More than 150 members of the DBU Patriot athletic teams filled Dallas’ Fair Park Centennial Building for the 3rd annual H-E-B Feast of Sharing, a free Thanksgiving meal and festival for those less fortunate and homeless members of the Dallas and surrounding communities. These student-athletes joined with over 1,000 volunteers to serve over 10,000 people.

While H-E-B has been hosting Feast of Sharing holiday dinners for over 20 years, this year marked the third time the event was held in Dallas. The dinner was open to the Dallas community, with H-E-B, along with their Central Market affiliate, providing transportation for many from low income neighborhoods and homeless shelters. The event included health services, a Kids-Zone with Santa Claus, craft stations, bounce houses, and a jazz band, in addition to a traditional holiday meal provided by Central Market.

Student-athletes from all the DBU athletic teams, the cheerleading squad, and the Diamond Belles welcomed the guests and served Thanksgiving plates, pumpkin pie, ice cream, and drinks.

“Having the athletes play a part in serving food, picking up trash, and making crafts with kids was a great opportunity to show Christ’s love in action,” stated Jennifer Curran, DBU Head Tennis Coach.

“It was a wonderful way to kick off the holidays and was also an important reminder that we are very blessed, and God calls us to serve those who are less fortunate than ourselves. I pray that our athletes were a true blessing to those they served.”

“I was able to help the kids decorate cookies with icing,” explained Nic Tacher, a junior on the Patriot Golf Team.

“I really enjoyed spending time with them, and being there to help these people in need reminds me of what life is all about. I have been truly blessed.”

“Serving at the Feast of Sharing was truly an experience by getting to serve people who need a helping hand,” shared Ashleigh Elkins, a junior on the Lady Patriot Soccer Team. “Most of all, this experience of getting to hand out food and drinks has shown me a side of life I never knew existed, and it really opened my heart to help them more.”

Patriot Tennis player Richard Abel (sophomore) helps to clear tables during the 3rd Annual H-E-B Feast of Sharing event, held in downtown Dallas. (Above banner, from left to right) Golfer Brandon Johnson (sophomore) helps a child decorate cookies, tennis player Lisa Olian (junior) assists in the clearing of tables, and volleyball players Kara Kemp (freshman) and May Allen (freshman) help to pass out drinks.