

Woman with a Heart for Bakersfield

Robin Robinson



Pastor Robin Robinson has a heart for helping persons who are battling against life's most challenging circumstances. From her own experiences, she found a passion to reach out to those who are suffering from self-condemnation, homelessness, and their own brokenness. Robin serves with relentless

compassion, believing that when people come together in harmony, it creates the ability to truly see transformation in the lives of those who are less fortunate.

Mobilizing churches to serve those in our community is at the heart of all she does. At age twenty-six, Robin's life began to implode. Making her way back to her faith, Robin had an encounter with God that changed her life. Through someone stepping into her life and loving her at her lowest point, Robin's life began to change. Robin first became Bus Director at Canyon Hills Church, where she organized busses to allow children to attend church and community events. She became a licensed minister and was promoted to Children's Pastor for ten years. The following nineteen years, she served as the Outreach Pastor and the Junior High Pastor. Eight years ago she became the Adult Ministries Pastor and led the Connection Ministries of the church.

Robin has led many large outreach projects within Bakersfield, including three years of "Love Your Neighborhood!" With more than 100 churches serving one another, this event has been a catalyst to bring our local churches together in unity. In 2019, Robin was asked to lead CityServe Kern County which empowers and mobilizes our local churches with resources to meet the needs of families and individuals. Serving as Community Development and Church Engagement Director, Robin partners with 120 CityServe churches in Kern County. She also collaborates with community partners in County and City government, non-profits,

businesses, healthcare, and education. Robin's purposeful efforts secure the basic needs for families, from those receiving new housing after being homeless, to Bakersfield College's job skills training for persons who have been marginalized and unable to access education.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Robin seized the opportunity to initiate additional outreach projects. Partnering with many local businesses and the USDA Farmers2Family food box program, CityServe provided more than 150,000 boxes of food to those experiencing food insecurity. With donations to CityServe from national retail partners, Robin championed the distribution of \$17.1 million worth of goods-in-kind to needy families in Kern County. Additionally, Robin's collaborative leadership benefited a multitude of low-income families through programs such as Senior Serve and Christmas for Seniors.

Robin was born in Bakersfield and moved with her family to a farm in Oklahoma. At fifteen, she chose to move to Lamont to live with her grandmother and attend Arvin High School. Robin began her career path by earning a California State contractor's license and owning her own business within the oil industry. Robin has been married to her husband, Corby, for 31 years and has two children, Casey and Haley. In her leisure time, she loves the outdoors and being in the country.