

VTR NEWSLETTER

VALLEY TEEN RANCH

| Building Futures

Planting Seeds: Enedel's Story

When Enedel Ramos came to Valley Teen Ranch in 2001, he was a teenager navigating loss, uncertainty, and limited guidance. After his father disappeared from his life, his mother was forced to work long hours to support the family, leaving Enedel vulnerable to poor influences and difficult choices.

At the Ranch, Enedel found structure, accountability, and something he had not consistently experienced before—a stable, caring environment. Through dedicated house parents like the Addingtons, the Negrete's, and the Rodriguez's, he learned everyday life skills, responsibility, and what healthy family relationships could look like.

One relationship stood out. John Addington, who has



The Ramos Family

served at the Ranch for more than 30 years, became a mentor and father figure. Long after leaving the Ranch, Enedel continued to call John whenever life became challenging.

-continued on pg. 2

| Because of You

Thank you to our Holiday Donors

During Thanksgiving and Christmas, many individuals and families experience seasons of uncertainty—but because of you, our youth did not face the holidays alone. Through the generosity of our Christmas Angels, who personally purchased gifts, and the donors whose holiday contributions supported meals, celebrations, and essential needs, the season was filled with care, dignity, and hope.

Christie Kiessling and Family
 Dan and Holly Adame
 Darrell and Sandra Frech
 Destiny Blackstone and Family
 Gary and Jessica Peterson
 Hub International
 Jennifer Adame Walker and Family
 Moss Adams
 Rod and Kathie Weis
 San Joaquin Memorial High School
 Selma Church of God

| Partner in Hope

Thank you to the Ruelas Foundation

This month, we spotlight Alicia Ruelas, Who brought us a \$10,000 check for our general needs at the End of the Year.



| Quick Updates



Sierra Crossing: So far, 41 youth have moved in!



Housing: VTR has grown and is helping 109 young adults throughout the community with housing and services!



Event: VTR Online Auction! Save the Date on September 12-19th 2026

Letter From the CEO

Dear Friends,



As we begin a new year, our hearts are filled with gratitude—for the journey that has brought us here and for you.

Over time, Valley Teen Ranch has been clearly guided toward caring for youth during some of the most formative years of life. Today, we remain focused on serving young people ages 13–24, an age when stability, guidance, and a safe place to belong can make all the difference.

Many of the youth we serve are navigating challenges and important life transitions.

Through housing, consistent care, and whole-person support, we offer safety, encouragement, and the space to grow.

As we step into this new year, we do so with humility and hope. Your generosity makes it possible for young people to find stability today and begin building healthier futures. Thank you for walking with us.

With gratitude and hope,

Andrea Evans

*-Enedel's Story
(continued from page 1)*

John's steady guidance helped shape Enedel's understanding of choices, faith, and perseverance. Enedel did not finish high school, leaving in the 11th grade but picked up trades along the way. At times, he admits he felt discouraged and worried about being labeled. But his life tells a different story.

He first met his wife in high school and several years later, after being apart, they reconnected and married. Together, they raised two children—his daughter is graduating from trade school as a welder, and his son has three more semesters at Fresno State to become a history teacher.

Today, Enedel owns his home and works at First Presbyterian Church in Fresno.

Along the way, he lost many friends from his youth. Their absence reminds him how easily his story could have been different.

"I've seen so many miracles," Enedel says. "Through every struggle, I know God has been with me."

At Valley Teen Ranch, we often speak about planting seeds. Because of privacy and program guidelines, we are not able to follow young people after they leave. We may never know how their stories unfold—unless they choose to come back and share them with us. Enedel did.

More than twenty years later, his life reflects the power of those early seeds: stability, responsibility, faith, and hope. His journey reminds us that even when we cannot see the outcome, the work matters—sometimes for generations.



John Addington and his family with Enedel in 2001

"Valley Teen Ranch was a season of constant learning for me—sometimes about big life lessons, and sometimes about the simplest things. I learned right from left, how to use a tape measure, personal hygiene, accountability, and what a healthy, caring family looks like."

Next year, Valley Teen Ranch will celebrate 40 years of building strong foundations for life.

From our beginnings at the Ranch to our focus on housing and stability today, this milestone reflects decades of care and impact. We invite you to help us plan this special celebration. To get involved, please contact our office at (559) 437-1144.

| Sierra Crossing

Meeting the Moment: Raising \$4 Million for Sierra Crossing

Sierra Crossing represents a powerful step forward for Valley Teen Ranch—providing safe, stable housing and supportive services for young people and families in our community. It is a place where healing, growth, and independence can take root.

When we were entrusted with this project, we were honored by the confidence placed in our organization. At the same time, the opportunity came with very limited lead time. Unlike traditional capital campaigns that unfold over several years, Sierra Crossing moved forward quickly to meet an urgent community need.

Our leadership team focused first on securing public and institutional funding, navigating complex regulations, and keeping construction on track. While these efforts were essential, they left little opportunity to launch a full-scale public fundraising campaign in advance.

As a result, we are now working to close a remaining \$4 million funding gap—while the campus is already accepting youth.

This challenge reflects not a lack of planning, but a commitment to respond when the need was greatest. We chose to say yes to providing housing and stability, even when the path forward required extraordinary effort.

Every dollar raised today helps strengthen Sierra Crossing for the long term—supporting high-quality services, safe facilities, and lasting impact for generations to come.

To support this work, we are strengthening our outreach and community engagement efforts to expand relationships and increase awareness of Sierra Crossing. These efforts are helping us share our story more widely and deepen donor partnerships as we move forward.

Together—with our supporters, partners, and community—we are committed to meeting this moment with integrity, perseverance, and hope.

Thank you for standing with us as we continue building a place where young people and families can thrive.

Valley Teen Ranch provides safe, stable housing and supportive services for young people and families, helping them build the foundation for long-term independence and well-being.

Adopt-a-Room Sponsorships

Help create a new beginning for youth moving into their new home at Sierra Crossing. Your donation—whether through essential household items or financial support—provides comfort, dignity, and stability, helping each young person feel welcomed, supported, and at home.

Your generosity makes it possible for residents to step into a safe, personalized space where they can focus on healing, growth, and building a brighter future.



Scan HERE for Sierra Crossing

Interested in seeing the impact firsthand? To learn more about Sierra Crossing or schedule a tour, please contact us—we would love to connect with you. Contact us at: 559-437-1144

For information about becoming a resident, visit our website at valleyteenranch.org

| Building Joy

Thank you Airways Women’s Golf Club



We want to thank Airways Women’s Golf Club for their invitation to speak to the ladies about VTR programs. They donated all these activities for our youth and \$1,245 for Sierra Crossing!

Your Community club, group or service organization

Community clubs, groups, service organizations, and civic groups play an important role in supporting the youth and families we serve. Whether through organizing donation drives, sponsoring essential items, hosting fundraisers, or providing in-kind gifts, these groups help create moments of stability, connection, and joy for our residents. Their collective generosity strengthens our programs and reminds our

young people that their community cares deeply about their future. We are grateful for every group that chooses to partner with Valley Teen Ranch in building brighter, more hopeful lives.

We welcome opportunities to visit your group and share more about our work and impact. To schedule a presentation or learn about partnering with Valley Teen Ranch, please contact us at:

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



Thank you Kaiser Permanente Foundation

Thanks to the support of the Kaiser Grant, our youth and staff participated in meaningful activities focused on communication, teamwork, and relationship-building.

understanding and support. The program encouraged clearer communication, greater empathy, and stronger bonds within our community. Most importantly, it brought countless smiles and lasting connections—leaving many youth expressing heartfelt gratitude for an experience that helped them feel seen, supported, and valued.

“A safe place and a caring community can change everything.”

These shared experiences created opportunities for residents and staff to work together, address challenges in real time, and strengthen mutual

Valley Teen Ranch



Building a foundation for life.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Tel: _____

Cell: _____ Other: _____

Email: _____

- Sierra Crossing**
- The Ranch**
- Food Pantry**
- Please send me donation envelopes**
- Change of email address
- Change of address

For in-kind donations like gift cards, mail to our office 559.437.1144 or development @valleyteenranch.org

Please make charitable gifts payable to Valley Teen Ranch

Total enclosed \$ _____

NOTE: _____