



## 2014-2015 End-of-Year Riverside County TRIP Performance Report

The program year for Riverside County TRIP, a program of the non-profit Independent Living Partnership, begins on July 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

In 1993 the song "I'd Do Anything for Love" charted number one in 28 countries. Harley Davidson turned 90. Schindler's List was popular at the movies. Frank Sinatra received the Desert Palm Achievement Award from the Palm Springs International Film Festival. And a group of people from the Coachella Valley were brought together to voice concerns about transportation for older people living in their communities.

These dreamers were asked to describe the kind of transportation that could overcome the obstacles that many face with aging and the onset of serious disease. One after another they said what was needed:

- To be picked up at their home without having to wait outside in the heat
- Transportation in the comfort and luxury of a car
- Free rides for those on a severely limited income
- The ability to make trips whenever they were needed, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, even on the spur of the moment
- An escort who would come to their home and get them, stay with them during the trip, help them at their destinations, even help them put away their groceries when they got back home
- And they wanted the ability to go to Riverside or LA or San Diego to get special medical treatments if necessary.

When the nonprofit Independent Living Partnership heard the seemingly impossible wish list, ILP's visionary Board said "we can do that!" A few months later the Transportation Reimbursement and Information Project, "TRIP", was born and began providing rides for low income, elderly and disabled residents of the Coachella Valley when they had no other way of getting to needed medical services, getting their groceries, going to worship or just escaping from the boredom and torture of isolation, loneliness and depression.

By the next program year, TRIP had expanded to provide service for all of Riverside County and TRIP has been operating daily now for over 20 years! Today, Nancy, Tom and more than a thousand others were able to see their doctors, get groceries and keep on living in their own homes because of TRIP. And TRIP is so innovative and well managed that the cost for each mile of transportation provided was less than 2/3rds the cost of the county's public transit services. Not expensive and exactly what the patients ordered!

**For the program year ending June thirty, 1,028 unique riders received 123,821 free one-way trips and 1.8 million miles of escorted transportation at an average cost per trip of \$6.29. The subsidy per passenger mile was \$.43. County residents living in 52 cities and unincorporated places were served (including Aguanga, Winchester, Mecca and Ripley). Ages of those receiving assistance spanned from 2 years old (with the Angel View TRIP component) to 98 years of age. 65% of the passengers this year were 60 or older. Almost 20% were older than 80 years of age, and 38 passengers were over 90 years of age. 74% of the riders were female. TRIP riders are generally people who are at risk of out of home placement, isolated and alone and with severely limited income. Since TRIP began in 1993 1.8 million one-way trips and 20.5 million miles of escorted transportation have now been supported by the TRIP program in Riverside County.**