

All The King's Horses Children's Ranch



THE TRAIL RIDER

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God, who is liberal in all His other gifts, shows us, by the wise economy of His providence, how circumspect we ought to be in the management of our time, for he never gives us two moments together.

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FAITH AND HOPE BRING RESTORATION AND RECONCILIATION By Carmen Martin, El Caballo Blanco house parent

Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of those things not seen (Heb 11:1). All things you ask for in prayer BELIEVING you shall receive (Mat 21:22).

We believe in these promises of God for the healing of our children and their families. It is the foundation in which we begin our journey towards their reconciliation. We have been called for this mission: to nurture the biological parents, as well as the children He has given us charge of. Reality is -- if the bio parents don't change their way of thinking, living and decision-making, the children will go back to the same situation they left. Our children come broken hearted, confused, scared, angry, hungry, sexually abused, some even unable to speak. Depending on their age and home life, some come with their own alcohol or drug addictions.

So our journey begins. Slowly we begin earning their trust. Structure is quite a task at the beginning! They learn they will even eat well. One of the greatest pains to my heart is seeing a child look for food in the garbage. It takes time to build security in their little hearts. They learn to realize that another meal will be coming. You can imagine their surprise when they have snacks. It's like receiving a gift. Somehow we begin to see a miracle and they begin to show affection and love begins to blossom. I love them and hold them in good times as well as in the bad times.

Part of our structure is prayer. We pray at the dinner table and at bedtime. That's my favorite time. I learn their heart and we pray for their parents for healing and protection. There is a bond that begins to take hold in the children's heart for us and for the Lord. What's so great is that the children begin to share with their parents how they pray every night for them. This is our challenge in building relationships with the biological parents. It is slow and grueling. They come to realize we are not the enemy.

As foster parents we learned the bio parents are just as scared, broken, confused, as their children and unable to care for them. Failure is difficult for them to face and overcome. So we encourage at every opportunity that presents itself. Every family is unique and we have to find ways to communicate effectively with positive force. Praise is at the forefront of every conversation.

We encourage phone calls and visits between the children and their parents. We like to join them in doing things together as a way to bond and get to know the family. This helps us in understanding our children's thoughts and behaviors. I even ask the bio parents for input on how to handle a situation. It makes them feel connected and a part of the child's life. That's what we want – to work together for the sake of the children.

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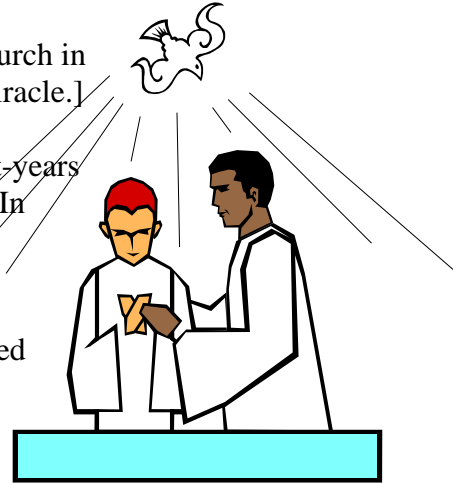
FAITH AND HOPE continued

Our children experience the love of Jesus in our home and have learned to trust and believe in Him with all their heart, mind and soul. Their steadfast prayers for their parents give them hope and empower their parents as well. Already we have witnessed many blessings. Since 2002 we have adopted a beautiful little girl and are blessed with a relationship with her bio mom. This Christmas ('06) we had an answer to a four-year prayer and we baptized her mom. She is becoming stronger in her healing and her relationship with the Lord.

[Readers: Carmen baptized the bio mom at Pantano Christian Church in Tucson a church where hundreds witnessed this miracle.]

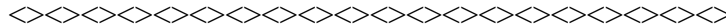
In 2003 we were blessed with siblings; six-years and eight-years old. They, too, gave their lives to Christ. Both parents as well!! In 2005 we baptized our oldest foster child and her dad!!

In 2003, as well, we were blessed with another set of siblings; fourteen-months and two-‘n-a-half years old. We returned them on October 28th 2006 at 8:45 p.m. We are blessed to have a relationship with their dad in such a short period of time and our prayer is that it continues to grow. I’m very proud of their dad for stepping out as quickly as he has. He is growing to be a man of honor and integrity.



Our blessing is having such an extended family. It is through His Grace alone that we do what we do. What a privilege to serve Him. Thank You, Jesus.

Your humble servant, Carmen.



FAMILY OF GOD

by Loretta Meija-Mahorney, Palomino houseparent

Years ago as a homeless teen, I promised the Lord I'd do all I could if I survived the streets to ensure other young people had a place to go where they could be loved and nurtured. In March of '03, my husband, Dave, encouraged me to go after my dream to help at-risk teenagers. Quickly a not-for-profit was formed in our tiny basement apartment with the help of a dozen volunteers. By the end of that year, via the internet, we helped over 24,000 suicidal teens get the local support they needed. Then the Lord started tugging on our hearts again. I knew the Lord was

calling me back to ancestral land to help my Apache people with Christ-centered programs for our homeless teens on the reservations. In 2006, with that calling from the Lord, we gave away or sold everything, packed only what we could in our van and off we came to Arizona, the place where the Lord confirmed in our hearts we were needed. Within a month we found the Native group we had come to help was not as serious or committed as they had led us to believe. We were at a crossroads. "Lord, where do you want us to go now?"

FAMILY OF GOD continued



Within days the Lord arranged for our meeting with Ana Lucore, the Director here at ATKHCR. By the following Saturday we were out at the Ranch to help build a porch onto the Palomino. Shortly after this Ana encouraged us to consider becoming house parents. We did not want to risk another incident where we would not be able to fulfill what God had put in our hearts to do for at-risk youth . . . so in our heads we were saying "NO". Then after praying for several days we realized that, in fact, the Lord did want us to come to the Ranch. Of course we came back to Ana and told her yes we would come on board as house parents.

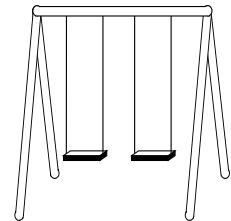
Since then the Lord has confirmed our decision over and over through His Peace in our hearts. Each day He confirms our move through prayer and by showing us His vision. Over the last several months God has knit our hearts together with everyone here at the Ranch (Ana and the Martins) and we now consider all of them a part of our extended family. Over the past several months we have completed training to become house parents. There are only a few more details before we can take in children. We are looking forward to "Parenting" our new at-promise teens. (We like to call them at-promise rather than at-risk.) A promise full-filled.



FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

by David Meija-Mahorney

As we look forward to 2007 we are excited about what God has directed us to do. We are working with a master planner, Brian Hagedon. Below are several of the building projects on the Master Plan.



Master Plan Facilities List

New Well and Water lines
Storage Tank
Bank Erosion Reclamation
Prayer Walk - Gardens
Admin Bldg - Director, volunteers
Residences for House
Parents/Children
Exec. Director's Home
Gift Shop
Nursing Facility & Living Quarters
Guest Houses – Adult Visitors
RV hookups for Volunteers
Dining Hall
Chapel

School
Gym / indoor pool / greenhouse
Warehouse / Maintenance/Shop
Vineyards
Grazing Fields
Native Grass / Alfalfa hay fields
Tree farm / picnic area
Large Gardens
Playground
Baseball / Soccer Field
Barn / Corral
Go-cart Track
Teen Home & Area for Teepee's

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT continued

We are busy clearing the land with the tractor in preparation for a group of RV volunteers who will be here in Feb to lay irrigation pipe to help beautify the Ranch. We plan to continue bringing groups of RV'ers to the ranch on a regular basis. In appreciation for their hard work we will show them around this unique area. We have hiking trips planned to Cochise Stronghold as well as other "only known to locals" areas of interest.

We are also working with the US Dept of Agriculture on a seed project that has a potential source of income and "Kid character building" for the ranch.

And last, but certainly not least, we, Dave, Loretta and 3 of our 9 kids (the rest are grown and out of the house) Joey 15, Michael 11, and Santana 11 look forward to the children God has hand-picked to be in our home here at the Palomino.



The Lord has HIS plan for ATKHC Ranch and we are blessed to be part of this wonderful stewardship team.

***TO GOD BE THE GLORY,
TO GOD BE THE GLORY,
TO GOD BE THE GLORY!***