

CIRCUIT RIDER

SHARING JESUS, HEALING HEARTS, TRANSFORMING LIVES

SERVING CHILDREN SINCE 1975





★★★ 50 Years! ★★★

I am excited to announce that 2025 marks the 50th Anniversary of loving care to children in need of a safe place to heal, grow, and dream.

Texas Boys Ranch placed its very first resident on July 26, 1975. Years of planning and problem solving was needed before that first child was accepted into cottage 1. A lot has happened since the humble beginnings of what is now called Texas Girls & Boys Ranch. To date we have cared for and supported thousands of children. We have expanded our services to help many more families than ever before, and we offer ongoing assistance to former residents, including scholarships and financial assistance for a variety of needs.

I suspect that some of the business leaders who were involved in the initial planning efforts for the establishment of a home for delinquent and pre-delinquent boys didn't consider that 50+ years later Texas Girls & Boys Ranch would still be serving boys in need of a safe place to heal, grow, and dream. But not just boys, girls have lived on our campus since 2010. In addition, we opened an emergency shelter and became licensed to offer foster care and adoption services in 2014, and since 2007 we have been providing counseling services. The counseling

program has grown and now includes Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy and other therapeutic activities involving our horse program.

Stay tuned as we put a spotlight on Texas Girls & Boys Ranch this year. I am grateful to be affiliated with an organization that has a reputation for providing quality care for so many children and young adults for the last 50 years. And I am grateful to the hundreds of generous donors who have sustained us through difficult and challenging times over the years. Thank you for responding to our many appeals to help feed our children, for answering our appeal to help us send kiddos to church camp, for responding to our pleas to help children get ready for each new school year. And Thank You for making sure our children had the best Christmas this year and all the Christmases before.

John Sigle President

Serving Children Since 1975







CHILDREN'S SERVICES



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

It is truly a season of joy and gratitude! Another year – in the books. While everything has not been roses, we focus on the positive and the blessings from God. Our programs are growing, our services are expanding, and our support services are becoming more robust. We are serving more children and families than ever - including children who have exited (or are exiting) foster

care through return to family or into adoptive homes. In the coming year, we look forward to more transitions, growth, and expansion. We hope to help support and stabilize youth and families. We will spend time helping equip foster parents and staff who work in our programs to be highly engaged with the children they are serving, and above all else, we hope to please God in all of our efforts. Our hearts are full of gratitude because God continues to bless us through the generosity of many you who help us carry out our mission of Sharing Jesus, Healing Hearts, and Transforming lives. Thank you for supporting us, and for making a difference in the lives of many children and families. We could not do it without you!



ED/REC/SPIRITUAL



JEREMY WALKERDirector of Education, Recreation & Spiritual Development jwalker@txgbr.org

We often overlook the value of imagination in our fast-paced world these days. Children have enormous creativity from the first time they start playing. Fostering this natural ability goes beyond simple arts and crafts to develop skills such as critical thinking, flexibility, and emotional intelligence. Children who are provided the time and space to imagine, experiment, and

explore, allow their creativity to blossom. Physical building, telling stories, or art develops their capacity to work independently, to solve problems, to express themselves. Those experiences are not just fun, they are foundations for broader innovation and development in the future. Texas Girls & Boys Ranch aims to foster environments where children can develop into all that God has created them to be. These activities help children find their voices and try new things. In this way, children learn to be resilient, empathetic, and open-minded towards difficulties. Creative play is the foundation of growth and productivity and fosters a future generation of visionaries. Here at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch, we believe that every child should have a chance to dream, create, and thrive in a world full of possibilities.



FOSTER & ADOPTION



ANGELA SKORICKFoster Care & Adoption Program Director askorick@txgbr.org

It is that time of the year where we look back over the last twelve months and reflect on what we have accomplished and what goals we want to set for the new year. I'd like to share that in 2024 we provided care for sixty-seven children. The children ranged in ages from birth to fourteen years and over half were under the age of four. Nine children were adopted into their forever

families. The After Care & Post Adopt program took off running and has already been serving many families in the Lubbock area. Now, looking ahead to the new year, our top goal is to increase the number of foster families in our program as there are still children being sent to other parts of the state because there are no options for them here, and that can be harmful for the child as well as the family. If you would like to get more information about how you can foster or adopt a child, please call 806-747-3187 and ask for Emily or Erin.

DID YOU KNOW...

That the circuit rider newsletter has been around since the beginning?



Telethon raises \$107,000

The goal was \$90,000. By the end of the Texas Boys Ranch Telethon gifts totaled \$107,000! What a wonderful response from the generous people of the South Plains. Again this year the telethon was held at the Cactus Theatre and televised on KMAC TV.

Special thanks go to these people who worked hard to make the event a success: Judy Campbell, Chairperson; Karla Leslie, Host; Gregg McAlister, KMAC Channel 28; Bill Maddox, Kenny Maines and Tim McKenzie as Co-hosts; Don Caldwell, Cactus Theatre and Entertainment.



Sixteen corporate sponsors insured telethon success

by underwriting the pro-duction and airtime expense. These Lubbock and South Plains business es made the telethon possible:

- American Industrial & Bearing Supply Company
 American State Bank
 Betenbough & Company
 Quality Homes
 Brady's Dairy Queen
 Feathers and Friends Farm
 HealthSmart Preferred
 Care

- Care
 Insights
 Lubbock Land Company
 Methodist Children's
 Hospital
 Norwest Bank
- oneer Lincoln Mercury and of The Lubbock Area
- Foundation South Plains Mall The Men's Wearhouse United Supermarkets West Texas John Deere





The work was hard, sweaty, physically demanding and labor intensive, but it got done. The boys worked hard this past summer cutting grass, branding and carting for over 100 head of cattle, feeding grooming and watering for over 100 head of cattle, feeding, grooming and watering the horses, building fenges, planting and cultivating, the oat crop, and many other various tasks the ranch demanded of them. In the transparent of the properties of a lower than the properties of a job well done. With their savings they purchased their own school clothes and supplies. The boys continue to learn the meaning of staffaction as we prepare the Ranch for the cold winter ahead.

Take a look at a Circuit Rider from 1997. Boy, a lot has changed since those days!

Wish List

ecoons from the Administrator Texas Boys Ranch, CIRCUT RIDER, December 1997



Thankful For Great People

Thankful For Great People
So many wonderful people
in the Lubbock and surinuding communities
make it possible to raise
boys in a family environment on a working rauch
friends like Jim
Hogan. Jim is always helping improve the
looks of the RR is blessed with friends like Jim
Hogan. Jim is always helping improve the
looks of the with a scenic
waterfall and landscape plan on the Sanch.
This will provide a beautiful setting for
family visils, cookouts, etc. Jim owns a
paving company and often sufficiently for
paving materials to improve the roads on
the Ranch. We salute you. Jim, for all your
support. On behalf of the boys, thank you.

Texas Boys Ranch Auxiliary
support. On behalf of the boys, thank you.

The Auxiliary is active and very supportive of the efforts of Texas Boys
Ranch. This past year Auxiliary members helped host our first annual Open
Apple Butter fundraising efforts including the selling of pecans at the
Apple Butter Festival. They also worked the phone bank during the
encourage you to call the office at 806-727-3187 for more information.

Special Hanks to Lindsey and David Shelly for the hard work that went into
running the fundraising booth. We are currently exploring product alternatives for next year white would allow the
Ranch booth to raise more money. If you
have a suggestion for next year's Fair, we
welcome your ideas.

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Giving Back To Help Others

During the 22nd Annual Telethon, I introduced Karla Leslie and the viewing audience to "Gunsmock after Ire yellow labrador entriever is a future." The yellow labrador entriever is a future. In each year is to socialize Gunsmoke and then return hum back to the school in Rochester, Millian to be trained to work with a blind person.

Thanks to The Lubbock Lion's Club for sponsoring this project. This is one of many ways that the chyon at Texas Boys Ranch are giving back to the community.

Texas Boys Ranch, CIRCUIT RIDER, December 1997

O.K., So I Received My G.E.D., Now What?

Two young men at the Ranch are attempting to gain additional skills in order to reach their goals of becoming productive citizens. While James is residing at the Ranch, he is attending South Plains College, working toward an Associate of Arts to toward an Associate of Arts Degree. Mike is living in an efficiency apartment and is attending Lubbock Hair Academy, working to become licensed barber. This is another service Texas Boys Ranch offers to truly invest in the lives of youth. Thanks to the friends



and supporters of Texas Boys Ranch who make it possible for boys like James and Mike to



Building on the Dream For Boys, campaign update

Over \$900,000 has been pledged over a 3 year period. Many improvements have been completed. Cottage #1 and #2 have been renovated. Cottage #3 is currently under renovation. The Administrator's house is expected to be completed before the holidays. The Administrative Office/Education Center renovations will be completed by year's end.













In my experience, very few things make kids happier than mealtimes- especially if a favorite dish is being served. Every day of the year, children of all ages gather around the table at Texas Girls & Boys Ranch hoping for their favorite meal.

Many of the 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.

Fourteen-year-old Amelia lived in those circumstances for years before coming to TxGBR. Amelia not only had to learn to provide for herself, but she also had to provide for her younger siblings who are four and seven. Even after being at TxGBR for some time now, Amelia still feels the need to make sure her little brothers have enough to eat. We try to ensure her that her brothers will be taken care of and that she can just focus on being a fourteen-year-old.

Children thrive when they receive healthy foods as part of their regular diet. And that is why every day of the week we strive to ensure that the children in our care are fed the most fresh and nutritious meals possible.

We have seen the consequences of food insecurity and malnutrition in many children like Amelia and her 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.





As food costs are at an all-time high, our ability to provide children with the nutritious diet they need to be healthy and happy is only made possible by your generous support.

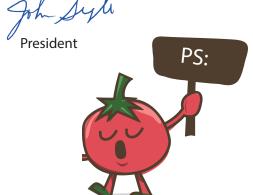
You can help us feed and care for precious children by sending an urgently needed contribution to TxGBR today.

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 helps 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 entrusted to us means the world to us, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support. Your gift today makes a big difference in a child's tomorrow!

For the Children,



You can also give securely online at TxGBR.org and designate it for Feed the Children.











2024 was a year of surprises and blessings because we were the recipient of several unexpected group fundraisers and projects. We also had donors who stepped up and helped financially, and volunteers who blessed us through their service. All of these things have truly made a difference in the lives of the children at TxGBR. I confess that sometimes worry tends to creep into my thoughts during tough times, but God continues to show up, and usually he does it through you, our steadfast

supporters. I sure do love to watch God work! I am thankful for the opportunity to work closely with so many wonderful people who want to show God's love. As we embark on our 50th year of serving children, I know we are ready to help more kids than ever before. And that will be made possible because of you!



CHURCH CONNECTION



MICHAEL NUDELMAN
Church Relations Officer
mnudelman@txgbr.org

2024 has come and gone and we are all looking forward to a New Year, but I want to take some time and look back on this past year and thank all the churches who have helped our girls and boys at TxGBR. So many churches have helped us out with volunteers, collecting items for our commissary, and helping monetarily. Church involvement is very important to the Ranch and I personally can't

thank you enough. We are always looking for churches to partner with us. There are many ways to get involved including volunteering, tithing, and collecting items for our commissary, and we always need new foster parents. Churches across West Texas continuously impress me with their love and generosity for our kiddos. Thank you for being a part of our mission: Sharing Jesus, Healing Hearts and Transforming Lives. God Bless and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

VOLUNTEERING



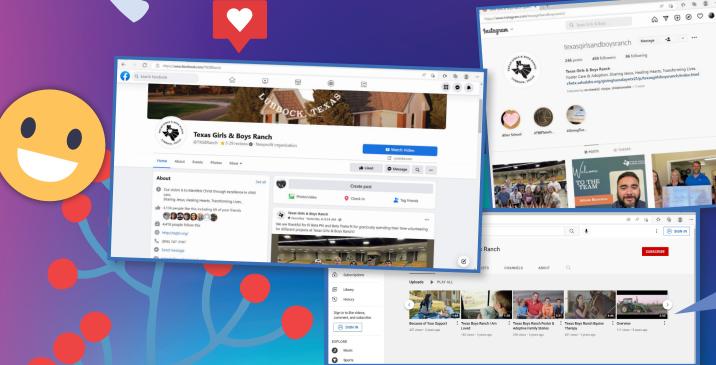
COURTNEY MONKCommunity Relations Coordinator cmonk@txgbr.org

The crazy holiday season is over!! We are so thankful for each business and organization that hosted an Angel Tree and Donation Drive this year. Volunteers poured in this past holiday season which was such a blessing. We had volunteers provide Christmas gifts to children in care, hand make gifts, wrap presents, and provide homemade meals to the cottages. We could not make it through the holiday season without all of the support and prayers that are provided through our loyal volunteers. As

2024 has come to an end, we are so excited to look forward to our 50th anniversary! 2025 will bring many opportunities to get involved with the children in care, house parents, and our yearly events! We have so many exciting things planned for this year and want you to be a part of it! If this is something you or your business is interested in, please contact me at cmonk@txgbr.org and we can get you set up! Thank You!





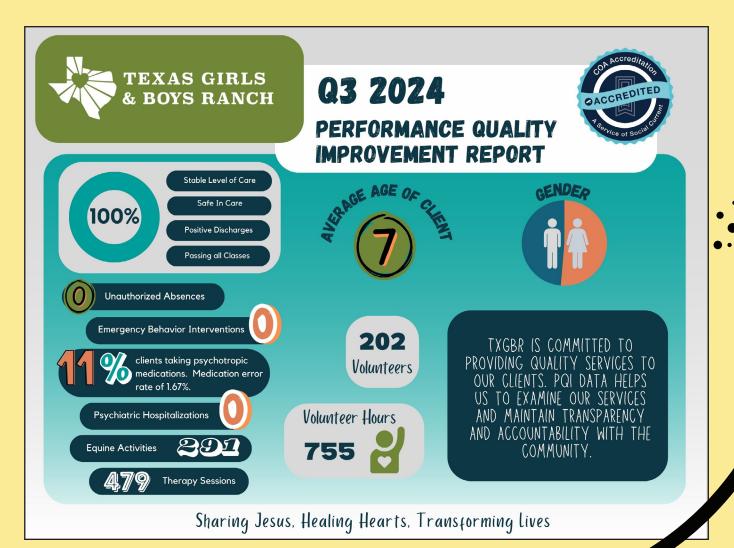




We are excited to announce that we now have a Text-to-Give platform!

This will be an easy way to make donations and also stay up to date with events and volunteer opportunities.

Text RANCH to 888-903-4471







ERIC CREELPresident, Texas Girls & Boys Ranch
Foundation
ecreel@txgbrfoundation.org



Charity is the business of all mankind, and a business that should concern us not just at Christmas but all the year round.

God Bless Us, Every One!

One of the most cherished books ever written is "A Christmas Carol", by Charles Dickens. Perhaps like me, you watched some version of it on TV during the Christmas holiday season. Published in 1843, the story has touched every generation since. Beginning just weeks after it was first released, it has been adapted for the stage countless times and has made its way onto the silver screen over 200 times, not to mention the numerous TV versions. The story is a perennial favorite because of its timeless message. It is not bound in time as so many stories are, but finds relevance across generations and cultures.

The story's central theme is found in Scrooge's supernatural journey through the past, present, and future. It's a journey which leads old Ebenezer to realize the perpetual necessity of the Christmas spirit. The ghosts who lead him on this journey remind him first of his obligations to his own family, and then to those of his wider human family. Moved from a cold, miserly heart where he seems miserable in his own skin, by the end he ultimately proclaims, "I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach."

Dickens wants us to understand (to paraphrase Jacob Marley) that charity is the business of all mankind, and a business that should concern us not just at Christmas but all the year round.

You epitomize that spirit! Because of your big heart, the children served by the Ranch enjoyed a very special Christmas. Because of your generosity, the Ranch is in a good position to meet the current needs of wounded children in our community. Because of your faithfulness, we anticipate being able to meet the needs of children yet to come.

That's where we need your help. The next chapters in this story are yet to be written, but you can help ensure the future viability of the Ranch and its mission of healing wounded hearts in Jesus' name. A gift this year to Texas Girls & Boys Ranch Foundation will build upon the work started years ago by other charitable members of our community who have contributed to this endowment. Your compassion, expressed by including the Foundation in your will, or making a current gift, will be magnified many times over as the endowment continues to grow. This will ensure many more children to come will be rescued from a life of despair.

We look forward to partnering with you so that many more vulnerable children will be able to exclaim with gratitude not just at Christmas but at all times, "God bless us, every one!"

Contact Eric at the Foundation office at (806)749-1103 or ecreel@TxGBRFoundation.org for more information on how you can effectively provide security for tomorrow's children.



MAY

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER



THE FRIENDS OF THE RANCH GOLF TOURNAMENT



SPARKLES & SPURS GALA



ANNUAL TXGBR PRAYER WALK

DECEMBER



THE OVERTON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER ANNUAL GINGERBREAD DISPLAY



ANGEL TREES

MEMORIAL AND LIVING HONOR GIFTS

October 1 - December 31, 2024

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

All TxGBR Staff

Mr. Jerry Dennis

Howell, Jacob

Mr. Keith Gray

Howell, Jonathan & Emily

Mr. Keith Gray

Howell, Kathy & Bill

Mr. Keith Gray

Jones, L'Anna

Bettie Sulser

Stewart, Jim & Doris

Mr. Benjamin Murphy

Walker, Jeremy

First Baptist Church

Shallowater

Womble, Leisha

Christina Williams

Clara Jane Davis

Memorials

Addison, Keith

Mr. Mike Davison

Allen, Taryn

Laurie Bateman

Avers, Jacque

Mrs. Paula Clark

Barber, David

Ms. Vanessa Pope

Berentsen, Ernest "Bernie"

Bowers Plastics

Blackmon, Eugene

Randy & Gay King

Blakely, Vestal

Ms. Barbara Robbins Watson

Booher, Shane

Ron & Lauren Cox

Brashears, Gary

First Baptist Church

Brownfield

Sammie Skains

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Brock, Gail

Johnny & Rhonda Fietz

Mrs. Joan Roberts

Brock, Ricky

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Brooks, Mary L.

Ms. Beverly St. Clair

Brose, Joy Rebecca

Richard Brose

Brown, Tommie

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Brush, Gary Don

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Glenn Smith

Calvillo, Hope

Jeff & Cindy Bertrand

Cobb, Janelle

Tommy & Sarah Burrus

Cooper, Evelyn Doyce

Dr. & Mrs. Joe & Cathy

Harkins

Cruz, Guadalupe

Anna Cruz

Cummings, Sandra

Mr. Jim Warren

Elizardo, Arcilia

Tv & Mary Wilmeth

Garner, Judy

Rick & Jean Nudelman

Graham, Lonnie

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Gray, Dorothy

Mr. Keith Gray

Halbrooks, Dwayne

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Hall, Linda

Jerry Hall

Harper, Sarah

Johnie & Cynthia Harper

Harrell, Kason Blaine

Mark & Becky Harrell

Hewitt, Kohen Jay

Ms. Donava Seales

Hill, Lillian

Mr. Mike Davison

Howard, Major

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Johnson, Steve

Mrs. Sheila Stephens

Johnson, Sue

Larry & Dana Bryant

Low, Henry

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Luke, Kai

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Malokwu, Frederick

Tommy & Sarah Burrus

McAuley, Tory "TJ"

Sue Alexander

Beth Armes

First Baptist Church

Shallowater

Truitt & Amy Garland

Gary & Suzanne Hamilton

John & Charlotte Huffaker

Huffaker & Harris LLP

Tony & Tonya Jackson

Ricky & Lisá Meeks

Mrs. Joan Roberts

J.D. & Patsy Young Melcher, Mike

Jack & Linda Morris

Miller, Mark

Jack & Linda Morris

Mills, Ryder Jo

Jeff & Angie Oswalt

Taylor Royal

Mills, Tanner

Jeff & Angie Oswalt

Mobley, Nadine Elam & Elam Backhoe

Service

Morrison, Judy

Phil & Leslie Nash

Mull, Paula & Roy

Greg & Brenda Cartwright

Murry, Pauline

Ty & Mary Wilmeth Nelson, Terry Wayne

Mrs. Ann Nelson

Nimmo, Claudia

Ms. Beverly St. Clair

Northcutt, Wayne

Ralph & Joyce Beasley

Parish, Larry Joe

Bob & Barbara Coker

Mike & Lorna Gower

Patterson, Don

Ms. Donava Seales

Pearcy, Jan Warren Charles & Betty Frisbie Poe, Virgil

Ted & Carol Poe

Prescott, Jimmy

Darrel Werley

Rule, Sam & Inez Tracey Rekieta

Sessums, Steve

Mrs. Sammy Skorick

Simmons, Sharon

Ty & Mary Wilmeth

Smith, Sheron

Charles & Beth Ann Cain Bob & Lola Elam

Stephens, Rowe

Ty & Mary Wilmeth Stutler, Kern

Johnny & Rhonda Fietz

Taylor, Della Ruth

Loyd Brooks

Tommy & Sarah Burrus

Charles & Beth Ann Cain

First Baptist Church

Brownfield First United Methodist

Church Lubbock

Warren New

Jet & Gay Lynn Wilmeth

Ty & Mary Wilmeth **Turner, Vickey Jackson**

Mrs. Margie Fleming

Tyler, Gary Randal

Mr. Gary Goble

Wagner, Darrell Jimbo & Winona

Humphreys

Webb, Erelene

Blake & Julie Cate

Werley, Henry Don

Darrel Werley

Werley, Sherry Liz Miller & Annie Brayton

James Werley Wheatley, Steven

Sammie Skains Williamson, Carol

Jackie & Jan McGaugh

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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.



2024 marked the 13th year for the tradition and the Overton culinary team put in countless hours to bring the lighthouse design to life using hundreds of pounds of gingerbread, icing, and candies to complete the concept. The Overton is always decorated beautifully at Christmastime and the gingerbread display brings home all the festive atmosphere of the holidays.

In addition to the display, Overton General Manager Kurt Metcalf and Director of Sales and Marketing, Shannon Baker invite our children and houseparents every year to be their guests at a special Christmas dinner. They were treated to a special meal and then got a sneak peek at the gingerbread display before the big public reveal.

