



Building a foundation for life.

NEWSLETTER

Dear Community Partners and Friends,

In this month where many of us celebrate our freedom, where many of us have the opportunity or were able to make the choice to live as we do, others have not had the same experiences in life.

There are several schools of thought on homelessness. When we look at basic intrinsic human rights values, homelessness is a profound assault on dignity, social inclusion, and the right to life. Yet, we also know that homelessness in our country was birthed from the many years of ineffective care for those who either struggle with mental health or fall into lives of addiction.

Part of our work falls into this category and we have been part of helping homeless youth for over 20 years. We work with young boys and young adult men that are deemed homeless and come to us through various channels of court appointments, foster care, and homeless placements. When they arrive, often we perform mental health assessments and are given opportunities to help them in healing and change through both mental health care and behavioral education. We mentor these young men so that they can eventually thrive.

Please read about our chance to help even more homeless youth in our community below, and keep us in your prayers.

Andrea Evans

CEO

Providing our Community Housing for Homeless Youth and Families

VTR has the wonderful opportunity to possibly provide housing for youth and families that are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. This includes foster youth or youth that have exited the foster care system. In May we applied as a co-applicant with The City of Fresno for the HomeKey Round 3 Funding. Many thanks to the Acts Foundation for the inception of this project. We are hopeful this project will be awarded in the next month.

It will be on a new campus and will provide 95 new housing units. Site plans are in place along with the cutting-edge modular design that provides quality, speed, and savings in cost.

Our support services will include Case Management, Life Skills Classes on-site, Peer Support Activities, and Assistance with Transportation. There will be Linkages to other Community-Based Organizations to provide: Education, Employment Training, Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Services, and Physical Health.

The grounds will include an outside community gathering space, play equipment, easy access to residences, functional and beautiful rooms, and common areas. The center will also be energy efficient. See one of the site plan renderings to the side.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!



Helping Teenagers in the Foster Care System at the Ranch

VTR has been assisting boys at the Ranch that were placed with us through the Department of Health and Human Services. Sometimes youth will be placed with us who do not speak English fluently. When this happens, we have bilingual staff that can help them.

In the last 2 years, we have had 3 boys. The staff were sharing about these boys the other day and told me their stories.

One boy that had been at the Ranch had lost both his parents at the age of nine years old. Kids who lose parents before reaching adulthood, often struggle with negative outcomes. This can include anxiety, depression, grief (that is prolonged), lack of self-esteem and even becoming at risk for suicide, substance abuse, and eating problems. But the staff were surprised by his ongoing positive attitude and his desire to learn and grow. He thrived at the Ranch because of how resilient he was.

One boy who was here last year became very interested in the meaning of Memorial Day. Staff put on a YouTube video that provided the information he was looking for in Spanish. After he watched it, he wanted to celebrate. In the pile of clothes he received when he came to the Ranch, was a t-shirt with an American Flag on it. He was very excited and put it on. Then he asked if he could go to the store to get an American Flag. He is our inspiration for the photo above.



BACK TO SCHOOL

Can you help with the needs for Back-to-School with our Foster Care kiddos in FFA and at the Ranch.?

This is for Kindergarten-High School age youth. Contact our office at 559-437-1144.

Sponsorship packets are being sent out this month for our ONLINE CELEBRATION FUNDRAISER!

Can your organization or business become a sponsor? To find out more information please go to valleyteenranch.org/Ways to Give/Events and Campaigns.

You can also contact Charise Hansen about sponsorship, becoming a committee member, or donating something to our auction!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS TO JOIN US

SEPTEMBER 15-23, 2023 FOR OUR ONLINE AUCTION



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

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Ray of Hope Fund

For Children, Youth, Young Adults, and Families

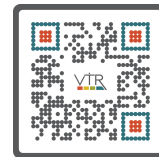
This fund is designed to charitably support essential services and resources.

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

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 NOTE: _____

- The Ranch
- Housing for Homeless Youth
- 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 \$ _____