

July & August

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challenge
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Life On
The Ranch



Rick Souza
Executive Director

WHO WOULD HAVE EVER THOUGHT?

As I sit at my desk writing this article on this last day of June, I am hoping to adequately communicate to our friends who receive this newsletter. We send it out six times a year and there are more than 1,400 of you that receive it. Who would have ever thought July 1, 2020 would be like it is going to be?

Last edition we discussed Covid-19 and the new words it has added to our lexicon. I think most of us are hoping to get through this season and never hear some of those words/phrases again. Sadly, many have lost loved ones resulting in broken hearts.

At this very moment I don't know what new restrictions will be facing our ministry. Our nation is in a cultural shift. It is time for the body of Christ to stand on the foundation and Word of God. Proverbs 24:10 says, "If you falter in times of trouble, how small is your strength." It is time for us to gain our strength from the Lord. The ministry of Teen Challenge is and has always been color blind.

Our mission is to "Put hope within reach of everyone struggling with life-controlling issues." And worldwide we practice that. Proverbs 24:11 says, "Rescue the perishing; don't hesitate to step in and help. If you say, 'Hey, that's none of my business,' will that get you off the hook? Someone is watching closely, you know — Someone not impressed with weak excuses" (MSG). That is what we do ... RESCUE.


The spiritual climate at the Ranch is fantastic. You ought to hear devotions given by students and staff each morning. One recent morning a student gave one that brought tears to my eyes. Seven months ago, on a Sunday morning, he was planning to leave after only a few days. But the Holy Spirit got a hold of him and he changed his mind about leaving.

Most enterprises were cancelled in March, April and May due to stay-in-place orders, and we have been unable to schedule any church services through the *Continued on Page 2.*

CANCELLED EVENTS IMPACTING OUR FINANCES

All Saturday Car Washes
River Rock Fellowship, Lodi
Tulloch Lake Bible Church
Emmanuel Lutheran, Lodi
Grace & Mercy, Lodi
United Methodist, Galt
United Methodist, Hughson
Assemblies of God District Council
Hope In Lodi Fundraiser
Hope In Mother Lode Fundraiser

24th Annual Golf Tournament
3rd Annual Roger's Run
One Way Ministry Band
Opening of Lodi Men's Center
Mokelumne Hill Women's Center
Annual NC ATC Picnic
All Celebrate Recovery Meetings



Cancelled
Events

Flip over to donate and help the ministry!

WHO WOULD HAVE EVER THOUGHT? PT.2

Continued From Page 1.

remainder of the year because of so much uncertainty.

As you know, our faith-based ministry accepts no government funds. The reason is that if we did, our message of the gospel would be greatly restricted. We rely on funds from donations, grants and enterprises. All three have been tremendously impacted this year. The cost to us for each student we have at the ranch is between \$2,500-3,000 each month. That includes everything that it takes for them to live here, eat here, learn here and be transported to and from doctor visits, etc. We turn no one away. Even if they or family members don't have the funds to help offset those costs, we still take them in and minister to them.

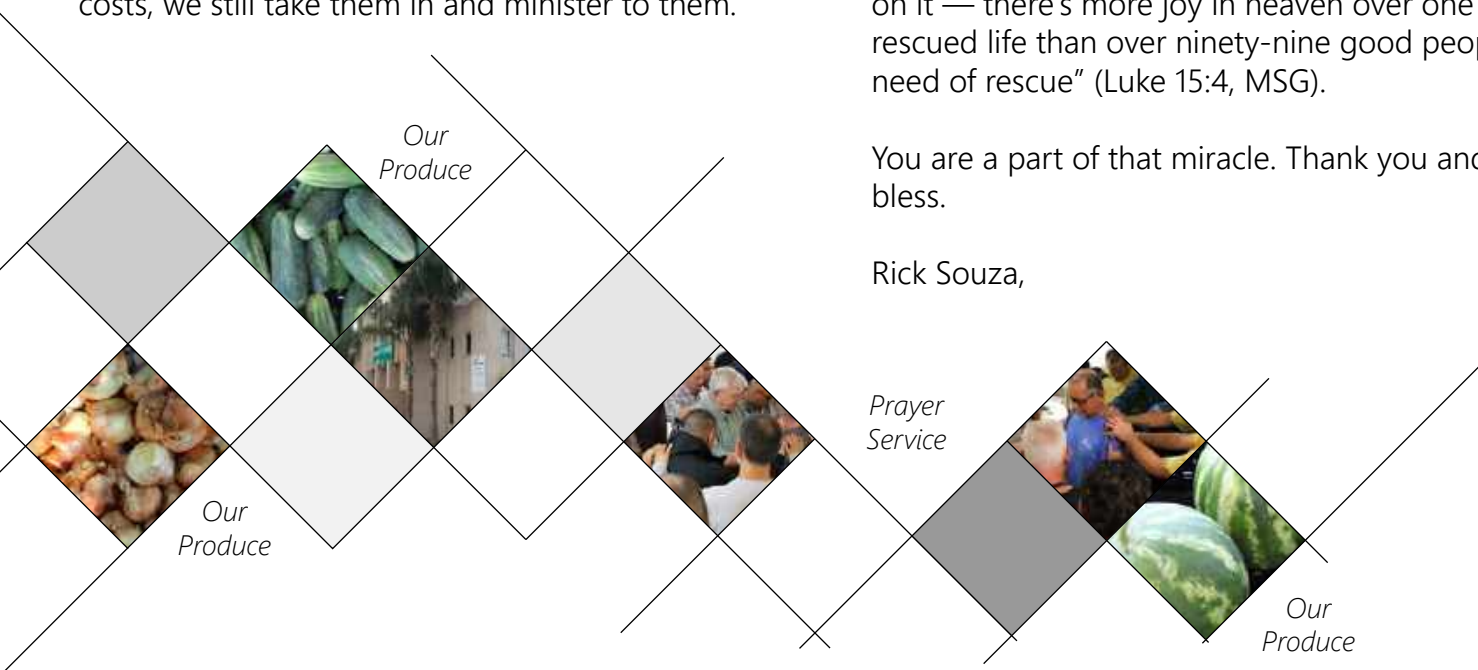
We have a real financial need right now. I'm asking you to consider helping us with that need. Some of you already faithfully support us. You are such a blessing! Thank you so much.

Would you consider increasing your monthly support to help get us through this difficult time? Possibly you might consider supporting us for \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100, \$250, \$500 on a monthly basis. Or you might be able to give a substantial one-time gift to help get us through this season of uncertainty: \$1,000, \$5,000, \$10,000.

"Celebrate with me! I've found my lost sheep! Count on it — there's more joy in heaven over one sinner's rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue" (Luke 15:4, MSG).

You are a part of that miracle. Thank you and God bless.

Rick Souza,



CUT AND SEND BACK TO US

◇ JOIN THE JOURNEY!

MY GIFT AMOUNT IS: \$ _____ MONTHLY?

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

SUPPORT FOR: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

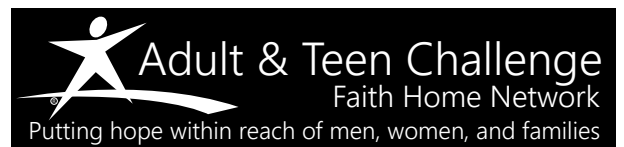
IN HONOR OF: _____

PLEASE SEND GIFT ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

◇ PRAYER REQUESTS?



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THE COST & REWARD OF RESTORATION

July & August

A Jamestown Update

You can see it, the potential, even past the rust and years of neglect. It is worth restoring even though its current condition seems hopeless to the untrained or uninterested eye. We are truly in the business of restoring lives.

We have literally received hundreds of calls from desperate individuals, families, and friends since February of 2018. These are those who see the restoration possibilities and they are looking for help getting there.

Once we opened the Short-Term Men's Care Center it was filled in a few days and since then has had a 78% success rate of men completing the first 30 to 45 days of the 12 to 16-month program. The men who have transferred to the ranch after being in Jamestown have adapted well and are some of our most responsive students. In other words, the purpose and plan for having a house like the one in Jamestown is working exceptionally well.

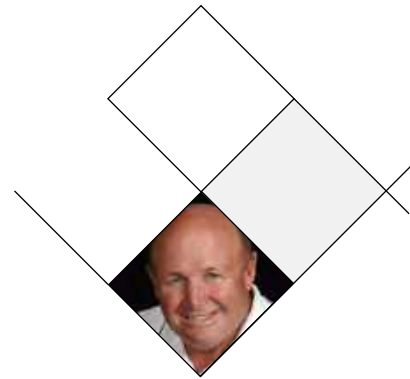
In March of this year everything stopped. We moved the men currently in the house down to the ranch and temporarily laid off most of the staff. It was a heart-wrenching decision that had to be made to cooperate with the Covid-19 restrictions. Thankfully that day has passed.

We are currently back open with a full house again thanks to faithful donors, grants, and most of all the prayers and support of volunteers, friends, and family members of the men in the program. We have dedicated staff who work long hours to make sure the men in the program have the best possible restoration experience.

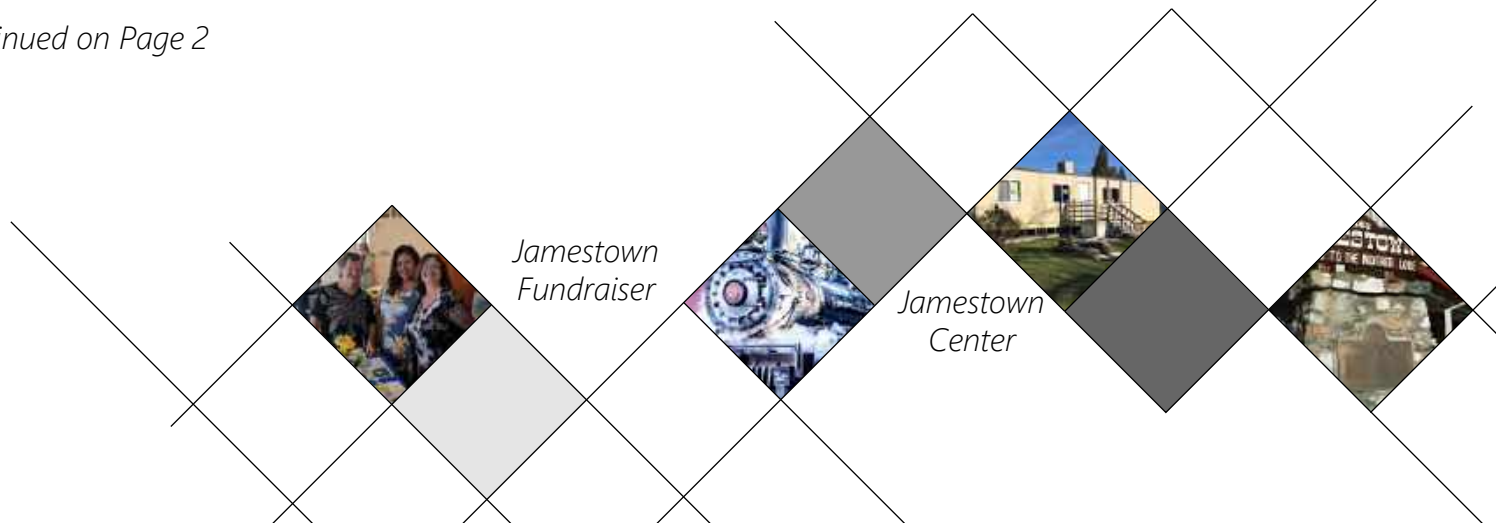
Just as the title indicates there is a cost to every quality restoration project and so it is with this one. Many of our normal avenues of resources have been reduced or completely curtailed.

To give you a perspective of what it takes to operate please read through this restoration cost breakdown.

Continued on Page 2



*Boyd Patterson
Program Director*



THE COST & REWARD OF RESTORATION

A Jamestown Update Part 2

Continued From Page 1.

Per student costs if \$2,500 per month.

We ask that \$500 of this amount be provided by the student with the understanding that the remaining \$2,000 would be subsidized by fundraisers, gifts, grants, enterprises, and donations.

Currently we cannot have fundraisers that previously produced \$20,000 in income. Our monthly budget is \$12,500 of which we thankfully have \$1,600 coming in but need an increase of \$11,000.

We want to thank the following churches for allowing us to make presentations to their congregations or church board (previous to Covid-19). Due to the current restrictions we are unable to make these very crucial personal contacts to tell the story of the lives that are being transformed.

Christian Heights, Harvest Fellowship, Chapel of the Pines, Twain Heart Bible, Heritage Christian Church, Jamestown Christian Fellowship, First Presbyterian Church of the 49ers, Tuolumne United Methodist, Creekside Community Church, Saint Matthews Lutheran Church, Lake Tulloch Bible Church Word of Life Fellowship, Sozo Fellowship, Calvary Chapel, Refuge Church, Fivefold Fellowship, Sonora Community Church, The Journey Church of Sonora.

Special thanks go to the individuals, businesses, and churches that support us on a monthly basis in the total amount of \$2,100 of our \$12,500 monthly budget.

With the help of several grants from Sonora Area Foundation, and the assistance of faith based, county and city organization we realized a great working relationship for the needs of those struggling with substance abuse.

In this restoring process we need your help. The restorations are taking place and we don't want to have to stop when the potential is being realized. The value of a man's life being restored is priceless but there is a price for the process to continue. Men's lives are being changed and you can help with that. Please see Rick's article for ideas and instructions on how you can help.

Thank you and God Bless.

Boyd Patterson,
Program Director

*Jamestown
Construction*

*Life On
The Ranch*

*Strong
Hands Work*