



## Calendar of Events

### Fill the Hangers Clothing & Accessories Drive

Homeless Access Center • 2880 Hulen Pl.

Donations Accepted:

Tues. - Thurs. each week • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Homeless Care Network Meetings

César Chávez Community Center  
2060 University Ave., Riverside, CA

Meetings are held the third Thursday  
of each month

Next meeting date is February 16, 2017

## Our Mission

The City of Riverside Housing Authority is dedicated to rebuilding lives through resources promoting self-sufficiency and lifelong connections.



## Monthly Housing Definition

### “Permanent Supportive Housing”

(adjective, adjective, noun) - Permanent Supportive housing is an evidence-based housing intervention that combines non-time-limited affordable housing assistance with wrap-around supportive services for people experiencing homelessness, as well as other people with disabilities.

### The 4th Annual Walk to End Homelessness is slated for April 8

The 4th Annual Walk to End Homelessness will be held on Saturday, April 8 at Fairmount Park, located at 2601 Fairmount Blvd. in Riverside. The event is held each year to support the work of Riverside Ending Homelessness Fund (REHF), which raises resources and awareness to help eradicate the debilitating causes and effects of homelessness.

Some federal and state funded programs address some of the needs of people exiting the streets, but shelter alone is not enough to help them achieve success in permanent housing. Unfortunately, many of the most obvious necessities like refrigerators, bed linens, school books and supplies, and fees for testing and licensing are not allowable expenses. Therefore, to help provide individuals and families the items necessary to transition out of homelessness into permanent housing and obtain employment, this year's goal is to raise \$35,000 dollars.

For more information about registration, sponsorships and exhibitor booths, please visit [EndHomeless.info](http://EndHomeless.info) or contact Lashea West at [LWest@RiversideCA.gov](mailto:LWest@RiversideCA.gov) or (951) 826-2305

### Success Story Update

Matt's Success Story was published in the December 2016 issue of Bridges



#### Recap:

The Outreach Team first met Matt in March 2015. Matt was removed from his parents' legal custody due to their ongoing substance abuse issues, repeated felony arrests and direct ties to dealing drugs. He was then placed in the foster care system at the age of seven.

After turning 18, Matt began living on the streets in a homeless encampment located only two blocks from the Riverside Homeless Access Center. When the Outreach Team first engaged Matt, his clothes were extremely soiled, torn, tattered and appeared to have not been washed for weeks. He had established gang ties and began abusing drugs.

In March 2016, the City of Riverside's Outreach Team helped Matt gain admission into a rehabilitation program that would help him get sober and provide him with a plan, which could possibly help save his life. Matt was immediately placed outside of the city where he would be safe from the retaliation of his gang affiliations.

#### January 2017:

Matt graduated from the rehabilitation center with six months of sobriety. He has moved into transitional housing where he has plans to obtain his G.E.D., job training and supportive services which will further help him achieve permanent housing and self-sufficiency.

“Matt no longer has that child-like behavior he had when he entered rehab. He is a responsible young man now,” said Adrian Varela, Homeless Outreach Worker. Varela continued, “I am so proud of him—he told me that he could not have done this on his own and he is grateful for the City of Riverside's Homeless Program.”

For homeless supportive services  
please contact or visit the

### Riverside Access Center

2880 Hulen Place • Riverside, CA 92507  
(951) 826-2200

[HomelessHelp@RiversideCA.gov](mailto:HomelessHelp@RiversideCA.gov)  
[Endhomeless.info](http://Endhomeless.info)

## Thank you for Supporting the 2016 Holiday Golf Tournament

Your participation and contributions brought joy to 19 families in need of assistance throughout the City of Riverside.

Total Amount of Funds Raised	<b>\$3,251</b>
.....	
Golf Fee Rentals	<b>\$406.08</b>

### Our Families' Wish Lists

Full Turkey Dinners, Holiday Decorations, Pajamas, Toys, Make-Up, Perfume, Accessories for Teens and Parents

### We Shopped At:

Target	<b>\$703.20</b>
.....	
Ulta Cosmetics	<b>\$422.74</b>
.....	
Stater Bros.	<b>\$539.91</b>
.....	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,665.85</b>

Balance Forward	<b>\$1,125.07</b>
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**Remaining funds will be used to assist additional families**

### Thank you to our contributors, participants and supporters:

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Stephanie Tang         | Rosa Elena              |
| Jesse LaRue            | Johnathan Marks         |
| Kaitlin Bilhartz       | Ted White               |
| Alex Nguyen            | Joyce Jong              |
| Andrea Robles          | Victor Labrecque        |
| Tony Romanski          | Cathy Mitchell          |
| Mike Gardner           | Gayat Adame             |
| Monica Sapien          | Christina Bartscher     |
| Emilio Ramirez         | Kristi Smith            |
| Rafael Guzman          | Yvette Sennewald        |
| Teresa Rosales         | Steve Jacobs            |
| Michelle Davis         | Taco Station            |
| Riverside Firefighters | Riverside Firefighters  |
| Sparks of Love         | Shop with a Firefighter |
| Sunshine Portraits     | Washington              |
| Bath & Body Works      | Elementary School       |
| Tyler Mall             | City of Riverside       |
| Pacific Railway        | Employees               |
| Enterprises            | Living Prayer Grace     |
| Stairways to Success   | Center                  |

## ATA: 100 years of helping people achieve self-sufficiency in spite of minimal resources

Arlington Temporary Assistance (ATA) has been providing critical services to underserved residents of Riverside on a "shoestring" budget and miniscule space since 1917. "Our space is so tight that we have to break down our office once each month to make space for our makeshift thrift store," said Ofelia Sanchez, Director. More than 100 homeless individuals go to ATA monthly to receive food, clothing and referrals for supportive services. In addition, close to 1,000 other community members who are in need of those same services, plus utility, rental and transportation assistance rely on the agency and its four part-time staff members to throw them a lifeline each month.

"We are committed to ensuring that our clients get all the resources they need to improve their quality of life," said Sanchez. The critical resources, which the agency offers include a referral program with other agencies that offer free to low-cost services such as: housing, employment agencies, mental health care, social services, legal assistance, computer classes, and transportation. While the primary purpose of ATA is to provide temporary assistance with groceries, clothing, baby items, and backpacks for children, gift cards for seniors, and personal hygiene products, the agency has also found a way to give hope to its clients during the holiday season by giving away pre-packaged meals, turkeys, hams and toys.



With limited financial resources coming from the City's Community Development Block Grant Program and United Way, ATA still has to find a way to pay rent for storage units to keep non-perishable food items. Sanchez said many clients have personal matters they need to discuss and resolve. However privacy is not possible in the small space that serves as a multi-functional office, pantry and clothes closet.

Fortunately, the City of Riverside's Community Development Block Grant Program is now having discussions with ATA to possibly help the agency make a transition to a warehouse at Homeless Services Campus on Hulen Place. "We do the best we can with what we have for now," said Sanchez. "But more space would be a blessing because we could engage and help more people achieve self-sufficiency."