## Recent Community Investment Thanks to your donations, and with your support of the Elwood Gala, EAF has given back to the Elwood Area through grants and program support to many important area groups. Below are just some of those receiving past EAF support: Civic Center Renovations Exterior improvements Mechanical upgrades Interior Improvements Banquet Hall Kitchen Restrooms/Hallway Village Park Updates Summer Ball Program Library Building Project Gosper County Food Pantry Elwood Volunteer Fire And Rescue Department Johnson Lake Trails Johnson Lake State Recreation Area Playground Elwood Care Center and Assisted Living Gosper County Senior Center Elwood Generosity Day Youth Engaged In Leading People (YELP) Leadership Class Beef in Schools Program FFA and 4-H projects L2 for Kids (Back to School clothes for those in need) TeamMates Mentoring Program Maroon Platoon/Elwood Stampede High School Spirit Club CASA for Dawson/Gosper County (Court Appointed Special Advocate for Youth) Give BIG Elwood Giving Day Campaign participants

## **Elwood Area Foundation 2021 Spring Newsletter**

Thanks to the generosity of those who believe in our mission, the Elwood Area Foundation has given back to the community in many different ways. The projects and programs listed on the back are just some of those receiving support from EAF.

It is with heartfelt sincerity that we extend our greatest gratitude and appreciation to all those who support the Elwood Area Foundation.

Our success in giving back to the Elwood Area is entirely thanks to the generous hearts of YOU, our supporters.



Community Car Show during **Retro** Night, organized by the YELP 2019 class.

## YELP YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLASS CELEBRATES SUCCESS

The YELP (Youth Engaged in Leading People) youth leadership class of 2020/2021 celebrated commencement on Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, with the successful completion of coursework and a community service project. Class requirements for graduation included learning about leadership skills and community involvement, while planning a service project from beginning to end. These students put together a donation drive for the Parent-Child Center in Lexington and for essential workers in Elwood, as their class project.

The donation drive resulted in the students being able to donate 3 large backpacks stuffed full of personal hygiene items to the Parent-Child Center for domestic abuse victims and their children starting a new life on their own: including shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, feminine hygiene products, hand sanitizer and face masks, as well as a toy for children, some candy, and more. There were so

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many items donated that the students also sent a large box full of additional personal hygiene items, and candy and toys for children.



Three large backpacks and a tote full of donations for the Parent –Child Center

YELP students also put together 63 care packages for the Elwood Care Center employees, as a "thank you" for their dedication and hard work during the challenges of the past twelve months.

Thank you to all those who donated items and cash to help the YELP students carry out this incredible service project! The positive impact of this project was far-reaching.

Gosper County 4-H Council; Pinnacle Bank of Elwood; Security First Bank of Elwood; Thrivent Action Team; Wal-Mart; and the many generous Elwood residents who donated cash and items but wish to remain anonymous.

Graduates are Elwood students Brooke Brockman, Lauren Hickey, Shannon Kennicutt, Marissa McClung, and Xandria Pike.

The Elwood Area Foundation establishes endowment funds and administers the income for the betterment of the Elwood Area. The Elwood Area Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, non-profit organization under United States tax laws. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible to the extent applicable under relevant tax law. Tax I.D # 76-0741866