



RICK SOUZA *What Is Possible*



It is hard to believe I have been the CEO/Exec. Director for FHATC for eight years. In many ways it has flown by and at other times it seems like change moves at a glacial speed. There have been significant challenges, victories, setbacks (Covid-19), losses (Lewie Roche III), innovations and improvements over these eight years.

One of the things I am most happy about is my staff. We have had very little turnover and I must say, the culture and working/ministry environment is the best I have ever experienced in my forty years of ministry. We believe our job is to minister to the body, soul, and spirit. When I arrived, I believe that FHATC was the best-kept secret in Stanislaus County. That is no longer the case. We have an influence in

Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced Counties. We are "putting hope within reach of everyone struggling with life-controlling issues." Or at least we are trying to do so.

I believe this type of ministry needs a three-legged approach. What do I mean by that? All three legs are needed to build financial stability, especially since no government funds or assistance are available to us because we will not compromise our message, which is that the reason for the life changes we experience is because of Jesus Christ. The three legs are donations, fundraisers/grants, and enterprises. We have individuals who have been faithful to this ministry for years. We have enlisted the services of a part-time person to seek and write grants, and over the years we have been blessed with grants of multiple sizes and at times specialty items. Our fundraisers have been very successful: 28 years of the "Lewie Golf Classic", 5 years of the "Ball Drop", several years of "Roger's Run." They are a blessing and they are fun. And the third leg is enterprises. I firmly believe the enterprises should be teaching a skill and developing godly work ethics.

We have a construction division, our bee enterprise, Strong Hands, and now an exclusive custom wood sign business. Recently, Kevin and Rachel Cossairt gifted us with a very successful sign shop. Kevin is an alumnus of FHATC. He and Rachel decided to explore other ventures and wanted to bless us with this business because this is where Kevin met the Lord and his life was changed forever. A couple of our men flew to Oregon, loaded the equipment and materials on a moving truck, and brought it back to the ranch, installed everything in our 6,000 ft. shop. Kevin came down for a week to train our staff on how to make these beautiful custom signs.

This newsletter is going to display the potential of what is possible. We offer several designs as well as customizing to your needs and interests for beautiful, natural wood signs (See Back Cover for examples!). We include design, posts, chains, hardware and shipping. The process is very easy. Send us an email at customwoodsigns@fhtc.life, or visit our website fhtc.life. Go to Enterprises, drop down to the Wood Signs page. We have a number of sign templates for you to choose from. Select a sign and send us an email regarding the details you want. We will design it and send you an email with our suggested price and a place for you to sign for your approval. Upon approval you can make a donation to FHTC for your wood sign. We will process your order and return your sign directly to you.

Our staff and students will be doing all of the work from design, cutting, planning, routing, sanding, lacquering, packaging and mailing. Our students will learn great skills and work ethics that they can use for a lifetime. Your donations will help us see our vision grow, which is to "put hope within reach of everyone struggling with life-controlling issues." Please check out our wood signs, buy a beautiful custom sign and tell your friends. You will be blessed and so will we.

UPCOMING DATES

*To Remember*

- Monday, May 5th, 2025: Lewie Roche III Golf Classic
- Saturday, May 17th, 2025: Graduation Ceremony
- Saturday, June 14th, 2025: Roger's 5k Walk and Run
- September 15th-19th, 2025: Spiritual Emphasis Week
- Saturday, November 15th, 2025: Annual Ball Drop



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WANT TO GIVE?

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS OUT TO "FAITH HOME TEEN CHALLENGE"  
MY GIFT AMOUNT IS: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  MONTHLY?

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST. \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPORT FOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
 IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_  
 IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND GIFT ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST. \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PRAYER REQUESTS?

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MIGUEL SORIA

## My Testimony



2023 was one of the darkest years of my life. I was on my way to work, first day on the job, when things didn't go as planned. Never made it to my worksite because I was high on drugs, living a sinful life. I caught a case, facing 15 years in prison. I wanted out of the life I was living, tried doing it by myself, but I couldn't. The devil had a hold on me so tight that I couldn't breathe nor have peace of mind. But I know God was also taking care of me because there were times I should have been dead.

I was arrested not too long after I did the crime. It was the beginning of God's plan to prepare me to come to Adult Teen Challenge. Booked into Stockton jail facing 7 charges, 3 of them felonies. I fought the case for one year being patient while God did his work on me. I did my part by attending Bible studies. While I was in jail I had several encounters with the Holy Spirit while watching church services in my cell. I truly

believe this was part of His plan. He wanted me to read the Word and get a clear mind before I got released.

My decision was to take my case to trial where if I lost trial I was facing 15 years in prison, so at this point I was stressed out and losing hope but I remember reading Matthew 17:20; my faith was small like a mustard seed. I got on my knees and prayed every night asking God to please help me in my life and to beat this case. I made a promise to Him that if He beat this case and let me go free I would never do drugs and I would turn my life around and go to Teen Challenge and serve him. On the last day of the trial the jury reached a verdict and it was not guilty of all charges. I was a free man so I kept my promise to God and I came to Teen Challenge. The next day I got released and checked into the program.

While in the program I faced a lot of challenges. I was getting impatient with restoring my relationship with my grandparents. God promises He will help us restore our relationships with family members. My faith was also fading away in me telling me I'd never finish the program but I know that wasn't me, it was the enemy trying to pull me back into me leaving the program. I prayed on it, talked to my brothers, and I got encouraging words prayed over me. It helped me to rely on God in situations like this and most importantly persevere through it all.

God had a plan from the start. He knew I was going to come to Teen Challenge and turn my life around. God has been blessing me since I first checked in the program. He put my broken pieces back together. I'm surrounded by great brothers and staff members that love to help and show love to everyone that walks in through those doors. God restored my relationship with my grandparents that I love very much. I am going to graduate from high school on May 28, 2025 and finally receive my high school diploma. I am currently a servant leader at Teen Challenge, helping and encouraging my brothers to move forward in their walk with God, and most importantly serving them just like God called us to do. I give all the credit and glory to God who took me out of my darkest time and put hope in me and helped me move forward in my life.

LOUIE MORENO JR.

## My Testimony



My name is Louie Moreno, Jr. When I came into the Teen Challenge program, I was goal oriented. I wanted to go back to school and get my High School Diploma. I know I couldn't do it by myself. I knew I was going to need God's help because He's the one who gives knowledge and wisdom. The Bible verse I chose to lean on all the time is Philippians 4:13 which states "I can do all things through Him who gives me strength."

I was in Phase 3 of the program when I started school. I realized I had a journey ahead of me, but I had faith that God and I could do it. I knew it was going to be hard and there were some classes that I had anxiety about. One was Government, which I didn't know anything about, and Algebra was the most intimidating of them all! But I remembered God's promise – that if I ask, I will receive. So, I asked and He never once let me down. I want to encourage

everyone that if I can do it with God's help, anybody can!

With God's help I got really good grades. The best grade I got was in English, I scored 108%. After two years of faithfully going to school I was recognized by the Turlock Unified School District for "embodying and exemplifying character throughout the year." I was awarded with a certificate at their Character Recognition Ceremony with friends and family around me.

I will be graduating May 28th and will finally get the high school diploma I have been working so hard for. I plan to go on to college and pursue a career in Radiology.

I can't thank the Lord enough for giving me all the knowledge and wisdom I need to pursue my future and have a wonderful life. I love having God in my life. He is a loving God and I am living proof that He will help you with anything and everything that you need or want to do. All you have to do is ask and be obedient to Him.

BALL DROP

## Blessings



We are excited to share some incredible news with you! Thanks to your faithful contributions and amazing support during our recent ball drop event, we were able to achieve a goal we had of purchasing a new truck and trailer for our Strong Hands enterprise. This was our most successful ball drop to date, which is a direct reflection of your generosity and belief in this ministry. We will now be able to transport our tractor and

other equipment to help expand our Strong Hands enterprise capabilities with the intentions of growing the business to help employ future graduates.

We would like to thank Steve's Chevrolet for their sponsorship and contribution towards the truck and supporting our vision going forward. We thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts for your continued support and for helping us make a lasting difference. We pray that you are as blessed with this news as we are.