



O'CONNELL YOUTH RANCH

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From our Executive Director, Gina Meier-Hummel

What an interesting time it has been at the ranch, with the pandemic concern being present most of the spring, summer, and now heading into the school year. We're making adjustments just like everyone else.

The young men spent the summer swimming, riding bikes, fishing and hiking. They worked around the ranch caring for animals and growing vegetables, as well as learning to cook. We also started a store at the ranch where the young men can purchase items using trust bucks earned.

Now we're focused on schooling. All of our young men are working online, and doing okay, but as you can imagine it's hard for some of them. We will get there!

Our dedicated and talented staff have just been awesome, working every day through it all, to keep the young men safe, focused, learning, and on the path toward healing and wellness. I'm very proud of them and their efforts show, in spite of it all. I've never seen the young men as focused, healthy and happy; it truly is a gift to be at the ranch.

As always, we couldn't do what we do without a ton of support from our donors and friends. We are grateful for you. We pray you and your family and loved ones are healthy and safe.

As we head into the winter months, I'd like to restock our book shelves. We would also appreciate any word search or crossword puzzles, and we can always use new socks, undies, PJ bottoms, sweatshirts, hats and gloves. Thank you again!



Our Success Stories

It's been an eventful last month. With the onset of school, many of our youth are starting to leave us so hopefully they can get settled in what will be their new home/school. We had two young men go home, two young men move into their adoptive homes, and one young man move back with family. We pride ourselves on being a stabilizing force in these young men's life and empowering them with the skills necessary to be successful long term. And while we are sad to see them go, we know this is the work we are blessed to do.





LIST OF NEEDS

PJ Bottoms

Undies

Crossword Puzzles

Word Search Books

Sweatshirts

New Socks

Hats and Gloves

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.