sewacovidplasma.org), that offers a national registry for both donors and recipients under the Convalescent Plasma Therapy program. Nationwide, Sewa has donated more than 75000 masks, 1000 liters of sanitizer, 10000 gloves and donated \$100,000-plus to pantries. In greater Austin, the Sewa team has so far:

(i) partnered with local organizations to launch a NON-medical helpline [(210)920-4616]

(ii) coordinated a fundraiser for Central Texas Food Bank along with 20+ Indian organizations (tinyurl.com/ctfbaustin) which raised money for around 27K meals.

(iii) donated 5000 masks to first responders through Congressman John Carter, which was accepted and is being distributed by Bell county Judge Blackburn.

(iv) distributed masks to county EMS, healthcare professionals and first responders.

350+ N95 & 1500+ 3-ply masks to Williamson County EMS, physician groups at Baylor Scott & White, Ascension Seton, Cedar Park Regional Medical Center and others

(v) distributed groceries to senior citizens and stranded international students.

(vi) delivered home-cooked meals along with masks and hand-sanitizers to 1st responders in Round Rock Police Department, Cedar Park PD and RR Fire Department

(vii) delivered fresh meals from restaurants to surrounding PDs, thus helping local businesses as they reopen after lockdown while expressing gratitude to the 1st responders from the community.

All activities conducted with complete adherence to safety protocols (non-contact, outdoors, w/ masks/gloves). If you are interested to volunteer, please contact us at: austin@sewausa.org