

FY2024

Stewardship Report



**FROM OUR PARKS TO YOUR HEARTS
A YEAR OF STEWARDSHIP**

Committed to Promoting an Active, Healthy Lifestyle for All

As we reflect on this past fiscal year, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and excitement for the journey we've been on together. Your support, enthusiasm, and involvement have been the driving forces behind everything we do. It's because of you that we can bring programs, events, and services that truly make a difference in our community.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us. Together, we're creating a healthier, more connected, and vibrant community for all.

Gene Korman



DRD VALUES OUR COMMUNITY

Our Mission

Desert Recreation District's mission is to enrich the quality of life for Coachella Valley residents by acquiring, developing, operating and maintaining a community-focused parks and recreation system and preserving it for future generations.

Our Vision

Through a community collaborative approach the District will be the regional provider of premier parks and recreation services in the Coachella Valley. Ensuring all residents have equitable and barrier free opportunities that contribute to the overall wellness of our communities

Our Values

Respect – Mutual understanding and equal consideration of others.

Integrity – Consistently doing the right thing.

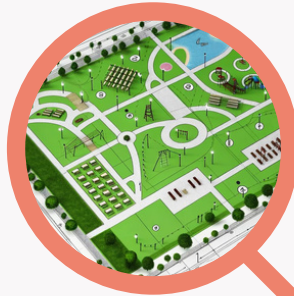
Teamwork - Working together to achieve a common goal.

Excellence – Continuously striving for perfection.



DRD Values Our Customers

For more than 74 years, Desert Recreation District (DRD) has played a key role in enriching the quality of life for residents and visitors through the recreational services we offer in the Greater Coachella Valley. We cover over 1,865 square miles and provide recreational services to over 380,000 residents, in part by working with municipalities in a collective effort to assure equitable service delivery to every community regardless of economic means.

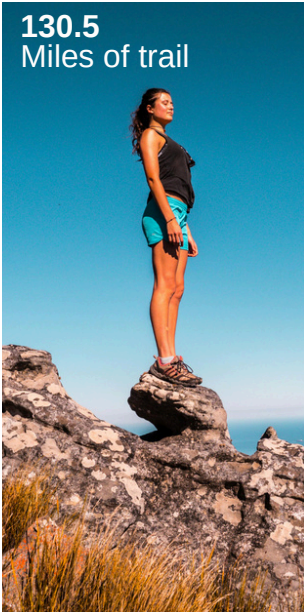


BY THE NUMBERS

Staying true to our mission

Desert Recreation District is the largest park and recreation district in California! We manage, maintain and assist in maintaining 43 parks and recreation facilities; we create and deliver quality programs, services, and classes; and, we facilitate leisure opportunities through partnerships with private and public agencies and entities.

We strive to ensure members of the public receive personal benefits such as physical fitness, relaxation and revitalization; social benefits in the form of stronger and healthier families and economic benefits through more productive and healthier citizens and increased tourism.



We assist in managing over 106,000 acres of open space



Check out our number of class visits in FY2024!

	Sports	33,366
	Tots	2,916
	Adaptive Sports	16,892
	Health & Fitness	8,050
	Aquatics	33,236
	Gymnastics	26,969
	Art & Music and Dance	13,245
	Special Interest & Outdoors	1,981

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES STARTS WITH CREATING SPACES WHERE PEOPLE CAN CONNECT, GROW, AND THRIVE. LET'S DO THIS!

HUMAN RESOURCE

DRD VALUES INCLUSIVITY

Desert Recreation District (DRD) places a strong emphasis on inclusivity, making it an integral part of our values and principles. Our commitment to inclusivity is rooted in our mission to provide recreational opportunities and enhance the quality of life for all community members. We believe in creating a welcoming and accessible environment for residents and visitors of all backgrounds, abilities, and demographics.

Our team is GROWING!

- 74 Full - 17.4% ▲
- 293 Part - 4.5% ▲


130
Volunteers!



SCH[♥]LARSHIPS

Coachella Valley
Youth Golf Foundation
first tee™
coachella valley



Scholarships play a vital role in fostering inclusivity, equity, and community engagement.

The Desert Recreation District (DRD), in partnership with the Desert Recreation Foundation (DRF) and the Coachella Valley Youth Golf Foundation (CVYGF), offers scholarships that go beyond financial aid. They are investments in the health, well-being, and social fabric of our communities, providing opportunities for personal growth, community participation, and development—ultimately enhancing the quality of life for all.

This fiscal year, DRF has awarded over \$138,900 in financial assistance and scholarships to families across the Coachella Valley. Additionally, CVYGF provides all elementary schools in the Coachella Valley with its program at no cost, saving each school an average of \$7,500. Coachella Valley Youth Golf Foundation also scholarships \$30,000 in program fees annually for families in need.

Educational Programming & Opportunities

Afterschool programs include After School Education and Safety (ASES), Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP), Kids Clubs, and camps!

DRD has over 70 Para Educators to support our programs in partnership with Desert Sands Unified School District (DSUSD). These program include education/homework assistance, physical activity play, a snack & and so much more.

KIDS CLUB Locations: Las Casas | Villa Hermosa | Paseo De Los Heroes | River Canyon | Vista Dunes

ELOP Locations: Washington Charter | Colonel Mitchell Paige Middle | John Glenn Middle

12,408 ENROLLED IN FY2024



FY2024 ATTENDANCE A+	
ASES LOCATIONS	
✓	Carrillo Ranch Elementary School
✓	Dr. Carreon Academy
✓	Franklin Elementary School
✓	Hoover Elementary School
✓	Indio Middle School
✓	Jackson Elementary School
✓	Kennedy Elementary School
✓	Lincoln Elementary School
✓	Madison Elementary School
✓	Oliphant Elementary School
✓	Roosevelt Elementary School
✓	Truman Elementary School
✓	Van Buren Elementary School

IT TAKES A
TEAM



Adaptive/Therapeutic Sports & Recreation

Imagine a world where everyone gets to dive into exciting activities tailored to their skills and abilities! From thrilling sports to engaging recreational ventures, these programs aren't just about fitness; they're about creating a blast of fun with friends and family, creating new friendships and boosting confidence. Join us in celebrating abilities, overcoming barriers, and reveling in a world of excitement that the Desert Recreation District proudly brings to you all year long!

277 Programs Offered

1,285 Hours of Adaptive Programing

3,084 Enrollments

Ages Range: 4 - 62 Years Young!

16,892 Number of Class Visits

✓ Empowerment

✓ Sense of Belonging

✓ Friends Made

✓ Confidence

✓ Celebrating Abilities

✓ Unforgettable Achievements

♥ Endless Possibilities



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



**CONSTRUCTION
PROJECTS**



**INCLUDING
NEW BUILD**



**RENOVATIONS
AND REPAIRS**

COMPLETED

LQ Playground area resurfacing

We recently completed a significant improvement project at La Quinta Park by resurfacing the playground area. The aging playground surface was replaced with a new, durable material designed to enhance both safety and inclusivity for park visitors. This upgrade reflects the District's commitment to providing a welcoming and accessible space for children and families, ensuring that everyone can enjoy the playground with peace of mind. The resurfacing not only meets modern safety standards but also fosters a more inclusive environment, allowing children of all abilities to participate in outdoor play safely.



COMPLETED

Oasis Shade Structure Project

Our team is excited for the completion of the Oasis Shade Structure Project, enhancing the playground at Oasis del Desierto Park. This project involved the installation of a sturdy and visually appealing shade structure, designed to provide much needed sun protection for park visitors, especially during the hot summer months. The shade structure improves the overall comfort and safety of the playground area, making it a more enjoyable space for families and children. This project exemplifies our commitment to accessible, safe, and inviting recreational spaces within the community.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

COMPLETED

Fairway Park

We couldn't be more excited than to announce that Fairway Park, the first public park in the city of Indian Wells, is now open to the public! This thoughtfully designed park features beautiful desert landscaping, accent rocks, a walking path, and shade trees, offering a serene and welcoming space for the community.



COMPLETED

North Shore Parque del Pueblo Lighting Project

Desert Recreation District successfully completed the installation of new lighting at North Shore Parque del Pueblo, greatly enhancing the safety and accessibility of the park. These improvements allow for extended evening use, supporting recreational activities and community gatherings after dark. This project shows our dedication to making North Shore's public spaces safer and more inviting for everyone. The new energy-efficient lights also support our environmental goals, helping the park stay an active and lively place for the community, even after dark.



IN PROGRESS

Golf Center at Palm Desert New parking lot, and renovation of east end driving range

The Golf Center at Palm Desert has two key upgrades that enhance the facility's accessibility and overall user experience. A new parking lot constructed to accommodate more visitors, ensuring convenient and efficient access to the Center. In addition, the east end of the driving range is undergoing a comprehensive renovation, providing improved practice areas for golfers of all skill levels.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

IN PROGRESS

Palm Desert Community Center Renovation.

We're excited to announce that the newly renovated Palm Desert Community Center will be opening to the public in December 2024! The extensive upgrades include an expanded lobby, a newly relocated fitness room, and a revamped reception and administrative area now situated in the former fitness space. Additionally, the current reception area has been transformed into a dynamic activity room designed for classes such as dance and aerobics. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to enjoy the enhanced facilities and celebrate our grand reopening!

COMING
SOON



IN PROGRESS

Thermal Park Design and Construction Project

Thermal Community Park is a 10-acre site designed in collaboration with local residents, set to become the first community park in Thermal. Centrally located, it will provide convenient access to outdoor recreation and programming for all residents. The project, supported by \$4.5 million in state funding through Prop 68 and developed in partnership with Riverside County, Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, and Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia. We look forward to breaking ground in December 2024 with the entire community!



Caring for Our Parks AND COMMUNITY

PARK SUPERVISION

Our commitment to providing a safe and clean environment for all remains a top priority. Each day, our dedicated staff opens our parks with meticulous attention to detail, ensuring a welcoming atmosphere by cleaning, removing litter, addressing any potential hazards, and engaging with park users.

Regular maintenance and thorough safety checks are conducted across all facilities, including playgrounds, sports fields, restrooms, and walking paths. These proactive measures allow us to uphold the highest standards of safety and cleanliness, ensuring that our parks continue to be enjoyable spaces for the entire community.

OVER 130 MILES OF WALKING TRAILS

Our dedication to cleanliness and safety extends beyond our parks to the over 130 miles of public trails that weave through our district. These trails provide residents with opportunities to explore the breathtaking desert landscape and stay active. Our team works diligently year-round to maintain these trails, addressing hazards and ensuring they remain accessible, well-marked, and safe for hikers, bikers, and nature enthusiasts alike. Whether you're enjoying a stroll in the park or an adventure on the trails, we are committed to providing a pristine and secure environment for everyone.

OVER 2500 TREES

One of our core responsibilities is the stewardship of over 2,500 trees that beautify our parks and facilities, providing shaded, welcoming spaces for our community to enjoy. We understand the essential role these trees play in enhancing the quality of our green spaces. Our team is committed to their ongoing care, conducting regular pruning, watering, and health monitoring as part of our daily operations. In addition, we actively work toward long-term sustainability by planting new trees to replace any that may be lost. This dedication ensures our parks remain lush and vibrant for future generations to enjoy.

The DRD WAY

43
PARKS
106,000
ACRES OF
OPEN SPACE





5 POOLS



1,880
PARENT & ME
SWIM LESSON



147
LIFEGUARDS TRAINED

POOLS/AQUATIC CENTERS

Our Aquatics program helps build confidence, and develop lifelong skills. Our shimmering pools become canvases for inclusivity, where we gather to exercise, socialize, and learn. From swimming lessons, water safety, aquatic therapy, engaging aquatic workouts, and building memories, these programs serve as a hub for health and recreation, promoting physical wellbeing while nurturing a sense of belonging among residents.

DRD AQUATICS
OVER 33,000 class visits
in FY2024!



The Riverside County Children and Families Commission approved \$280,000 in funding to support drowning prevention efforts through the Desert Recreation District. The contract runs now through the end of June 2026. The funding will support over 2,000 children from the Coachella Valley who can receive free safe group swimming classes this summer.

280K
THROUGH
JUNE 2026



Thanks to the generous support from Kaiser Permanente's HEAL program, the Desert Recreation District continues to provide swim lesson scholarships for children throughout the Coachella Valley, ensuring that more youth have the opportunity to learn this essential life skill.

533
LESSONS
SUMMER 2024



Conveniently located in the heart of Palm Desert off Cook Street, The Golf Center at Palm Desert offers a large, double-sided driving range with lighting for night time use. We are excited to announce the opening of the east range improvements, which features a world-class short game practice area and enlarged grass range tee. In addition to the large putting and chipping greens, the newly renovated short game practice area includes three bunkers and an essential 26 space parking lot. When you are finished sharpening your game on the driving range, play a round on our challenging Par-3, 9-hole golf course. The golf course is the perfect place to improve your game, featuring small, undulating greens, ideal for working on the scoring part of your game (80 - 130 yards).

-  **14,110**
Rounds Played
-  **25,636**
Range Buckets Sold
-  **805**
Hours of Private Lessons



WE DO GOLF RIGHT

Desert Recreation District spared no expense to make this the best practice facility in the Coachella Valley.

OUR MISSION

The Golf Center is also the "Home of First Tee – Coachella Valley," a youth development program that believes that proactively helping kids build character will give them the tools they need to overcome obstacles in life while learning the game of golf.





Financial Stewardship

Investing in Our Communities Future

Stewardship

As stewards of your community's resources, we are committed to transparency and accountability in managing our finances. This page is designed to give you an overview of how we allocate resources to support our mission of enhancing the quality of life in the desert communities we serve. Explore the data and charts to gain a deeper understanding of our fiscal health and the impact of our investments in recreational programs and facilities.

Interim Audit

The District's auditors conducted the FY24 interim audit in mid-June 2024, following GAAS and Government Auditing Standards. They assessed financial risks, reviewed internal controls, and evaluated accounting practices to ensure the District's continued financial stability. The audit concluded with no findings, and all documentation was provided promptly. Kudos to the Finance Team for their excellent work!



Revenue

Desert Recreation District generates revenue through a diverse mix of sources, including program fees, grants, taxes, partnerships, and community support. This balanced approach enables us to fund innovative recreational programs and enhance our facilities, ensuring continued growth and sustainability.

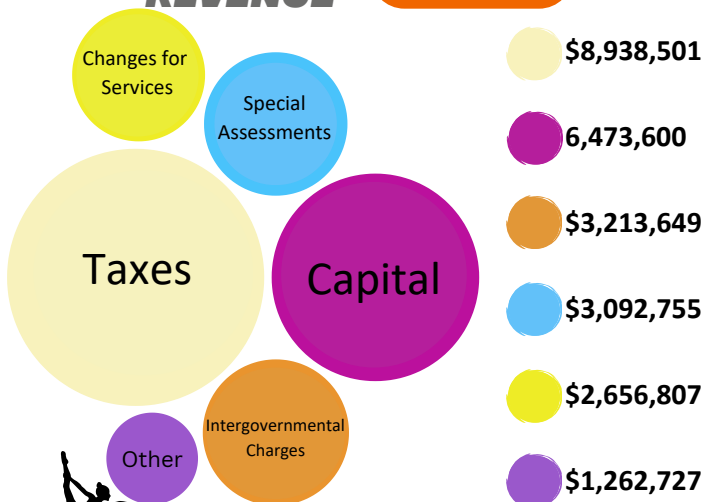


Expense

Our expenses are carefully managed to prioritize community impact, investing in facility maintenance, program development, and staff training. We strive to maximize every dollar spent, ensuring that our resources directly benefit the communities we serve.

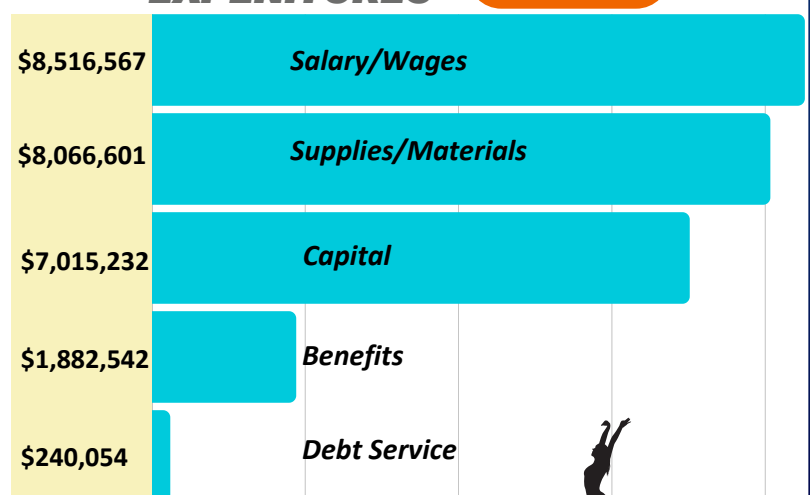
TOTAL REVENUE

\$27,150,218



TOTAL EXPENITURES

\$25,720,997



Adventure

LIVES AT DRD



LET'S
Find Your
DRD
MOMENT



Desert Recreation FOUNDATION

Desert Recreation Foundation works behind the scenes to ensure that all residents in the Coachella Valley have access to quality recreational resources, facilities, parks, and programs that serve today's needs and those for generations to come.

OUR MISSION

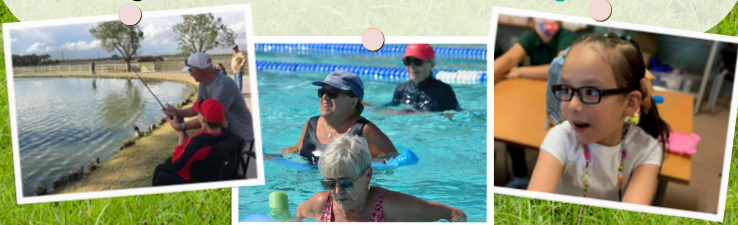
Our mission is to enrich and preserve the quality of life for residents. We do this by raising funds and garnering support to purchase, develop, enhance, preserve, promote and expand the Coachella Valley's recreational activities, programs, parks, properties and facilities.

OUR VISION

Our Vision is to establish a permanent charitable endowment that will provide sustainable, self-perpetuating resources, primarily for Desert Recreation District's park and recreation system. As the Foundation expands upon its strategic plan, we will strive to remain a valued and effective community resource, through leadership in capital planning to help fund new infrastructures, the purchase and development of land for new parks and creating new programs that serve the changing needs of residents.

READY TO BE THE DIFFERENCE?

Your support makes an impact every day in our communities! Donations to the Desert Recreation Foundation helps in the purchase of land and equipment, provides for our Adaptive/Therapeutic program, and engages all community members by providing financial assistance for those who most need it. Find out more by visiting: DesertRecreationFoundation.org



The Desert Recreation Foundation, is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization



first tee™

coachella valley

A program of the Desert Recreation District

OUR VISION

Fan Engagement: First Tee is creating deeper connections with kids and families and making golf more fun, interactive, and engaging.

Diversity & Inclusion: First Tee is reaching kids of all ages and backgrounds and is the entry point for kids and families to learn about and experience the game.

Civic Responsibility: At First Tee, more than 1,000 PGA & LPGA teaching professionals and 25,000 volunteers work together to teach kids the First Tee Key Commitments and life skills that help shape and impact their lives. First Tee Key Commitments: Pursuing Goals, Growing through Challenge, Collaborating with Others, Building Positive Self-Identity, Using Good Judgment.

First Tee - Coachella Valley:

- Over 21,000 Coachella Valley youth served, through on course, in school, and afterschool programs
- 33 Elementary Schools Onboarded and Trained to teach First Tee classes within their PE platforms
- Over \$30,000.00 scholarships monies awarded to FTCV Alum, through the Jim Kane Scholarship Fund



To impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values, and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.
FirstTeeCoachellaValley.org

The Coachella Valley Youth Golf Foundation DBA
First Tee - Coachella Valley, is recognized by the IRS
as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization

Meet Your DRD Board of Directors

Dear Desert Recreation District Community,

As your Board President, I am incredibly grateful and excited to be in this role, knowing that together we are shaping something special here at the Desert Recreation District. It's not just a district; it's a community that's thriving because of people like you who bring your energy, ideas, and love for this place every day.

Reflecting on our past fiscal year, it's clear that what makes our community shine is our shared passion for recreation, connection, and inclusivity. From the beautiful locations that have become our gathering spots to the programs that spark joy and growth for all ages, it's all powered by our commitment to one another. We've accomplished so much together, and I can't wait to see where this journey takes us next.

As we look ahead, I promise that our team is more dedicated than ever to expanding opportunities and creating spaces where everyone feels valued and inspired. Whether it's introducing new programs, upgrading facilities, or simply ensuring there's a welcoming place for everyone, we're here to keep the Desert Recreation District a true gem for all.

On behalf of the entire Board, thank you for your ongoing support and trust. It's a privilege to work alongside you all, and together, let's make this year the best yet.

With gratitude and enthusiasm,



Luis Espinoza
Board President



**Luis
Espinoza**
President
Division 3



**Natalia
Gonzalez**
Vice President
Division 1



**Rudy
Gutierrez**
Director
Division 2



**Rudy
Acosta**
Director
Division 4



**Laura
McGalliard**
Director
Division 5

Our sincerest thanks go to our valued partners, whose dedication and collaboration make it possible to enhance the lives of those we serve.

AAA Automobile Club of Southern California
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Alianza
American Heart Association
Anderson Children's Foundation
Annenberg Foundation
Audubon International
Autism Society Inland Empire
Barbara Sinatra Children's Center
Billhartz Desert Insurance Agency
Boys & Girls Club of Cathedral City
Boys & Girls Club of Coachella Valley
Building Bridges for Special Needs Coachella Valley
California Department of Education:
Expanded Learning Division
California Highway Patrol (CHP)
California School Age Consortium
California State Parks
California State University San Bernardino
Catholic Charities
City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
Clinica Medica Familiar
Coachella Valley Community Trust Collaborative
Coachella Valley Disaster Preparedness Network
Coachella Valley Horse Rescue
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition
Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control
Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy
Coachella Valley Radio Control Flying Club
Coachella Valley Unified School District
Coachella Valley Water District
College of the Desert
Community Action Partnership
Desert ARC
Desert Best Friend's Closet
Desert Healthcare District
Desert Healthcare Foundation
Desert Meadows Apartments
Desert Rose Society
Desert Sands Unified School District
Desert View Power

Eisenhower Medical Center
El Informador Del Valle
El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center
Fenixia Foundation
FIND Food Bank
First 5 Riverside County
Flying Doctors
Friends of the Desert Mountains
Gary & Diane Hansberger
Girl's Golf LPGA*USGA
Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater Palm Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau
Grocery Outlet Bermuda Dunes
Gulf California Broadcast
HOPE Through Housing
Idyllwild Nature Center & Museum
Independent Pool & Spa Service Association (IPSSA)
Indian Wells Golf Resort
Indian Wells Tennis Garden
Indio Senior Center
Indio Teen Center
Inland Caregiver Resource Center
Inland Empire Health Plan (I.E.H.P.)
Inland Regional Center
Innercare
iShred Document Destruction
Kaiser Permanente
KESQ
Kounkuey Design Initiative
KUNA
La Quinta Chevrolet
Loma Linda University Children's Health - Indio
Mecca Family Resource Center
Molina Healthcare of California
National Recreation Park Association
Oasis Vibe
Office of CA Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
Office of CA Assemblymember Greg Wallis
Office of Congressman Dr. Raul Ruiz
Office of Riverside County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Office of U.S. CA Senator Alex Padilla
Office of CA Senator Steven Padilla
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School
Pacific Western Bank
Palm Desert Area Chamber
Palm Desert Sheriff's Department

Palm Desert Youth Sports Association
Palm Springs Unified School District
Palm Valley Country Club
PGA Tour Players Association
PGA Tour Super Store
Prime Time International
Rancho Mirage Public Library
Regional Access Project/ Foundation
River Canyon Apartments
Riverside County Department of Public Social Services
Riverside County Economic Development Agency
Riverside County Fire Dept / Cal Fire
Riverside County Friday Night Live
Riverside County Library System
Riverside County Office of Aging
Riverside County Public Health
Riverside County Sheriff's Department
Riverside University Health System - Public Health
Rotary Club of Coachella Valley
Rotary Club of Indio
Rotary Club of Palm Desert
Sacred Heart Catholic School
Safehouse of the Desert
SAGE Initiative
SCGA Foundation
Senior Softball of Palm Desert
Shottenkirk Desert Lexus
Simplot
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Sunline Transit Agency
Tahquitz Creek Golf Resort
The Lights at Indio
The Wildlands Conservancy
Thousand Palms Chamber of Commerce
Tudor Ranch
Unincorporated Areas of: Bermuda Dunes; Indio Hills; Mecca; North Shore; Oasis; Thermal; and Thousand Palms
United Cerebral Palsy Inland Empire (UCPIE)
US Adaptive Recreation Center
Valley Sanitary District
Variety of the Desert
Vista Dunes Courtyard Homes
Vision y Compromiso
Walmart Foundation
World Golf Foundation
Yale University



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MyRecreationDistrict.com

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