

June 2021

# A Note From Andrea Evans, CEO

School is out for summer! Our Resource Parents and Staff did an amazing job this year supporting the kids through such a difficult year. We had a mixture of kids being able to go back to school either full or part-time and others remained at home doing distance learning. Thank you all for your continued support through prayer, donations and/or giving. It has been a very difficult year and we very much appreciate your continued support.

The boys on the ranch are starting summer school for a few weeks, but then will be in full "summer vacation-mode"! This is such an amazing time not only for them, but also for our staff. It gives us more time and opportunities plant seeds of HOPE in their hearts. We have activities involving team building, trust, problem solving and appropriate risk taking. Our goal with our "summer vacation" is to help the boys to grow physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. We want to give them positive experiences that they have never had before.

All of these activities and outings we take with the kids at the ranch are able to happen because of all of you who support us. We could not offer the kids these special experiences without your help. We approximate our activities this summer to be about \$150/per boy.

We also look forward to our Resource Families being able to go to Monterey Bay Aquarium later this summer. We were not able to participate last year, but look forward to providing a day of fun and learning! Please see the donation form on the back to contribute to the ranch or towards a summer scholarship for foster youth.

For all our VTR dads, Happy Father's Day!

### Help From the Transitional Living Home An Exit Summary From One of Our Residents

The VTR Transitional Living Home (TLH) provides housing and supportive services for males, ages 18–24 years old, who are homeless or transitioning from a residential or correctional facility. Mentorship, relationship building, and teaching life skills, is the goal to achieve a successful transition into living independently in permanent housing.

Recently one young man graduated from the program. Before coming to VTR, he had been homeless for several years. He had difficulty holding on to a job or pursuing any educational aspirations. He had never known his father, and had recently lost his mother, who was also homeless.

One month after being with us, he was able to enroll at Fresno City College and received financial aid. He was able to apply and receive his healthcare and food subsidy. Within two months he obtained part-time employment. Within three months he found full-time employment with paid benefits with a worldwide corporation.

Staying at our Transitional Living Home gave him the opportunity to save all of his work earnings, financial aid and stimulus distributions. He also reconnected with a family member, and exited the program.

This young man was able to find stable housing and employment with five months of placement with us! If you can help TLH, please give today.



Congratulations to our foster youth, Emily Fuller, (above) and Andrew (below)



# Congratulations to our High School Graduates!

Emily Fuller graduated from Hoover High School this year. Emily has also been accepted into Fresno State as a Renaissance Scholar!

Andrew is graduating from High School too-from Centennial Independent Study. Andrew's next step will be to move from the Ranch into a Transitional Living Home.

#### **Foster Teens**

All children — and especially older children in foster care — need and deserve a loving family with no expiration date. Yet, in the United States, more than 23,000 youth exit foster care and are left to fend for themselves each year.

VTR offers our Transitional Living Home to help foster youth navigate resources, teach them life skills, and provide mentorship so they can step into a successful life outcome.

If you are you interested in becoming a Resource Family, Contact: ffa@valleyteenranch.org

For our WISH LIST Go to valleyteenranch.org and Ways to Give

### June is National Reunification Month

National Reunification Month is a time to celebrate families and communities, and to raise awareness about the importance of family reunification for children in foster care. The courts acknowledge the hard-work and determination of parents who accomplish the goal of reunifying with their children, as well as the dedicated professionals that support them.

2610 W. Shaw Ln., Ste 105

Fresno CA 93711-2775

# CAN YOU DONATE TO OUR AUCTION?

HELP US RAISE SUPPORT FOR VTR SERVICES!

Our Annual Celebration Online Auction will be:

September 17th-24th

For more information, to volunteer or to provide a donation contact: charise.hansen@valleyteenranch.org or call Debbie Clark at 559.497.1144.

We would love to present to your group, either via ZOOM or in person, please contact Charise Hansen, Development Director at 559–288–1003 or charise.hansen@valleyteenranch.org. for more information!

## Thank you to the Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus, Fresno

VTR was able to present to the Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus last month. The Knights were so gracious and sent us a donation. Thank you so much for your donation and community partnership!

The Knights continue to support the community, especially the youth with their time and talents.

To learn more about the Knights, go to their Facebook page at Knights of Columbus - Council 16185 - Holy Spirit - Home | Facebook



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The Ray of Hope fund is dedicated to the services that directly support program services. Give online valleyteenranch.org



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Text "GIVE2VTR" to 7325
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To give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.

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### For Credit Card Gifts

To donate online go to our website at valleyteenranch.org or use the options below.

For a printout of our Wish List, go to valleyteenranch.org "Ways to Give" and "Charitable Giving"

Summer Programs for the Ranch		
Summer scholarships for FFA		
The Transitional Living Home		
Ray of Hope Fund		
Please add me to your email news		
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Check enclosed and made payable to "Valley Teen Ranch"		

#### To Donate Online



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