



O'CONNELL YOUTH RANCH

Join our mailing list!

Email your mailing address to:
office.oyr@gmail.com



O'Connell Youth Ranch BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director

Gina Meier-Hummel

President

John Rathbun

Vice President

Scott Risley

Secretary

David Platt

Treasurer

Marty Yost

Members

Mark Andersen

Jane Bateman

Bobbie Flory

Gale Lantis

Bob Grunst

Rodger Henry

Marc White

From our Executive Director, Gina Meier-Hummel

We are so glad it is spring and hope this finds you and your families healthy and safe.



Since the pandemic hit last March, the young men have been on the ranch around the clock. And while it was a pretty drastic change for us to host school on the ranch, we managed through this. We also made a commitment when the pandemic was first announced that we would not let up in serving youth, believing that the pandemic would add to the unrest in the foster care placement system. I am proud to say that throughout the entire time of the pandemic we have been at our licensed capacity. And we will continue to remain committed to serving these very vulnerable young men. It is so worth it. The young men are now back in school fulltime which allows our staff to focus on training, spring cleaning and personal renewal. We are very proud of how the young men and staff managed being on the ranch full time for almost a year.

I want to assure you the work you invest in is lifesaving. We have recently been reminded just how fragile these youth are. Many struggle with depression and thoughts of suicide. Many have been abused and have just bounced their way through the foster care system. Some having 45 plus placements. We hope to change that. We aim to be a stable placement for as long as the youth need us. We pray through our programing and commitment to doing this work for 45 years that we bring healing and health to their world and that this transcends to healing and health for our state and community.

I also want to assure you we are growing. We are currently working on accreditation and becoming a higher level of care which offers many therapeutic components. (On sight nursing, therapy and life skills programing.) We have brought animals back to the ranch, have a visiting artist coming to work with the young men, and are busy working on the garden. We are also planning to institute a summer reading program.

As we move into spring, we'd appreciate your monetary support to help us with our garden project and our animal assisted therapies. You may know that we have 6 horses, 2 dogs, 5 cats, 2 goats, 4 pigs, and chickens on the ranch, all which help to bring purpose and joy to the young men.

We thank you in advance for all you have done and continue to do to support us. Ms. O'Connell envisioned, 45 years ago, that the ranch would be a place where we develop young men of character and that is what we do.

Our Success Stories

One of the things we are proudest of is our commitment to family. We currently have three sibling sets on the ranch who otherwise might be separated in placements. We also have several families who are part of our staff.



1646 North 1320 Road
Lawrence, KS 66046

785-842-9356

office.oyr@gmail.com



LIST OF NEEDS

Art Kits

Kites

Garden Tools & Plants

\$5 Gift Cards to Sonic

*Sweatshirts
Sweatpants*

Shorts

Sandals

Bring donated items to O'Connell Youth Ranch - 1646 North 1320 Road
Please call in advance of delivery so we can ensure someone is there to meet you.

O'CONNELL YOUTH RANCH



P.O. Box 3589
Lawrence, KS 66046-0589