



Valley Teen Ranch

GROUP HOME, TRANSITIONAL LIVING, FOSTER FAMILY & ADOPTION AGENCY

1987 - 2013



▲ Thanks In-N-Out for supporting Valley Teen Ranch!



▲ Ski Fun at China Peak Mountain Resort ▲



▲ Our amazing foster and adoptive families!



▲ Our boys enjoying a friendly game of bowling



▲ The boys learning some woodworking skills

Sleepy kiddos with Alicia while our FFA families enjoy a Date Night! ▼



▲ Four generations as a result of Valley Teen Ranch

"building young lives"
Spring 2013

April 1, 2013

Upcoming Events

- April 4: San Joaquin Parkway
- April 9: Foster Parent Training
- April 13: VTR Prom
- April 16: Foster/Adopt Orientation
- May 1: San Joaquin Parkway
- May 14: Foster Parent Training
- May 21: Foster/Adopt Orientation
- June 18: Foster/Adopt Orientation
- July 16: Foster/Adopt Orientation
- Oct. 26: Annual Fashion Show

Needs List

- Non-Metal Cooking Utensils
- 12-16 oz Plastic Drink ware
- Corelle Dinnerware
- Large Covered Pots/Pans & Skillets
- Blenders (ice-crushing)
- Electric Griddles
- Capri Suns
- Disney DVD's
- Diapers
- Baby Wipes

Please, No **BLUE** or **RED** Items



Our friends at Providential Real Estate



Thank you to our friends at Pelco!

Thank You . . .

- Buy Buy Baby
- Der Manouel Insurance Group
- Fresno Chaffee Zoo
- Fresno Regional Foundation
- In-N-Out Burger Foundation
- New Covenant Church
- New Harvest Church
- Northwest Church
- Pelco
- Pottery Barn
- Providential Real Estate
- Williams-Sonoma

Meet Our ...



▲ **Receptionist**, Liz Salsgiver, graduated from Grace College in 2010 and 2011 with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Business Administration and a Masters Degree in Interpersonal Relations.

Liz and her husband moved from Indiana to Fresno in the Fall of 2012 and have enjoyed connecting with the community, the beautiful weather (check back with me after the summer), and taking advantage of all that Fresno has to offer. Liz believes in the mission and vision of Valley Teen Ranch and is excited to be a part of the team!

◀ **Social Worker**, Rachel Ocampo received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from The University of Phoenix in 2010 and will receive her Master's degree in Counseling/Marriage, Family, and Child Therapy in August 2013 from The University of Phoenix.

Rachel has worked with children and families in different capacities including Aspiranet, Mental Health Systems, and various non-profit organizations. Rachel has been happily married for five years and enjoys spending time with her family. Rachel says, "I am so excited about the opportunity to be a part of a wonderful organization and being able to work with a population that I am passionate about. I feel that God has brought me where I belong and I feel blessed to be a member of the Valley Teen Ranch family."

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 Memoriam

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

In Loving Memory of
Lynn Golden
Given by
Dr. George Elgin
Nancy Enloe

In Loving Memory of
Harvey Family
Warner Family
Hilton Family
Howell Family
Given by
Dick & Jody Warner

In Loving Memory of
Leo Krikorian
Peter Malkasian
Pearl Koligian
Betty Marderosian
Given by
Marion Melikian

In Loving Memory of
Scott Powell

Given by
The Card Group
Pacita Reyes

In Loving Memory of
Diana Schular
Given by
Dawni Peisch

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

In Loving Memory of
Jack Guinn
Given by
Sheila Guinn

In Loving Memory of
Anthony Coelho Jr.
Given by
Beatrice Bedrosian

In Loving Memory of
Guenter Gebhard
Alzera Cardoza
Clara Lou Costa
Given by
Carl and Marlene Evers

In Honorarium

In Honor of
Dorothy Bentley
Given by
Trudy Lindau

In Honor of
Roberta Karraker
Given by
Estelle Sawl

In Honor of
Nicole Knod
Given by
Darol and Mellie Lloyd

A Living Memorial

Renew the Life that was finished through the Life of a Needy Child

Please accept a gift of \$

In Memory of

Given By

Address

CITY STATE ZIP

Send Card To

Address

CITY STATE ZIP

Additional Card

Address

CITY STATE ZIP

Please send me more Memorial Forms

Mail this form with your Memorial Gift to:
Valley Teen Ranch
2610 W Shaw Ln Ste 105
Fresno CA 93711-2775



If you would like to donate a gift in honor of a special life, contact us at 559-437-1144 to receive the above form by mail.

Connie's Corner



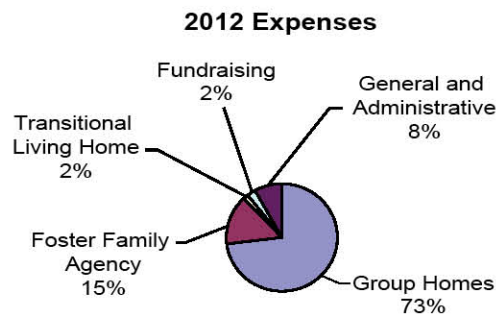
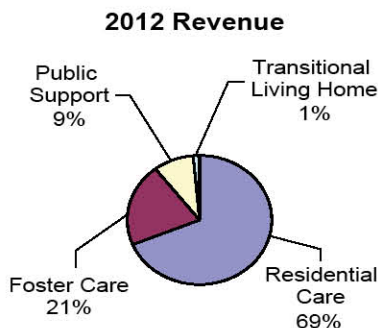
This month, in addition to including our Annual Report, I want to focus on volunteers and one in particular. Our incredible volunteers include our seven board members. We are actually looking for three more professional adults that would be willing to serve a three-year term. We are looking for men or women from three different professions: Legal, Public Relations/Media/Advertising and Insurance. Our Full Board of Directors meets every other month except for December. Our meetings are the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM at our office. Call me at the office at 559-437-1144 if you are interested in more information.

We also have volunteers who come every month to help with our mailings. Additional volunteers include our Angel Guild that puts on our annual Fashion Show/Luncheon, groups that come to the ranch to do specific work related projects, tutors in our school classrooms, and our 15-20 student interns each semester. The interns come primarily from Fresno State, Fresno Pacific University, Heald College, and The University of Phoenix, with an interest and education in social work, criminology, psychology, counseling or information technology.

I just completed the mid-semester evaluations with my social work interns. One of them shared his journey with me last night. He is working full time in the IT industry with a local business as well as going to school full time and completing his 15 hr/week internship. He is also getting married this month. He's 25 years old. He met a wonderful girl when they were in the end of their High School years. She was in foster care and he had no idea that all kids did not have two parents, one home, and a healthy extended family of relatives like he did. His girlfriend (now fiancée) and her brothers had been in eight foster homes from the time they were very young. A short time after they met, the kids got moved out of town and she thought she would never see him again. Well he really liked her and decided he would drive two hours one-way every weekend to see her. It wasn't too long until the relatives they were living with decided that it was time for them to go....again! This is when my outstanding intern decided he was going to see how he could become a foster parent, especially for his girlfriend's little brother. By then, his fiancée was 18 and no longer officially in foster care. Her father had been killed as a result of his drug business and their mother had gotten involved in the same business and got deported. There were MANY meetings with the Department of Social Services. They were NOT interested in making these type of arrangements for these three kids with a young man. They were persistent and did everything he had to do to become licensed by the Department. Eventually, our intern officially adopted his fiancée's little brother who is now 10 years old. There is an older sister who is also living with them until she is able to be on her own. Can you believe this story? He also wants to pursue his Master's Degree and change his career path. What a journey. There are many additional parts to their story but not enough space to tell it all to you. This is an amazing volunteer intern who is practicing what he is learning both at Valley Teen Ranch and at home, too. "God Leads His dear Children Along!"

As you can see from our annual statistics we have now worked with over 1600 children and youth in all of our programs during the 25.5 years we have been in operation. Our Adoptions have now topped 140. These children are with their "forever families". We continue to need many more foster and adoptive families to care for the vulnerable children and youth who are in desperate need of a healthy and safe home and family to live with. Our goals for 2013 are to recruit and train another 15-20 families to care for at least another 30 children and youth. We have a huge need for families that want to work with teenagers. We provide excellent training, supportive services, case management, and tax-free financial reimbursement. We do free, no obligation orientations at our office on the third Tuesday of every month; one during the day and one after work. You can call us or go to our web site: www.valleyteenranch.org for more information.

I continue to hear from our former kids every week. They are still growing, learning and becoming all they were intended to be, using the lessons they learned with us when they were younger. Your on-going support helps us as we work hard to make a difference in the lives of our kids, their siblings, relatives, and eventually their own children. "God Leads His Dear Children Along!" Thanks for being on our Valley Teen Ranch Team. We are blessed and pray that God blesses YOU MORE, too.



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

2012 Totals

Group Home Admissions	36
Group Home Graduates	9
Foster Family Agency Admissions	28
Adoptions	21
High School Diplomas (while at Valley Teen Ranch)	3
Total Admissions	97

25 Year Totals

Group Home Admissions	1065
Group Home Graduates	312
Foster Family Agency Admissions	542
Adoptions	144
High School Diplomas (since 2006)	21
Total Admissions	2084

Our Accomplishments Include:

- Boys' Academics Improved
- Increased Counties Placing
- All Four State Licenses are in Excellent Standing
- Met Our Budget & had a Clean Audit
- 30% Successful Completion at the Group Home

Goals for the Future:

- More High School Graduations and Improved Reading and Math Skills
- Recruit & Train 15 New Foster & Adoptive Parents
- Expand the Vocational Training Program at the Ranch
- Expand Donor Base by 200
- Continue Development of Agriculture and Recreational Projects



Congratulations to The Walker Family on their adoption finalization!

We are so thankful for our Forever Families, the Walkers and Definas!



One of our forever families, the Definas!

Thank you to the MANY Christmas Angels who made Christmas for the children and youth in our care so very

Merry & Bright!
We couldn't do it without **YOU!**



FFA Christmas Celebration!

