



Building a foundation for life.

NEWSLETTER

Dear Community Partners and Friends,

We want to wish all of you who celebrate Easter, the joy of the season. We continue to pray for all those who are suffering, people close to us, and in our world. The hope of this season, of resurrection provides us immense power to liberate, to uplift and to bring about justice.

This is what we try to do. We liberate children that are caught in situations that they cannot control. Often abused, neglected, or have lived in conditions that many of us could not imagine, living in, or living through.

We work hard to uplift the lives of our youth and young adults. Our youth at the Ranch come to us broken, often fearful and alone. They are in a new place without the people they know. They are in need of help, sometimes mental health, and our team at the ranch surrounds these boys with holistic treatment and care.

Our Transitional Home houses young adult males ages 18-24. They come to us in many

ways, but all are homeless. We provide life skills that they need to succeed and encouragement in creating a future for themselves.

We provide justice through our treatment practices, so they can find peace and respect for themselves and others.

Thank you for helping us help them walk towards the light of a new tomorrow.

Blessings,

Andrea Evans

CEO



When The Boys Feel Love

One of the boys at the Ranch, spontaneously blurted out how he was feeling love for the staff at the Ranch. This isn't something you will hear. These boys come from trauma and their belief deep down is that no one can be trusted, that any intimacy is dangerous, and that to love or be loved, to have an attachment to someone, are things they hope for, but don't think will happen. Most of all, they often feel like they are flawed and not worthy of love.

Many act big and tough, so being vulnerable and showing love and emotion is thought of as weakness. When trauma victims are young, the relationships they had became sources of overwhelming fear, or they felt helpless and alone. The mind needs a way to cope so they often think things like, "don't trust, it's not safe!", "Don't ask for help, don't burden anyone", "don't think about how you feel, just keep going". This helps them when they hurt everyday and need to survive.

The Ranch staff work hard at working with these boys to help them make sense of their inner world and how to relate to others. So this spontaneous and expressed feelings of love was a huge healing. A miracle.



We Welcome our New Clinical Director at the Ranch!



For the last six months VTR staff has been excited to welcome our new Clinical Director at the Ranch Vanessa A. Rakis-Garabedian, LMFT.

Vanessa came to us because she believed in our mission and the work we do to help our kids. Her heartfelt belief is that the boys are loved where they are into better circumstances-love into action.

Vanessa said, "We meet the boys where they are, support their growth and provide unconditional compassion. We have to connect all the pieces of what they need to make it work for their healing and a better future."

One of the residents who was 16 years old, gave the staff grief while at the Ranch. He would throw things and his behavior was challenging. The staff loved him where he was at, helped him in any way they could, and also taught him what they could while he was with them. It didn't end well as this young man ended up having to go to Juvenile Hall.

However, while there, the probation officer said he made significant improvements. "He is a whole different kid now." When he talked to the 16 year old about his changes, the boy said, "all I received was love and support while I was at VTR. I learned a lot".

Vanessa has made many new changes at a system level. Her focus on our leadership, improving communication, and the genuine appreciation she has for staff, has helped the Ranch in so many ways.

We are so happy to have Vanessa on staff, and look forward to the continued growth we have had in both employees and youth.

VTR Outreach to Our Community

KRISPY KREME FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all of you who participated in our Donut Fundraiser! We made \$150 that will go toward supplies at the Ranch.

VTR ANNUAL CELEBRATION FUNDRAISER

This year along with our Online Fundraiser, we will be having an in-person fundraiser in September. Information will be sent out soon!

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We need more friends! Come join us at Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter. Can you invite your friends to like us? It would be so helpful to us to spread our message and mission. You can find links to our social media sites at the top of our home page on our website, valleyteenranch.org.

CAN WE PRESENT TO YOUR GROUP?

We would love to present to your group, club, or organization. Please contact us at 559.437.1144

NONPROFIT EDUCATION

For nonprofits, VTR has classes offered on CULTURAL DIVERSITY and EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION IN A CULTURALLY DIVERSE WORKPLACE. For more information go to our website, valleyteenranch.org, "Get Involved"



VTR

RESOURCE FAMILY
ORIENTATION
SCHEDULE

April 18

May 16

For more information or to register for orientation, please contact us at:

(559) 437-1144 or
FFA@valleyteenranch.org



2610 W. Shaw Ln., Ste 105
Fresno CA 93711-2775

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT

Valley Teen Ranch

U.S. Postage

PAID

Fresno, CA

Permit #9



Easter Blessings

Ray of Hope Fund

For Children, Youth, Young Adults, and Families

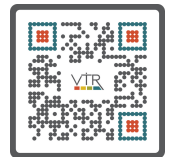
This fund is designed to charitably support essential services and resources.

You Can Text "GIVE2VTR" to 73256

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.

Help us in Other Ways!

- Go to our website at valleyteenranch.org/Get Involved to volunteer
- Give to us from our Wish List at valleyteenranch.org/Ways to Give



SCAN ME
For online donations



CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTION

2610 W. Shaw Ln., Ste 105
Fresno CA 93711-2775
Tel: 559-437-1144
valleyteenranch.org

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Tel: _____

Cell: _____ Other: _____

Email: _____

NOTE: _____

The Ranch for youth care

The Transitional Living Home

Ray of Hope Fund

Please send monthly donation envelopes

Change of email address

Change of address

For in-kind donations like gift cards, mail to our office or contact Charise Hansen at 559-288-1003 or charise.hansen@valleyteenranch.org

Please make donations payable to Valley Teen Ranch

Total enclosed \$ _____