

HISTORY OF THE BICYCLE GIVEAWAY PROGRAM

In 2003, Doris Davies asked the Victorville Police if she could bring back the Sheriff's Bicycle Giveaway Program. Sheriff Deputy Greg Grimm and Recreation staff refurbished 30 bicycles that were recovered, but never claimed, from the Sheriff's station storage lockup. The next year there were 45 bicycles. It became an annual event held at the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds, which sponsored the giveaway location since its inception. Later, when there weren't enough bicycles in the Sheriff's storage lockup, Doris started purchasing bicycles for the giveaway program out of her own pocket.

In 2005, BEARS was incorporated and its mission was to support youths in the City of Victorville through the Community Services Department.

In 2008, Doris and BEARS started purchasing bicycles for the Bicycle Giveaway Program. She was phenomenal at getting contributions to fund the program. That year, she raised enough funds to purchase over 100 bicycles.

After her passing, the BEARS raised over \$10,000 for the 2009 Bicycle Giveaway Program with help from the Doo Wah Riders, a well known country music band that played the fair circuit and the San Bernardino County Fair year after year. Since then, the Doo Wah Riders would make the bicycle giveaway program its major fundraising project.

With a majority of the funds coming from the Doo Wah Riders fundraising efforts, the BEARS have been able to provide bicycles and helmets to over 160 needy children every year.

To make a donation for the Annual Doris Davies Memorial Bicycle Giveaway, make checks payable to: BEARS, and send to: Hook Community Center; Attention: BEARS; 14973 Joshua St.; Victorville, CA 92394.

The BEARS are here to continue with Doris' Legacy. Doris touched all our lives and we are all better for it. There will always be a little part of Doris in each of us. When you feel like giving, that's Doris. When you feel like helping, that's Doris. And when you feel like even the small things you do can make a difference, that's our Doris Davies! Thank you for your support.



