

Desert Village Initiative / Neighbors 4 Neighbors

Annual Report

March 1, 2014

We're Celebrating Our Third Anniversary

On March 21, 2014 in the Sierra Ballroom, the Neighbors 4 Neighbors volunteer group will be honored by its parent organization, the Desert Village Initiative, Inc., in a “thank you” celebration for all the hard work and hours of service our volunteers give to our members. We continue to receive accolades from grateful members and reports of high job satisfaction from happy volunteers.

The rapid growth of this nonprofit organization is astounding. It's all because, back in March of 2011, SCPD residents embraced the idea and saw the need to help each other live more securely and maintain peace of mind for residents and their families.

Back then, when Neighbors 4 Neighbors began operations, all the performance numbers you see below were at zero. Three years later, the performance is stupendous, as you can see. Our numbers are brag-worthy and hugely gratifying, just prior to our third anniversary on March 1, 2014.

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| Households Being Served 648 | Handy Helper Services 3,200 |
| Residents Being Served 913 | Going My Way Miles Driven31,400 |
| Active Volunteers 184 | Going My Way Services2,287 |
| Dispatch Calls5,800 | Going My Way Hours3,686 |

In January we received 269 dispatch calls, the highest ever and 9% higher than the same period last year. In December we were up 14% from the prior year. We provided 250 N4N services to 145 members in January as compared to 193 services to 129 members in December. These were 15% and 20% higher respectively over the prior year.

Pleasing as these performance numbers are, they came with a cost. The daily administration of the organization was becoming more and more a burden to the board of directors, who were intensely involved on an almost daily basis, requiring many more hours than were sustainable. In July of 2013, we took the big step of hiring an Executive Director to relieve the directors and to provide daily support to our team leaders and administrative volunteers. This step has answered; efforts are being made to off-load Board work to acceptable levels. The service performance of the N4N organization continues at a very high level. In January of 2014, the Executive Director's hours were reduced to reflect a revised scope and to meet fiscal constraints and current priorities.

To cover this expense, the board raised the annual dues from \$50 to \$100. This increase for a time appeared to have caused a reduction in member renewals, but that drop-off may have been reversed, and we hope renewals will soon reach their former levels. The financial condition of the organization remains healthy. A reminder is in order, however: the success of our program is solely dependent upon member fees, volunteer donated services and charitable contributions. All donations are graciously accepted and tax-exempt to the extent allowed by the IRS.

It looks like this organization is here to stay and, judging from the appreciation our members express when they receive a service from an N4N volunteer, many people are smiling a little wider, thanks to Neighbors 4 Neighbors.