



CIRCUIT RIDER

SHARING JESUS, HEALING HEARTS, TRANSFORMING LIVES

2023 | 1



BECAUSE OF YOU:

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Happy New Year!

By the time you read this, we will be a few weeks into 2023. As I am writing this, however, we are just hours away from the midnight celebration of a new year. We are looking forward to the new beginnings that each new year offers. We sincerely hope 2022 was good to you and that this year will be as well.

Each year, in our first issue of the Circuit Rider, we seek your help to fund our grocery budget for the year. It would be a comforting thought to have our annual grocery expenses out of the way so that we can focus our energy on other endeavors. I understand that the timing of this annual appeal may not be ideal. We are all focused on getting back to normal: taking care of Christmas credit card debt and getting back into the routine that includes starting back to school, getting busy at work...and just getting back into the "normal" that the holiday season has pulled us away from.

As you work on getting back to normal, we invite you to make Texas Girls & Boys Ranch a part of your normal for 2023. Why not drop in for a visit, get a tour of our various programs. And if you are moved to do so, please give. Not just to cover groceries for a day or a week, but throughout the year. You make a difference in so many ways and some of those ways just may have eternal significance.

This year, I thought I would share an INFOGRAPH, just to give you a glimpse of a few of the everyday food items that are consumed at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch throughout the year. It's a big job feeding hundreds of children each year and we can't do it without you.

Thank You for helping care for our little ones.





Stories about food and mealtimes at the Ranch

“I made Spanish rice (Mexican rice) with dinner one night. Sarah was very skeptical because a lady like me, ‘doesn’t know how to make Mexican rice’. She did not try it because it would not be good. About two weeks later I made the same meal with the same Spanish rice again. This time she begrudgingly tried it. She was very impressed and now asks for me to make it for her at least once a week.”
Carmen, Cottage 1

“A fourteen-year-old was telling me about his dinner with his cottage one night. When I asked him how it was, his response was, ‘it was just chicken nuggets but it was nice to just talk to each other about our busy days and hang out with each other.’” Hannah, Case Manager

“We had a young man who had food insecurities before he came to us. We cooked a Thanksgiving meal in the cottage and noticed he had hoarded 2-3 loaves of bread in his room. This kid never knew when his next meal would be, and this was his survival tool. We assured him he would continue to get breakfast, lunch, and dinner, along with snacks, and he would never go hungry in our care. This kid was one of the smaller boys, but he ate Thanksgiving dinner like a grown man.”
Adam, Campus Director

“There was a sibling group with three brothers in my cottage. Two of them were twins and they had an older brother. The twins do not like to eat home-cooked meals, so their older brother pretended like I was a professional chef in order to help them eat the food!”
Valerie, Cottage 4

“A sad one is when we first got Brian who was a TINY four-year-old. His first lunch with us, he ate four full sandwiches, which shocked us. He was just so hungry. He stopped eating so much once he realized we’d always have food, but those first few meals he ate a lot!”
Twyla, Cottage 2

“Josh opened a bag of cereal and tore it all the way down the side. I said, ‘Woah! You opened that like a mongrel!’ About a week later, Josh came up to me with a new bag of cereal and asked for help opening it because he didn’t want to open it like a ‘mongoose’. We laughed and explained the difference but then it became an inside joke for our cottage.” Evan, Cottage 2

CHILDREN'S SERVICES



ROGER MAHAN
VP of Children's Services
 rmahan@txgbr.org

When speaking about the Ranch, people frequently say, "thank you for what you do." And I frequently respond, "I hate that we have to be here because in an ideal world, children would be safe in their homes. But, as long as we are needed, Texas Girls and Boys Ranch will be here." To be honest, there is a tremendous amount of joy and great satisfaction to be felt from being "here." We are always tremendously blessed by our community during the Christmas season through our angel tree project, end of year giving, and many other generous efforts from local churches, social groups and businesses. Specifically at Christmas a huge collaborative effort makes this season an extra-special time for our most vulnerable population and the families caring for them. The Foster care case managers get to play the roll of Santa for the families they work with by delivering toys, clothes, and stockings to each and every family. And, Christmas day is always filled with excitement, laughter, and smiles from the children being served.

Please know that we could not do what we do without your generosity and the generosity of our entire community. But also, know that there is still much work to be done. Many more foster parents are needed to meet the needs of children in the panhandle. Individuals and families who can provide a temporary break for foster families are needed to provide respite care. Others are needed to help with educational demands of children who have fallen behind in school due to poor attendance and follow through. And, still others are needed to cheer on our existing foster parents.

At Christmas, we love the stories of smiling faces and laughter from children but the reality is that we all have opportunities year-round to put a smile on these children's faces. And as the year has drawn to a close, we thank you, not only for participating in this ministry at Christmas, but for your countless contributions throughout the year.

FOSTER FOCUS



ANGELA SKORICK
Foster Care & Adoption Program Director
 askorick@txgbr.org

This is the time of year many people are reflecting on the previous year and looking to make goals for the year in front of them. As an agency, we are no different. We look at the characteristics of the children we cared for, why we had to deny the placement of other children, the families we licensed, and the adoptions that were made. There is always a flow of families in and out. When families adopt, they most often no longer foster. So, we must license new families in order to keep caring for children. Last year we served 87 children, had 12 adoptions, and licensed 12 new families. One of our goals we are setting for our future is to license more families who can take sibling groups. It is always the first choice to keep siblings together; however, they are often split into different foster homes. It is hard for many families to take multiple children because of space in their home or because they have several children of their own. Another goal is to license families who are fluent in Spanish as well as English. We are getting more and more children who only speak Spanish and we are often not able to serve them. We need to be able to communicate with them and don't want the language barrier to be the reason we can't provide care for them. Our ultimate goal at the Ranch is to provide quality care for every child we serve. We want to make sure all of their needs are met. Not just their basic needs, but their emotional, spiritual, educational, and social needs as well.

CAMPUS CORNER



ADAM BARRERA
Campus Program Director
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Christmas on the ranch was a special time between the kids and the house parents and relief staff. Our administration staff worked around the clock to ensure our house parents and relief staff had everything they needed to ensure the kids experienced a safe and loving Christmas. Holidays are special on the ranch, but they also bring heartache and emotions for most of our kids. For most, this would be the first Christmas away from their families and their homes. Our administration team worked around the clock to make sure the kids received Christmas presents and a safe and welcoming home here at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch. We are very thankful for our community sponsors and partners who help us provide our kids with fun and engaging events and activities throughout the holiday seasons. Another Christmas on the ranch is another year to share Jesus and heal hearts.

ED/REC/SPIRITUAL



JEREMY WALKER
Director of Education, Recreation & Spiritual Development
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Winter is a time of peace and rest for the land, and it is necessary for future growth. However, many children at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch have not experienced peace in their lives due to the abuse and neglect they have endured. It is important that we provide a peaceful environment for these children, and we pray that this peaceful season will help prepare their hearts to hear about Jesus Christ. When our children experience the love of Jesus and relax their defenses, they can allow themselves to heal and grow. Just as the land rests during the winter, the children can rest and recharge, allowing them to emerge in the spring, like the rest of God's creation, ready to thrive and flourish. We hope this season reminds children that, no matter what they have experienced in the past, they have the potential to grow and bloom in the future.

SHELTER SPOTLIGHT



TAMMI PILLOW, MS
Children's Shelter Program Director
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Christmas for the Shelter is one of the most fun times of the year. We decorated the Shelter with the residents shortly after Thanksgiving, and OH what FUN was had. The Shelter staff and kids decorated three Christmas trees as well as the entire house. We hit the floor running on the first of December. We had several Christmas parties, and several Christmas dinners- the children were so happy to have these hosted at the Shelter. Our wonderful board President Tim Garrett and his staff hosted a Christmas party as well and the theme was Christmas Shopping. The kids were taken around to different stations and allowed to shop for gifts in each station. OH boy, did they love that! We had a Gingerbread House making contest with the kids and they also had fun with that. Christmas day was fun, and tasty as well, thanks to Amigos donating Christmas breakfast and H-E-B sponsoring the Christmas meal. Each child was so happy with the Christmas gifts they received and were thrilled to go to the movies later that day. We are ready to start the New Year with a bang.

'Round THE RANCH



**CHRISTMAS DINNER PROVIDED BY
THE OVERTON HOTEL**



CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH MR. QUISENBERRY



**HOLTZMAN WEALTH STRATEGIES
CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE**



**A DELICIOUS DONATION FROM
CHICKIES TASTY TREATS!**



EXCITED TO OPEN CHRISTMAS GIFTS!



CHRISTMAS NATIVITY



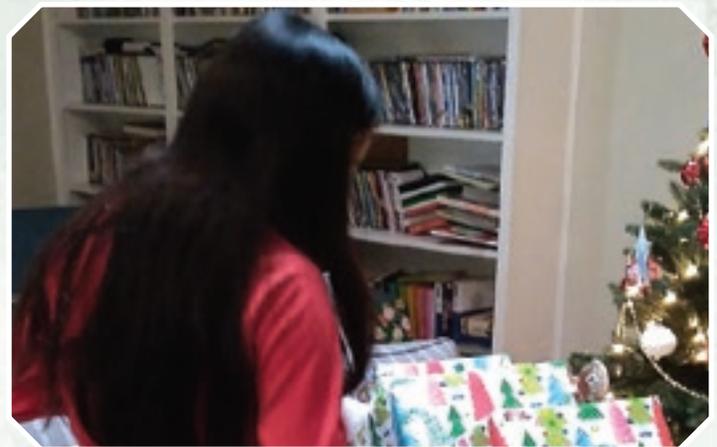
JC & THE RANCH HANDS WITH MR. & MRS. CLAUS



OVER 1600 FOOD ITEMS FROM HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH!



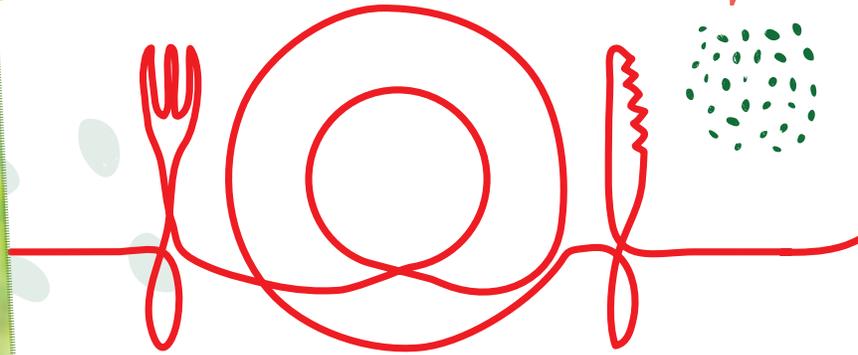
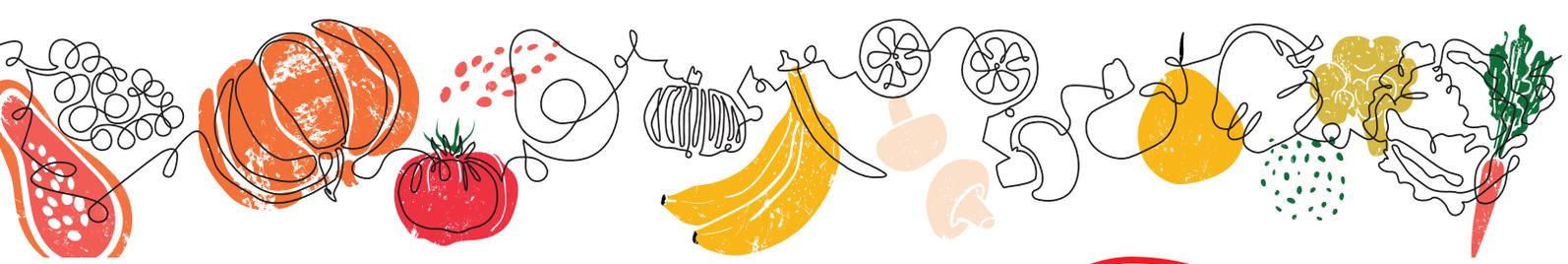
OVERTON CHRISTMAS DINNER 2022



YAY! CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!



BETA THETA PI & PI BETA PHI FOSTER FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY



Few things make kids happier than mealtimes here at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch. Every day of the year, children of all ages gather around the table hoping for their favorite dish.

Children thrive when they receive healthy foods as part of their daily diet. And that is why every day of the week, our kids are fed the most fresh and nutritious meals possible.

Many kids at the Ranch have come from places where food insecurity was commonplace in their lives. Often their only meals of the day were from school, and they learned to get along as best as they could when school food was not available.

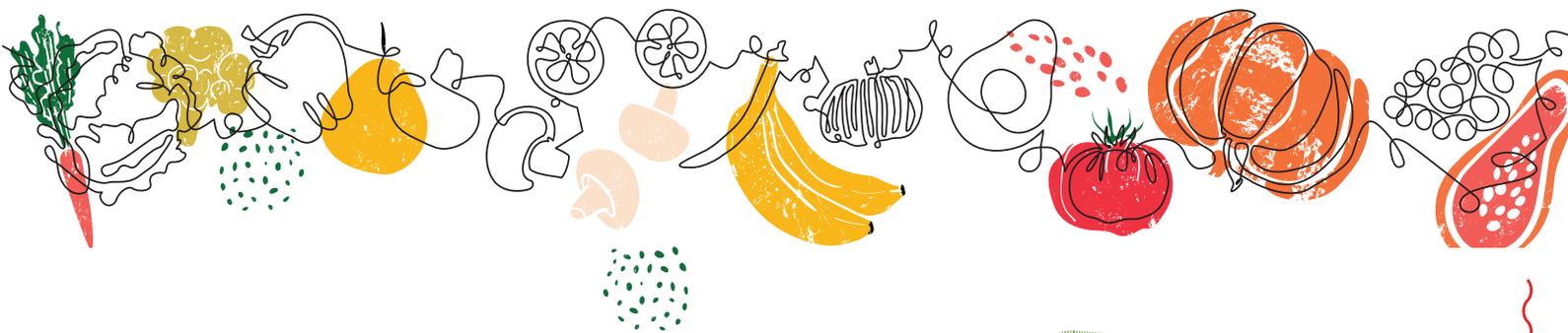
Thirteen-year-old Jayden lived in those circumstances for years before coming to TxGBR. Jayden not only had to learn to provide for himself, but he also had to provide for his younger siblings who are six and eight. Jayden still feels the need to make sure his little brother and sister have enough to eat. We try to ensure Jayden that his siblings will be taken care of and that he can just focus on being a thirteen-year-old.

We have seen the consequences of food insecurity and malnutrition in many children like Jayden and his siblings, and it is our hope that no child should have to wonder where their next meal will come from.

That is why this message is so important.

(see next page)





feed the children

As food costs continue to rise, our ability to provide over 200 children a year with the nutritious diet they need to be healthy and happy is only made possible by your generous support.

You can help us feed and care for precious children by sending an urgently needed contribution to TxGBR today.

Your contributions help make so much good happen at the Ranch – not just meals, but also counseling, a soft bed in a safe place, and so much more- and we thank you.

Your support will help provide the girls and boys in care with the fresh, nutritious foods that play such an important role in their physical and emotional well-being, day after day, week after week, month after month.



Each and every child in our care means the world to us, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support. Your gift today makes a big difference tomorrow and every day!

For the Children,

President

PS: You can also give securely online at TxGBR.org. Won't you help us feed the children?



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



TRACI CHEEK

Director of Advancement
tcheek@txgbr.org

Commitment from Donors

I was visiting with one of our donors recently and he told me about the financial struggles their family had been going through this past year. He told me he and his wife had agreed they would still give throughout the year, but it would be considerably less than their normal donations. At the end of the year, they received some surprise money and decided they wanted to donate the balance of what their normal donation was, plus a little more. It really warms my heart to know that such wonderful people care so much about us and the work we are doing. I am pretty certain most people have felt the impact of inflation, and honestly, we have felt it at TxGBR too. But God provides for all our needs through good people like you, His faithful children. Thank you so much for your continuing support for the girls and boys we serve!

CHURCH CONNECTION



MICHAEL NUDELMAN

Church Relations Officer
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2023 is here! And I want to say Thank You to all the churches that helped and supported us in 2022. Church support is vital in our mission at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch.

In 2023 I want to challenge churches to come out and see what we are doing at TxGBR. We love when people come out and take a tour, and see what you are involved with. It could be a simple tour; your bible study group could come out and have their meeting out at the ranch and then take a tour. Your small groups could come out and have a cookout and get to know the kids and house parents. The youth group could come out and do volunteer work.

We need your continued support so we can truly make a difference in the lives of our kiddos. Every child deserves a childhood and that is exactly what we are trying to do at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch. Please keep us in your prayers for 2023 and come out and see us. God Bless!

We are always needing volunteers at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch.

Whether you are a hands-on type of person who likes to get dirty or the type of person who would make a good tutor for the kids, we need you.

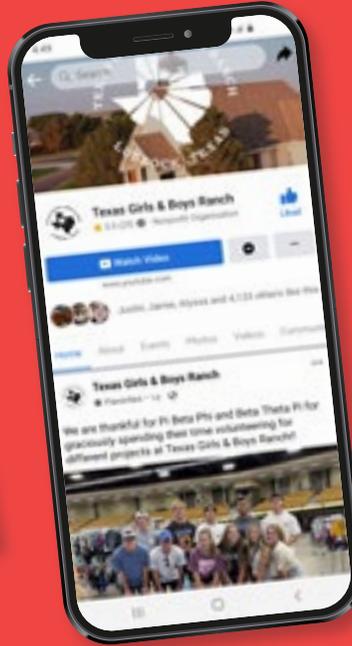
We have opportunities for both individuals and groups. Do you need volunteer hours for school or is your department at work or class at church looking for some meaningful service hours? We need you.

You can find out more by visiting [TxGBR.org](https://www.txgbr.org) and checking out our volunteer page.

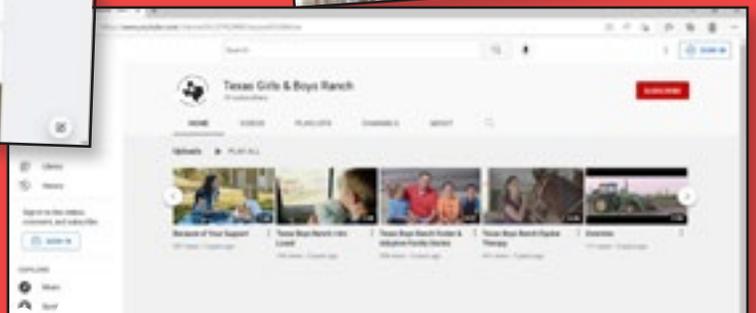
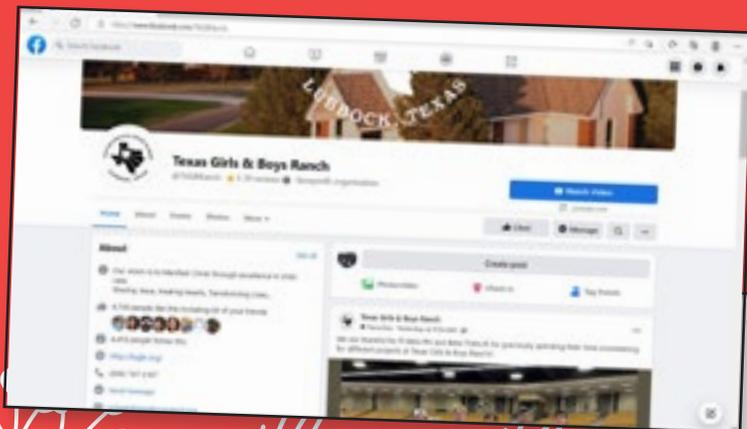
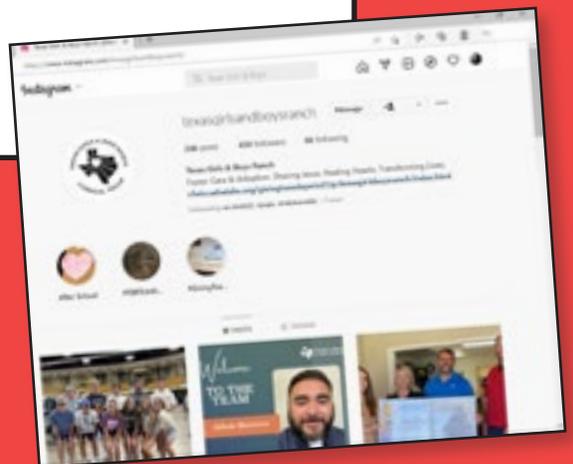
If you are interested in volunteering at TxGBR contact Traci Cheek at tcheek@txgbr.org or call us at 806-747-3187.



What's Trending On Social Media?



BE SURE TO CHECK OUT TEXAS GIRLS & BOYS RANCH ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE!

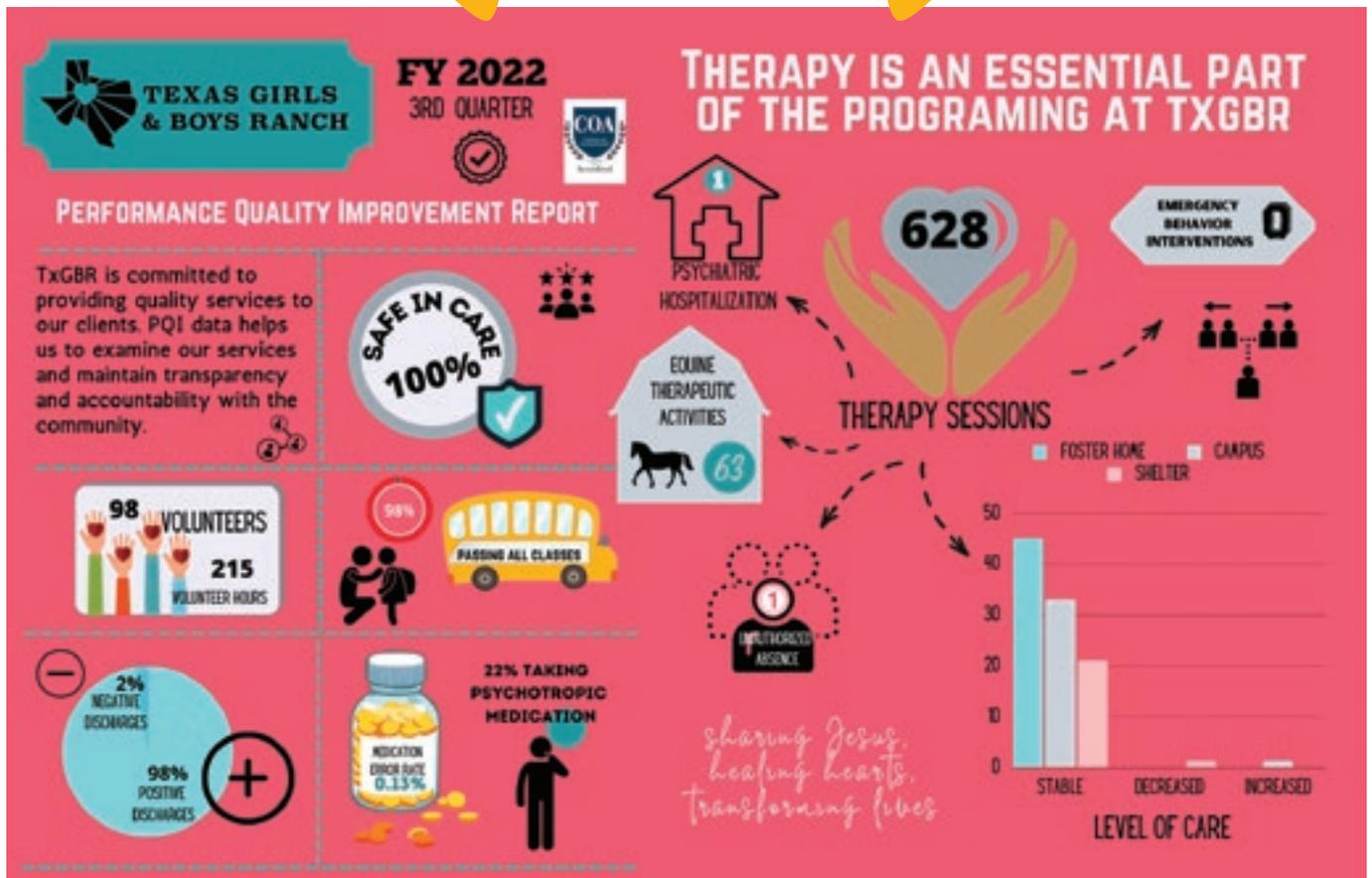


PERFORMANCE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (PQI)

Performance Quality Improvement (PQI) is not only a requirement of our accreditation through COA, Texas Girls & Boys Ranch consistently strives for a culture of excellence, and PQI helps direct us. PQI helps steer our strategic plan and our mission of Sharing Jesus, Health Hearts, and Transforming Lives.

Throughout the year you will see PQI reports that highlight the services we are providing, the client outcomes we are seeing, as well as the impact our programs are having in the community. Our PQI program measures data from all of our programs and helps us to determine growth or additional services that may be needed.

Check out our most recent fiscal quarterly report which highlights our recent activities at the Ranch!





ERIC CREEL

President, Texas Girls & Boys Ranch
Foundation
ecreel@tbrfoundation.org

A GOOD STORY



Oh, the laughter, the stories, the remembrances!

One of the beautiful things about the end of year holidays we just celebrated is the opportunity to spend time with family. We get to see extended family on occasion throughout the year, but during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, we make a special effort to spend even more time with our parents, siblings, and children. Because family is special.

You know how it goes, don't you? Leaning back from the table after a delicious home-cooked meal, the stories continue. "Now your great uncle Harold, he was a black sheep, no doubt about it! There was one time..." "That's right, my great grandma on Mother's side was Indian. She was married to, oh goodness, what was his name? He moved west in the land rush. Of course, it was Indian Territory back then..." "You know, it was your grandpa who helped start that church! He was an elder for over 30 years, and did a good bit of preaching around the area, too."

It's in those stories that we learn about who we are and where we came from. They help define our identity and give meaning to certain family characteristics. It's in family stories that we learn what was important to our forebears, and what has been handed down to us. Hearing those stories causes me to reflect on my own life and what I am instilling in my own children. What kind of legacy am I creating for my children and grandchildren? What will they look back on and say was important to their mom and me? Hopefully it will be something they can take pride in. Maybe something they themselves will embrace as their own.

One of the great joys of our work at the Foundation is visiting with big-hearted people about their values. It is always inspiring and encouraging to hear how their parents passed on such virtues as hard work, integrity, compassion, and generosity, and how they themselves have attempted to do the same with their own children. And sometimes I have the privilege of working not only with these very generous donors, but also with their grown children, helping to communicate their parents' values. From time to time, though not often, I hear something along the lines of, "I don't understand why Mom & Dad are giving away part of our inheritance to this charity." As I share their parents' vision of a better society by helping troubled teens find a better path in life, or their desire to give a child a forever home with a loving family, they begin to grasp more perfectly their parents' heart. They see more clearly how important it is to their parents to not just think or feel or believe, but to do. That helps shape their own values. And the legacy continues for one more generation.

Including Texas Girls & Boys Ranch Foundation in your estate plans is an important part of your family story. Your gift will be remembered and spoken of as a reflection of your commitment to the ministry of "Sharing Jesus, Healing Hearts, Transforming Lives." And that's a good story to tell!

Contact Eric at the Foundation office at (806) 749-1103 or ecreel@TxGBRFoundation.org to explore how to add to your story with a legacy gift.

MEMORIAL AND LIVING HONOR GIFTS

October 1, - December 31, 2022

Memorial and Living Honor gifts are made to honor loved ones and friends, while also providing care for children who desperately need help. We are deeply grateful to the many people who show their affection and respect for their loved ones in this very special way.

Honorariums

Bass, Larry

Lauren Bass

Belk, Gary

James Belk

Belk, Mike & Debbie

James Belk

Casey, Larry & Barbara

Randy & Lynda Casey

Coker, Bob & Barbara

Mr. Blake Coker

Eldredge, Earl

Brent & Cathy Noble

Goen, Brandon

Wayne & Jo Sisk-Richey

Gray, Dorothy

Mr. Keith Gray

Howell, Bill & Kathy

Mr. Keith Gray

Howell, Jacob

Mr. Keith Gray

Howell, Jonathan & Emily

Mr. Keith Gray

Jackson, Dusty

Fred & Mellane Parson

Liles, Bill

Mrs. Caroline Kron

Markham, Dick & Joyce

Kent & Jan Trim

Naron, J. T.

Fred & Mellane Parson

Naron, Kelli

Fred & Mellane Parson

Rains, Scotty

Ms. Sue Parson

Fred & Mellane Parson

Rowe, Bill & Pam

Charles & Beth Ann Cain

Seago, Roy & Sandra

James Belk

Seaton, Chris & Lisa

Bernadette Hartman

Steele, Marvis

Mr. Jerry Dennis

St. John, Andy

Don & Robin Walker

The Grandchildren of

Jimmy & Terri Shankle

Kendall & Becky Cowan

Vaughan, Pastor Jane

Charles & Beth Ann Vaughan

White, Jack & Davaughn

Brian & Jeanie Patterson

Womble, Leisha

Brian May

Memorials

Addison, Preston

Mrs. Phyllis Addison

Allen, Mary Jane

Ms. Venita Allen

Bailey, Wilburn

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Barr, Randy

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Behnke, Deacon Leroy

Adam & April Behnke

Bills, June

Brent & Cathy Noble

Blair, Earl

David & Robin Bishop

Doug & Molly Howell

Booher, Shane

Ronald & Lauren Cox

Boyles, William David

Rex & Melanee Boyles

Jenny Cox

Ed Hedgecoker

Caleb & Sarah Henderson

Lelan Pack

Lisa Robertson

Hali Rogers

Barbara Smith

Lynn & Celia Staggs

Bozeman, Margie

Joe & Christy Hurst

Idalou Church of Christ

Rex & Nancy Isom

Massey Irrigation, Inc.

Barbara Robbins

Margaret Stephenson

Brown, Barry

Floyd & Susan Pirtle

Burkner, Wyatt

Delwin & Ann Marrow

Burt, Norma

Johnie & Cynthia Harper

Chambliss, Curtis

John & Karen Tidwell

Cobb, Joe

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Corn, Ed

Mrs. Margaret Aycock

Cox, Sandra

Pat Bellah

Curtis, Glenna

John & Karen Tidwell

Curtis, Josh

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Davis, Johnny M.

Pat Davis

Edwards, Linda J.

Mr. Troy Edwards

Goen, Josh

Manny & Shirley Beetz

Billy & Traci Cheek

Caleb & Sarah Henderson

Joe & Christy Hurst

Idalou Church of Christ

Foy & Bettie Mills, Sr.
Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins
& Mott, LLP
Wayne & Jo Sisk-Richey
Carla Terry
Mike & Mary Wischkaemper
Mike & Jessica Prude
Henson, Betty
Marge Click
Moje Hapgood
Wayne & Debbie Henson
Hicks, Jr. Ves
Ty & Mary Hicks
Hicks, Mary Louise
Les & Sharon Hicks
Hogan, Joy
Ben Trotter
Hyde, Lane Richard
Ruth Anne Norman
Mary Byars
Dick & Gwelda Carlson
Leslie Chambers
Billy & Traci Cheek
Bill & Sarahlee Morris
Janice Vorwald
Jones, Rodney
Ty & Mary Wilmeth
Kelley, Norma
Darrel & Sherry Werley
Marr, Robbin
Gordon Automotive
Martin, Jeanne
Brent & Cathy Noble
Mayfield, Mary
Mr. Dowe Mayfield
McBeath, Ethan
Emily Ratcliff & Linda Gaither

McClellan, Reid
Randy & Gay King
McCulloch, Barbara
Mrs. Donna Dill
McGuire, Mike
Brent & Cathy Noble
McKinney, Gene & Marvis
Norman & Judy Wilson
McMillian, Mark
Ms. Lou Conner
Metcalf, Jerry
John & Karen Tidwell
Miller, Cathy
Sara Heitschmidt
Miller, Gertrude
Lon Miller
Nelson, Terry Wayne
Mrs. Ann Nelson
Floyd & Susan Pirtle
Newton, Robert
Mrs. Doris Herron
Niedecken, Margaret
Mrs. Margie Bozeman
Odom, Jim
Larry & Dana Bryant
Oglesby, John "Catfish"
Crystal Oglesby
Osborne, James
Tod & Lee Ann Corbin
Overstreet, Joyce
Randy & Gay King
Paul, Ed
Randy & Rebecca Forbus
Delwin & Ann Marrow
Ty & Mary Wilmeth
Riggins, Leslie Wayne
Benny & Judy Riggins

Searsy, Janie
Tommy & Sarah Burrus
Taylor, Buster
Randy & Gay King
Toombs, Glenn & Margie
Michael Toombs
Trotter, Rick
Floyd & Susan Pirtle
Upton, Frances
Ty & Mary Wilmeth
Vu, Khanh
Mrs. Dawn Vu
Walker, Darl
Becky Hodges
Zoe Robertson
Ann Walker
Walters, Joe
Ty & Mary Wilmeth
Weber, Robert E. & Jewell M.
Donna Weber & Family
White, Carter
Walter & Willa Didway
Whitney, Gene
Jerry & Linda Hall
Brent & Cathy Noble
Wingo, Patricia A.
Randy & Gay Wingo
Young, Bobby
Ty & Mary Wilmeth
Zant, Guy Will
Jackie Allen
Frank & Julie Frizzell
Brandon & Neasa Iden
Bobby & Dana Moody
Clayton & Stacie Smith

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Texas Girls & Boys Ranch does not discriminate on the basis of color, age, religion, national origin or disabled condition. Funding for the care of the children is provided by the generosity of individuals, churches, businesses, foundations, and reimbursement by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services for services rendered to children.

LUBBOCK'S LARGEST



GINGERBREAD



House Display



The Overton Hotel and Conference Center celebrated eleven years of partnering with Texas Girls & Boys Ranch with their stunning gingerbread house display. Executive Chef Noxon and his culinary team created a life-size gingerbread doll house, reminding us that we are all children at heart. The Overton Hotel asked their visitors to consider making a donation to TxGBR and they would receive an ornament to place on the Donation Tree.



In addition to the Gingerbread Doll House, the Overton invited our children and houseparents to be their guests at a very special Christmas dinner. They were treated to a fancy dinner and then got a sneak peak at the Gingerbread Display a day before everyone else.



The Overton Hotel and Conference Center and General Manager Kurt Metcalf have been such good friends to all of us at TxGBR. They have raised thousands of dollars to benefit the children at the Ranch. We are truly thankful and blessed by their friendship and continued support!

