## HEARTS OF EMPOWERMENT

Love. Empower. Create Change

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#### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

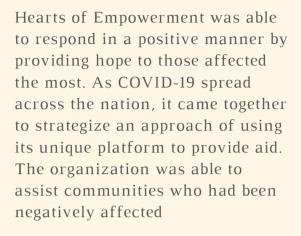
- · Year in Review
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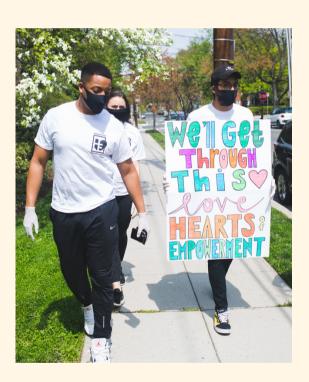
## YEAR IN REVIEW

by Editorial Team

"Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization"

This past year has brought challenges society never expected to encounter. It has been tough for families to deal with the ramifications of COVID-19 as they have been forced to live a





lifestyle far from what is considered to be normal. Through it all, communities have come together to help one another overcome these challenges. The resiliency of our community is inspirational and a sign that there will better days ahead.



and find growth through it all. Check out their 2020 statistics below!

\$145,254 Raised for Charities 93 Volunteers Mobilized 28 Partnerships Established 16 Campaigns Launched

## CHRISTIMAS FOR ARHA

Written by Editorial Team

Every holiday season for the past decade, the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) has hosted a Christmas event at their community center. This event historically features holiday decorations complete with "Santa's workshop". The main objective of the event is to hold a gift giveaway, where children from different age groups have the opportunity to select an item to take with them. This year, in consideration of the current public health circumstances, ARHA hosted an outdoor version of the event so that children could still receive gifts, especially as this year has brought on challenges that have made gift giving even more difficult for many families.





To assist in the curation of this year's event, ARHA teamed up with nonprofit organizations and private entities to sponsor portions of the event. Hearts of Empowerment pledged \$4,000.00 for the procurement of food, toys, and supplies. In addition, our friends at The P.U.S.O Foundation provided volunteers and Health Services Provider AETNA provided sponsorship resources. Additionally meal service provider, Mighty Meals, donated 60 healthy meals for all volunteers. The event convened around 500 families over the course of a scheduled 3 day-long event. 1000 children submitted requests for gifts and all of these requests were fulfilled. Volunteers for the event consisted of members of the Alexandria Police Department, as well as members of the P.U.S.O foundation and Hearts of Empowerment.

## **Ironman Complete**

After 15 hours and 23 minutes of swimming, biking, and running across the beautiful island of Cozumel, Mexico, Mario found the strength within to complete and officially become an Ironman athlete! Mario trained diligently for 9 months while representing Hearts of Empowerment through his journey. On behalf of Hearts of Empowerment, we would like to thank Mario for his dedication in completing the 140.6 mile triathlon.

Hearts of Empowerment will be releasing a special documentary featuring Mario's journey to becoming an Ironman Athlete. Make sure to follow Hearts of Empowerment on all social media channels to stay updated with the release!









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# Thank You Supporters

### Love. Empower. Create Change

On behalf of Hearts of Empowerment, we would like to thank all of our donors, sponsors, and volunteers near and far! Your support has had an enormous impact on our mission and the communities who benefit from it.

As we enter our 3rd year of existence, we are excited to continue growing and providing assistance to those who need it the most. This journey has been exciting and at times difficult, but overall fulfilling. We look forward to continuing having your support and growing alongside you.

"Failure Will Never Overtake Me If My Determination To Succeed Is Strong Enough."



