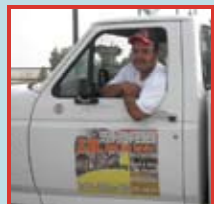


VTR ALUMNI



Hera Reyes

**J. R.
Road Side
Service**

Born in Tijuana in 1974, Hera Reyes came to Valley Teen Ranch when he was almost 17. He was identified as a Bulldog gang member at that time and was on his way to a life of delinquency, anger and fighting. While living at the Ranch, his older brother died from an injury he had received as an amateur boxer. During his time at the ranch he began to think about how he could make better choices and deal with his anger. His progress was intermittent but as we tell the boys, "We expect progress, not perfection." He was a hard worker, ambitious, played soccer and liked to be outdoors. He successfully completed the program on his 18th Birthday and graduated from Roosevelt HS in 1993.

Now he has 4 children ages 3-16, owns his own home, and last year started his own business, J.R. Road Side Service. He had been working for several local tire companies before deciding to go solo. He says JR stands for *Just Responsible*. If you

Continued on page 4



▲ *Kristi Fisher, GVUSD Principal, and Will, VTR High School Graduate*



▲ *KJWL interview with former Fresno Mayor, Alan Autry, Brian, Connie & VTR Alumni*



▲ *FFA/Adoption staff*



▲ *VTR kids on Honor Roll for the 2010 Fall Semester*



▲ *Adoption day with Judge Jane Cardoza ... The Stotts family increases by two!*



▲ *Merry Christmas! VTR boys having fun together*

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▲ *Staff & Boys at Valley Teen Ranch 2010*

Upcoming Events

April 18-25 - Spring Break
 April 26 - Board Meeting
 May 24 - Board Meeting
 June 3 - Last Day of School
 October 29 - Annual Luncheon



▲ Fresno Police Chief, Jerry Dyer, Fresno County Office of Ed Superintendent, Larry Powell, & Connie sharing at New Covenant Church on Letting Your Light Shine in the Work Place & the Community

Needs List

- Electric Griddles
- Blenders (can crush ice)
- Large Outdoor Doormats
- Large Indoor Doormats
- Bathroom Throw Rugs (2' x 3')
- Silverware - Forks Only
- Extra Large Frying Pans
- Stock Pots (3 gallon)
- Plastic Drinking Glasses (12 oz reusable)
- Plastic Cereal Bowls (reusable)
- Painting Supplies: Rollers, Brushes, Trays, etc.
- Step Ladders (3' - 4')

Thank You . . .

USDA Rural Development
 In-N-Out Burger Foundation
 Rabobank
 Sam's Club
 Armev Harvey Foundation
 Arakelian Foundation
 Herwaldt Foundation
 Beneto Foundation
 Wal-Mart Foundation
 La Feliz Guild
 Radin Foundation
 Wells Fargo Foundation
 Ponderosa Lions Club
 North Fresno Lions Club
 North Fresno Rotary Club
 Woodmen of the World

Salt Magazine "You are the salt of the earth" Mat 5:13-14

Salt Magazine in Fresno has been in print since 2009. The purpose of this magazine is to focus on encouraging educators, church and community leaders to be *Salt and Light* in the world through their full color, bi-monthly magazine. The month of March featured Connie Clendenan on its cover and an accompanying article on Valley Teen Ranch.

Magazine subscriptions are free. You can visit saltfresnomagazine@me.com for more information. You can also become a friend on Facebook. Thanks to Dot Powell, Editor, and Denise Arzoian, Copy Editor, for this acknowledgement and affirmation.



Memorials

A memorial gift is a very special way to express love and sympathy to bereaved families. It takes the memory of a friend or loved one and invests it in the future of a child at Valley Teen Ranch. Honorariums are a way to recognize special memories with living gifts to help build a better life.

In Loving Memory of
 Mathew Boyajian
Given by
 Ken & Linda Boyajian
 Gregory & Kay Boyajian

In Loving Memory of
 Andy Balakian
Given by
 Elizabeth & Betty Balakian

In Loving Memory of
 Marcie Rogers
 Dr. Billy Wade
Given by
 Millie Wade

In Loving Memory of
 Sarah Keeney
 Rod Nash
 Marcus Ergo
 Bill Kyler
Given by
 Bob & Marge Ebel

In Loving Memory of
 Crosby Shapazian
 Marty Garabedian
 Sirun Esajian
 Elvan Newcomb
 Paul Melikian
Given by
 Marion Melikian

In Loving Memory of
 Lloyd Howard
Given by
 Bob & Marge Ebel

In Loving Memory of
 Terry Huntsman
Given by
 Joyce Gomes
 Kim Smaldino

In Loving Memory of
 Harvey & Warner Families
Given by
 Dick & Jody Warner

In Loving Memory of
 Ray Clendenan
Given by
 Donald Jensen

In Loving Memory of
 Elaine Algier
Given by
 Jack & Kathy Forrest

In Loving Memory of
 Julie Schlichting
Given by
 Bill & Shirley Schlichting

In Loving Memory of
 Jordan De Fehr
Given by
 Wayne & Doris Trutna

In Loving Memory of
 Bernice Kerkochian
 Frances Levy
Given by
 Horsrof & Dolores
 Davidian

In Loving Memory of
 Ardina Crawford
 Mary Lou Blair
Given by
 Joy Renton

In Loving Memory of
 Richard Simonian
Given by
 Armen & Irene Karagosian

In Loving Memory of
 Marjorie Watt
 Betty Roundhill
Given by
 Ron & Muriel Seay

In Loving Memory of
 Peter Hagenzieker
Given by
 Jack & Betty Forrest
 Ed & Lori Davis
 Vonnie Martini
 Jim & Nancy Westgate
 Norman & Patricia Hansen
 Janet Shaw
 Alan & Karen Hopkins
 Ray & Joyce Whitaker
 Bob & Shirley
 Buckenberger

Pete & Blossom Malkasian
 Bob & Marge Ebel
 Ken & Adele Hopper
 Millie Wade
 Kathy MacInnes
 Randi Maroukian
 John & Lonna Peckham
 Patrick & Wendy Smith
 Bob & Dorothy Starr
 Guy & Carole Johnston
 Carl & Marlene Evers
 Travis & Delores Whitford
 Marion Melikian
 Merrill & Harriet Oberg
 Rochelle Terry
 Missy Waters
 Connie Clendenan
 Nick & Tessa Cavalletto
 Leo & Laura Wilson
 Ann Thaxter

Robert & Barbara Myers
 Bob & Jennifer Mazmanian
 Jeannie Barker
 Russ & Patty Doyland
 Carol Tickvitz
 Richard & Susan Childers
 Richard & Josephine
 Nalchajian
 Robert & Linda Duncan
 Ron & Muriel Seay
 Trevor, Taylor, & Isabelle
 Morgenstern
 OJ Woodward III
 Althea Wheat
 Ed & Barbara Beam

In Loving Memory of
 Carol
Given by
 Tom & Ila Schoettler

In Loving Memory of
 Wanda Schwind
Given by
 Bob & Marge Ebel

Honorarium

In Honor of
 Dorothy Bentley
Given by
 Trudy Lindau

In Honor of
 Pablo & Adeaide Chavez
Given by
 Rebecca & Marcelle Phene

Connie's Corner/Annual Report



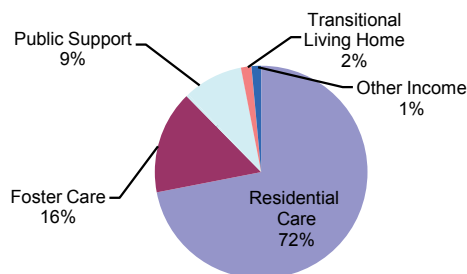
Once upon a time, we had a dream of building young lives in an organization called *Valley Teen Ranch*. That dream started in 1980. It became reality in 1987 when we opened our first therapeutic residential group home on 80 acres in rural Madera County. 2011 begins our twenty-fourth year of *Building Young Lives* in Residential Care, Foster Care, Adoption and Transitional Living. As you can see from the statistics listed below, we have received 1,479 children and youth in our licensed facilities and participated in 104 adoptions. It is an amazing accomplishment. When I stop and look back in our photo albums and hear from the kids, I know that we are bearing fruit and accomplishing our mission. Last week I was at home on Facebook about 9:00 PM and had 5 of our former kids instant messaging me at the same time! They are having a great time finding each other, too. They are growing up, having children, working and so thankful for the many changes they made in their lives while being part of our *Valley Teen Ranch* family. When we talk, they always ask about the staff, the other residents, their foster parents and activities we shared together.

This year, again we have ended the year in the black, passed our annual independent financial audit and internal controls were found to have no deficiencies. The *State Community Care Licensing Division* has found us to be in compliance in all of our programs. We have passed about 6 different inspections this year alone. Everyone who comes to check us out is always impressed with every part of our organization, especially the kids, the staff and our facilities. To God Be the Glory!

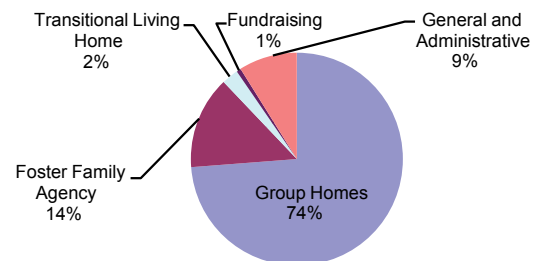
My word for 2011 is *wonder*; which according to *Webster*, means a state of astonished admiration; a fact or circumstance causing surprise; to ask oneself questions; to be in a state of complexity about or to feel curiosity about. As I *wonder* about our future, I have 100% confidence (which means with faith) in God who leads us along every day. I have hope that we face a bright future as we work to accomplish our mission which is *To assist vulnerable young people and their families in rebuilding their lives through caring relationships and opportunities to grow mentally, physically, socially and spiritually by living in a healthy and safe family*. We do this by applying our core values of People, Truth, Integrity and Excellence.

Thank you for continuing to pray for us, believe in our ministry and support us financially. We depend on you as we go forward for another year of growth and development.

2010 Revenues



2010 Expenses



This year we had the following children and youth outcomes in our agency:

2010 Totals

Group Home Admissions	46
Group Home Graduates	21
Foster Family Agency Admissions	36
Adoptions	17
Total Admissions	82

23 Year Totals

Group Home Admissions	987
Group Home Graduates	290
Foster Family Agency Admissions	492
Adoptions	104
Total Admissions	1479

Our accomplishments include:

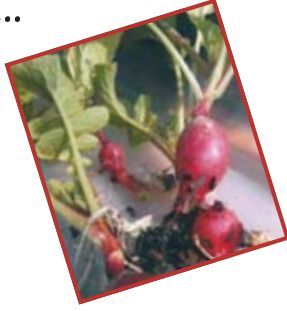
- Boys' Academics Improved by 85%
- Increased Counties Placing by 3
- All 4 State Licenses are Excellent
- Met our Budget and had a Clean Audit
- 30% Successful Completion at the Group Home

Goals for the future:

- More HS Graduations, Honor Roll & College Admits
- Recruit & Train More Foster & Adoption Parents
- Expand Vocational Training Program at the Ranch
- Expand Donor Base by 200
- Continue Development of Organic Farming & other projects



Jacob's Garden ...



Valley Teen Ranch received a YOUTH SERVING GRANT from the Fresno Regional Foundation for \$2500 to build and plant five vegetable gardens and three compost piles at the ranch. We planted radishes, carrots, potatoes, lettuce and spinach in the fall and onions, garlic, broccoli, cabbage and beets during the winter. We are harvesting these vegetables and the boys are eating the fresh produce they have grown. They are also learning valuable work skills in gardening that will help them in the future. Thanks to Carolyn Kelvington, Master Gardener, for her expertise!



Hera Reyes, continued from page 1

are ever in need of tire repair or replacement, Hera is your man! He will go anywhere, anytime. His motto is *Fastest Service in Town* (... faster than Fresno PD!). You can reach him at 559.394.2926, and just ask for JR.

I asked Hera to tell me what he thinks now about his time with us, 19 years ago. He said, "Going to VTR was the best thing that happened to me. It gave me a second chance. I regret what I did to get me there, but not what happened to me as a result. I had a .03 GPA and hardly ever went to school. I didn't focus on anything positive when I got to VTR. But I improved to a 3.0 GPA, had perfect attendance in school, & was able to play soccer (which I still do.) Now I live a better life. My 2 girls have perfect attendance in school, & in Catechism School, too!

I actually talk to Hera every week, celebrate the holidays with his family and really consider him to be like a son to me, as well as Grandma Conchita to his children. I have known him for half of his life. He has overcome many huge obstacles and I am proud of him and his accomplishments. His story could be a miniseries on TV or the big screen, believe me about that....and he's only 36! Stay tuned for... the rest of the story!



Three generations celebrating Christmas with Grandma Conchita.