

Love Riverside in 2020

And then came the pandemic in 2020 and after initially sheltering in place, Love Riverside saw the need to expand our efforts to love & serve our communities in new ways....

Early on in the pandemic, we saw the need to provide extra food to our local food pantries who were assisting so many families. **In June 2020, we began hosting Food Drive/Collections** and began asking the community (through social media) to collect non-perishable food items and drop off to our team of volunteers on a monthly basis. Our team would sort the food and then deliver the food to a local pantry.



We also began to **increase our social media communications to resource our residents** to understand what resources were available for them to find help in our city. And ways they could safely volunteer at any of our events we were hosting. Love Riverside has a strong partnership with most of our universities and we continue to work with a small army of volunteers where we do good in our city.

On October 10, 2020, we hosted our 5th annual Love Riverside Serve Day. After making many adjustments due to Covid-19 protocols (like not being able to have a rally and projects all over the city), we regrouped and partnered with other nonprofits to drive thru & drop off of 1) Food 2) Diapers 3) Household items and 4) Hygiene items. These items benefitted those serving in Neighborhood pantries, families and our homeless community.



In **September thru December**, Love Riverside partnered with the City of Riverside under the CARES Act and began to plan and staff **FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTIONS** where we handed out a box of nonperishable food + produce box to families in need. We hosted a total of 9 distributions where over 3,000+ boxes of food were distributed.

We also partnered with **NORTHGATE MARKET** and assisted in planning a **food distribution on November 6th** where over 850 boxes of food were distributed to families. Later, on December 17th, we assisted in providing volunteers for the **Northgate Toy Drive**.

