

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



WILDWOOD
HILLS RANCH OF IOWA

WHO WE ARE



Founded in 2001, Wildwood Hills Ranch is a 400-acre safe haven located 25 minutes south of West Des Moines in St. Charles, Iowa. We are a year-round facility that serves vulnerable youth and veterans and their families. We make an impact through educational programming, leadership development, job skill training and equine (horse) therapy. All programs are offered through a 100% donor funded system that is at no cost to the individual participant.

Last year alone, we served over 1,027 youth at-risk and veterans and their families. We make a ten-year commitment to the youth that we serve and work with them from age eight to age eighteen. Our Next Steps Program prepares youth at-risk for taking next steps in their lives.

Next Step Phases

- **Ranchers:**
Ages 8-12
- **Young Leaders:**
Ages 13-15
- **Leaders for Life:**
Ages 16-18

Skills Acquired

- Spiritual growth and purpose discovery
- Job training
- Financial literacy
- Leadership development

Programming Areas

- Agriculture
- Aquatics
- Art
- Creative Arts (Music)
- Equine (Horses)
- Team Building
- Welding/Wood-working
- Cooking/Hospitality
- Wellness/Physical Fitness
- Financial Literacy
- Writing workshop

In 2019, in our veteran equine therapy program, we conducted over 150 equine therapy sessions with veterans and their families. Our team of 30+ horses are a key part of the programming we do at The Ranch. Our Equine Director, Lynn Winkelmann, dedicated therapists and gracious volunteers make this program possible. Please read more about our equestrian therapy program and drill team program on page 8.

Another way we sponsor children and veterans is by renting out our facilities for conferences and retreats to corporations, churches and other groups that are interested in leadership development or community building. We specialize in creating customized, rustically elegant experiences in the middle of a tranquil, nature-filled setting. To learn more, see page 14.



Wildwood Hills Ranch of Iowa exists to **transform lives** and **strengthen communities** by **providing healing, hope** and **God's unconditional love** to children and youth at-risk.

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To Our Stakeholders,

2019 was a monumental year and a great way to finish out a decade! It was unbelievable to see God's provision in every facet of our programs. We were able to serve more students than ever before, launch new program initiatives, finish the first cabin out of the five for the Cabins of Hope project and grow our conference center business by 40%! There are so many other accomplishments from this year that I am excited to share with you that are highlighted on pages 3-4.

It has been amazing to continue to see God at work in the lives of our youth. We were able to serve again this year the little sister of one of the girls in the newspaper whose sister was starved to death. She was a head shorter than anyone on her team that was her age last year because of the malnourishment she had experienced, but this year she is only a few inches shorter than her peers.

Another student that had a huge impact on me this year was a student from West Des Moines. When we were talking through our Father Wounds he came up and spoke about his best friend's father. This father made the paper because he came home from work and killed his family and then committed suicide. The student I was talking with retold the story as if he was reliving it all over again. I am so thankful for our therapist Heidi Vermeer-Quist that was there to help de-escalate his raging emotions. It was so good for him to process these emotions with a trained professional. If students don't talk out their emotions, they act them out. We are constantly working with students to adequately and appropriately communicate how they feel. Occasionally students will bring up issues that are best suited to be handled

by a licensed therapist which is why we have established a working partnership with Heidi and her team.

I want to finish this letter with another story of impact and one of the most unbelievable things I have been privy to: another individual who has been in the news but for very different reasons than the first two stories. Dale grew up poor and was a carpenter that never made more than \$10.50 an hour. He worked at Moehl Millwork and only owned two pairs of pants. One that he wore to work and one he wore to church. When Dale passed in 2005, he left \$3,000,000 and wanted to help people like himself attend college. Because of his generosity, 33 students attended college and graduated debt free! When his foundation no longer had enough funding to send another cohort all the way through college the proceeds were donated to The Ranch. His gift was over \$400,000!!! We are so grateful for the lives that his gift will impact. It is humbling to think about a man that grew up with so little has left a legacy of changing the lives of people he never met...mine included!

Thank you to each and every one of you for your ongoing support of our organization! We couldn't change the lives that we do without your support.

Blessings,



Matt Moeckl, Executive Director



2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

RANCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Program Updates

- We served 1,027 youth at-risk and veterans in need in 2019.
- Added a longitudinal study by Drake University for our after-school equine therapy program.
- Added hospitality, operations and youth mentoring to our youth leadership program.
- Added purpose and calling curriculum which added action steps for youth to plan post high school.
- Completed cabin one of our Cabins of Hope Project.
- Remodeled our Assembly Hall.
- Remodeled the office entrance.
- Re-sided the Oaks Cabin.
- Grew conference center revenue by 40%+.
- Recognized as one of the premier Youth Leadership Conferences in the state headlined by the Governor.
- Received \$190,000 from the Governor's inauguration funding.
- Participated in the Pella Tulip Parade for the first time.
- Participated in a calvary competition in Oklahoma with our veterans.
- Received a \$400,000 gift from a man that never made more than \$10.50 an hour!
- Paid off \$700,000 of our Mortgage!
- Acquired a new tractor, gator and four-wheeler.
- Grew cotton and peanuts for the first time and added hydroponics to our agriculture program.
- Added Heidi Vermeer-Quist as a licensed therapist to help with de-escalation and TBRI (a trust-based therapy rooted in trauma informed care).

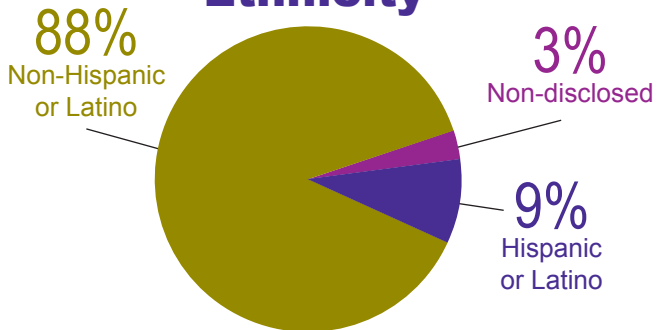


IMPACT ON YOUTH AT-RISK

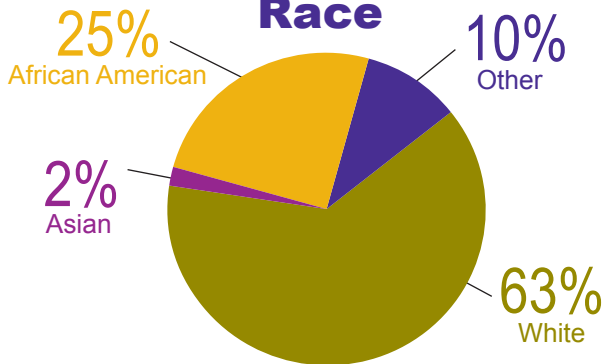
Sex



Ethnicity



Race



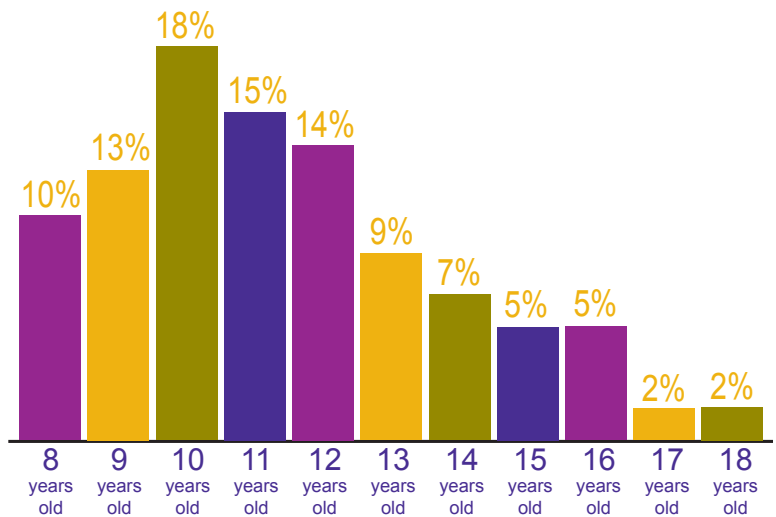
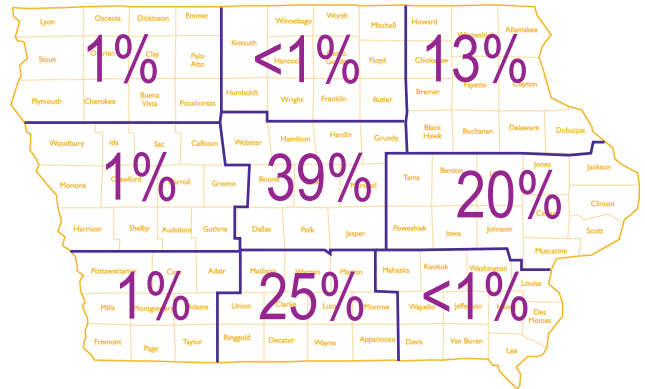
10,172 meals were served to children last year who may have not gotten food otherwise.

5,416 meals were served and dishes washed by our Young Leader Students.



**The children we serve are from
your local community!**

Children Served by Regions in Iowa



Age of Youth We Serve

2019 SUMMER PROGRAMMING RECAP

WHAT MAKES A HERO?

Is it their cape, their mask, their super powers? Or is it their commitment to justice, to stepping in to help when the odds are stacked against them, to defeat evil so others can experience victory and freedom?

We believe God uses ordinary people from unlikely places to do extraordinary things. He takes what others see as weakness and uses it to display His strength and purpose through us. We believe in Unlikely Heroes.

This summer, the story of David and Goliath was an incredible example of an unlikely hero. David was an ordinary man who was given a promise of purpose as the future king. One day his ordinary story was given an extraordinary opportunity. When David saw the giant, Goliath, challenging God's people, he chose to volunteer. He stepped into the battle with the strength of God and defeated Goliath! He brought victory to the entire army!

Just like David, Jesus stepped into the valley for us. He chose to volunteer, to sacrifice his life and to defeat evil so that we could live and experience victory and freedom. Each one of us has had a giant challenge us, filling us with fear and doubt, but this summer we saw giants fall and freedom be found!

God extends that victory to you and calls you to do the same for others. He uses ordinary people from unlikely places to do extraordinary things.



From the Diary of a Summer Staff Member

Today was a rough one. It started fine! We began the day with breakfast, then led into our different rotations. Starting with agriculture and fitness, transitioning to art, lunch, and then aquatics. In aquatics, it was creek stomping day! This experience was a little different for me. Ha!

We walked down to the creek and sat on top of the hill above the creek for a moment. Personally, I was a little fearful to go down there because I am not your average "mudding" girl, but by the time I was halfway down the hill to the creek every fear was subdued. As I heard the screeches of excitement and laughter rising from the water below, every apprehension had dissipated. And as I made my final step into the creek, my leg sunk up to my knee in the mud. More than anything I wanted to retreat, but the pure joy on my girls' faces, and the excitement they had, made every second worth it.

At that point, my heart flourished and I realized that this is all or nothing. The impact we are making in these girls' lives is more than just the trivial fun we are having, but it is a matter of the heart we are dealing with. Each child has a story. And a challenge that they have gone through that they didn't deserve. But, right then (in even the smallest moment), I had the choice to show them that there is more. I am here to show them that no matter the depths of the sinking mud, and no matter the amount of gunk that is built up in their hearts from all they have been through, I am here to love them right where they are at. Just like the Lord meets me in the middle of my mess, I am here to help them take their burdens to the One who carries the weight of the world on His shoulders.

This picture didn't all come together until later that night when my beautifully broken heart sat weeping alongside my innocent girls as they shared with me the stories of their pasts.

As little Sophia shared about being locked in a closet for a great amount of time, and only given dog food to eat, and then having to hide away because the horrific bruises on her frail body would reveal the secrets of her abuse to the world. As she told of these terrors all she could do is cry in my arms and ask "why did this happen to me?"

Then, sweet Katie shared about being left fatherless and then eventually taken from her mother. She then was placed with her adoptive sisters and forced to watch them be beaten over and over again. Daily, she would watch their heads be slammed into doors and their bodies be torn down and she never felt safe. These are just stories from two of my girls and there are so many more heart-wrenching stories just like theirs.

Sydney, Lizzy, Maria, Cece, Megan, Lexi, and Shannon all have stories of past hurt and pain. But the Lord, for some reason, has called me (us) to walk through the grime with these tattered souls and see them with His eyes. He calls us to hold them in their suffering and call them priceless, redeemed, and worthy of love. Never have I seen through the eyes of Christ more clearly, but God has so much more for these sweet girls. He sees them for more than the past hurt they have experienced, and He values them as Princesses.

So, as I reflect on today, my heart is so heavy with the burdens of my favorite little princesses, but it is also full knowing that this session at Wildwood Hills Ranch changed their lives forever and that they can carry that deep, authentic love that they have never before received with them for the rest of their lives. Thank you, Lord, for showing me how to love intentionally and to be loved by your consuming love.

YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMMING NOTE

The Ranch is not just a summer program!

We have the privilege and honor of serving many vulnerable youth year-round through our monthly leadership retreat sessions and equine (horse) therapy.

We have 13–18 year-olds who attend our leadership retreats and learn valuable skills through wood-working, welding, cooking, gardening, financial literacy, writing and leadership workshops and more.

We are excited for our graduates that go on to be leaders in their communities, get jobs, attend college, or obtain a trade skill and give back to those around them.

697+ Hours Life Skills
(Financial Literacy, Leadership, Purpose/Calling Finding)

1150 Hours Student Agriculture Education

1150 Hours Student Fitness

1150 Hours Student Art and Self-Expression

4602 Hours Aquatics Fun & Learning

2019

A STORY OF A LIFE TRANSFORMATION— KARLI BOHALL

My name is Karli Bohall. I am currently a sophomore at the University of Northern Iowa, majoring in elementary education and I attended Wildwood for five years. I want to share my story with you...

Growing up, I moved a lot and I lived with my parents and my two sisters.

My dad was in and out of jail which caused my parents to eventually split. We lived with our mom but she constantly had different men and different people in and out of the house.

She eventually found a boyfriend who moved in with his two kids. We started seeing less and less of her and she was always hiding in her room. Later, we found out that she was on drugs and had addiction issues. My older sister had to take care of us and we walked to and from school every day.

Eventually, we were removed from her household. When I was eight-years-old we went to live with my dad and his new fiancé. We lived with them for about seven months but then he got caught up in the same stuff and was put back in jail.

We were forced to move again—this time with our aunt and uncle. Everything seemed to be going well until they decided they couldn't take care of us anymore. We moved again, but this time was thankfully the last.

Our great aunt and uncle took us in and they had previously adopted two boys, so when they asked us if we knew what adoption was, we were filled with joy! They adopted us when I was ten and we've been a big family since.

Fast forward a few years to when I was 13 and my great aunt, who I call mom, asked me if I wanted to attend Wildwood. I

wasn't sure but she began describing all the activities they had like horseback riding, swimming, and team building. It sounded fun so I said yes and she signed me up! The school year came to an end and it was time for me to leave for The Ranch.

I was definitely nervous on my drive there but upon arriving I was showered with warm welcomes from everyone.

I struggled a little that first summer programming session with opening up and meeting new people. But I had so much fun that I wanted to come back.

During this time, I was chosen to be a part of the leadership program. I came back that summer for two sessions and I loved it. I've been back every summer since I was thirteen to continue in the program.

The Ranch has impacted me since I stepped foot into the Gathering Hall the first time. The staff and team leaders are the most loving and caring people I've ever met. They meet every child where they're at. Without The Ranch, I would not be the person I am today.

The Ranch has helped me to trust and open my heart. The walls I built in my heart were broken because of the wonderful people at The Ranch. When my great uncle passed away last summer, they were there for me.

My relationship with God has grown, and The Ranch has shown me that I want to work with children as my career. The Ranch has helped me grow as an individual and I'm glad I said yes to attending five years ago.



EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM FOR VETERANS AND YOUTH AT-RISK

Horses are gentle, docile creatures that have been linked to providing hope, healing and recovery to individuals struggling with PTSD, ADD, anxiety, depression, trauma, brain injuries, abuse issues and stress.

In 2019, The Ranch conducted more than 150 therapy sessions with veterans and their families. Veterans ride the horses, learn drills and routines, perform at parades, horse events and fairs and learn how to care for and groom the horses. During this process, the veterans and families we serve experience life transformation, a new sense of purpose and re-kindled excitement in the concept of contributing to something bigger in the world.

Our veterans travelled as far as Oklahoma this past year and performed at many public events and functions.

It is incredible the impact that our program has on helping veterans recover from the extreme issues they are up against.

Our Wildwood Wranglers drill team aids youth at-risk in overcoming trauma, abuse and neglect while giving them a connection with a horse, a purpose to ride and train and a public outlet to perform at events, fairs and parades.



With 30 horses and an incredible staff of trained professionals, our equine therapy program is top-notch in helping veterans and vulnerable youth overcome trauma. One story we would love to share with you is about a veteran that went through our life changing programming.

Trotting Through Trama

Brett A. Reyes, Drake University

Skepticism and fear accompanied me during my first visit to Wildwood Hills Ranch for equine therapy. Expectations of another failed attempt to heal myself created a wall between client and counselor. In my mind, any treatment conducted outside of a cozy office building was nothing more than witchcraft. Taking pills and going to counseling had become a routine that I engaged in to keep people from worrying about me. The lunacy of thinking I could successfully fake my emotions with a horse like I did with past counselors is humorous to me now. Those horses felt my pain the moment I stepped foot on Wildwood Hills Ranch.

Medication and traditional therapy have offered me little hope over the past decade. Two combat tours in Iraq left me riddled with various physical and mental disabilities that only intensified the longer I put off treatment. Anxiety would later turn into panic and suicide ideation would eventually partner with my depression. At its best, traditional

counseling talked me off the ledge while medication helped numb the pain. However, simply not wanting to kill yourself anymore does not equate itself to a full recovery. A foundation of healthy coping techniques was never established, and damage control had engulfed my life. Progress becomes nearly impossible when you're constantly struggling to breathe.

A casual walk through of how equine therapy works is how I envisioned my first session. That idea was quickly disrupted the moment I was given a rope to catch a horse. My nervous system immediately went into overdrive, which was uncomfortable, but not far off from my usual level of anxiety. No instructions or guidance were given to me as to how the halter should be properly placed on the horse, even after asking a couple times. It was a part of the process, but still provoked me to start looking for my nearest exit, which had become a crucial part of my action plan to combat ongoing panic attacks. Eventually, I would come to the conclusion that no detailed instructions would be given to me before catching the horse.

My approach to walking up to the horse was done so in tip-toe fashion. Being completely oblivious to how I was going to catch the horse caused my body to stiffen up. It was as if I was learning to walk for the first time. Somehow, I was able to drag my body and all its anxiety over to the horse. It wasn't long after that the horse ran away from me and I was left feeling rejected with a pile of horse feces underneath my feet. In hindsight, the horse had every right to be scared of a panic-stricken human coming towards it with a rope in its hand.

The rope, which I later learned was a halter, eventually found its way around the horse's neck. This simple task became the first of several lessons I would learn over the next few months. The sense of accomplishment did not come from putting a rope around a horse, but rather the completion of a task that caused me anxiety. Normally I would run or resist once fear started to settle in. This was the first of several victories I would experience during my time at Wildwood Hills Ranch.

The habit of always having to be told what to do and how to do it saturated my life more than I realized at the time. The Marine Corps does not promote a lot of freethinking within its ranks, and rightfully so. They were training me for war, which does not allow for a lot of time to ask questions. The VA picked up where the Marines left off by telling me what pills I should take. They seemed to have a pharmacological solution to every symptom I presented them with. Anti-depressants and benzodiazepines quickly became my answer to every negative emotion that sprung itself at me. This pattern of behavior went on for many years and is part of what made me come to doubt any type of treatment that didn't involve a pill.

Catching a horse during my first lesson gave me a sense of accomplishment that a pill could never provide me. The halter was not put on correctly, but that did not matter. It was the confidence that I gained from standing up to my fear that compelled me to push forward with the rest of the lesson even after being rejected by a horse. It's the enormous amount of insight I've gained from such simple tasks with the horse that continues to amaze me.

Continue reading Brett's amazing journey—go to wildwoodhillsranch.org/trotting-through-trauma/



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

Without your generosity and ongoing support, The Ranch would not be able to serve as many youth at-risk as we do each year.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ONE OF OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS: Brad Preston

Six or seven years ago, Matt Moeckl (Wildwood Hills Ranch Executive Director) asked Brad to be the shop teacher at The Ranch. When Matt was in junior high, Brad and his wife, Joni, were youth leaders for Matt and a huge part of his life growing up.

A good share of Brad's career was in the retail world and a buddy of his said he could work for his construction business. He did that for two years but then started traveling a bit too much and he wanted to be home more with his family. The next step in his career then involved flipping houses after a friend offered him some funding to start the venture. From doing so many of his own projects and construction work he had a very talented background before joining our Ranch team.

Brad enjoys developing young leaders and the relationships he gets to develop with the youth we serve.

All three of Brad's children were team leaders down at The Ranch one summer. They didn't always get along growing up as natural sibling rivalry stories tend to go. But that summer, since all three of them were down at The Ranch at the same time during spiritual retreat week, everything changed. When Brad reunited with them they came running up to him and had experienced a total change of heart. They thanked their parents for everything they had done for them and that summer forever changed their lives and perspectives. They are now extremely close to one another and have frequent communication.



"The Ranch made such a huge impact on our family and changed the dynamics of how our family gets together. The youth at The Ranch made a huge impact on my children. It went both ways. And now, for me, it's all about giving back. One of the key things we've done at The Ranch is build four workbenches. Every project we have done since then has been in contact with those benches—they have been the foundation. It is key that you set up and start with a strong foundation and that is the purpose of The Ranch—building a good foundation," said Brad.

We are so appreciative of Brad and his dedication to The Ranch and the youth that we serve.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ONE OF OUR DEDICATED DONORS: J. Elder, Elder Corporation

J. Elder has been an integral part of Wildwood Hills Ranch since the very beginning. J. has donated countless hours of labor and construction work including developing our sewer lagoon, doing incredible amounts of dirt work for our Cabins of Hope project, tear-down and dirt work for numerous other buildings on property, prepping for our road construction project, helping with water lines to our new cabins and SO MUCH MORE. J. has also utilized his connections to get others involved in the mission of The Ranch. He has an incredible head for business and an incredible heart for serving those in need. He not only helps change the landscape with his day job, he has changed the landscape at The Ranch and has also helped change the landscape of the lives of the youth that we serve. Also, J. has provided tremendous amounts of financial support to The Ranch over the years, providing numerous scholarships to vulnerable youth who were able to come and experience love, hope and educational programming due to his generosity. Thank you, J., for everything you have done for vulnerable youth!



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ONE OF OUR TRUSTED PARTNERS: Lutheran Church of Hope

Lutheran Church of Hope has been an integral part in helping with our mission of serving vulnerable youth in the state of Iowa. Hope has provided mission teams, volunteers and incredible financial support to our organization over the years. Our Cabins of Hope project would not have been possible without their generosity and the ongoing relationship we have with key stakeholders within their congregation. Thank you, Lutheran Church of Hope!

A quote from Matt McNeece, Missions Director, Lutheran Church of Hope:

"We are so thankful for the long-term partnership Lutheran Church of Hope and Wildwood Hills Ranch enjoy. Lives are transformed at The Ranch. It's that simple. Youth and families are encouraged and empowered in a way that fosters lasting change. The future of our Iowa communities is brighter because of what happens at The Ranch!"

A special thank you to all of our other incredible donors including, but nowhere near limited to, the following: Mike & Kim Whalen/ Whalen Foundation, Heart of America Group, Principal Financial, River Valley Church of Apple Valley, Contributor's Breakfast Club, Van Wall Equipment, Ted Lare Design Build Inc, Jerry Foster Sr., Scott and Amber Mikkelsen, Herr Plumbing, Max and Helen Guernsey Charitable Foundation, Finn Family Foundation, Inc. and countless others.

To all of our volunteers and mission teams who spend countless hours at our facilities in the garden, equine center, art room, cabins, facilities and more – we sincerely thank you. Without you, it would not be possible for The Ranch to function.



**In 2019 alone,
we had over
11,906
volunteer hours
at The Ranch.**

GIVE THE GIFT THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

ADOPT AN ACRE

How can you support breaking cycles, building leaders and transforming communities? Invest in the next generation and help bridge the gap from the present to the future by adopting an acre of Wildwood Hills Ranch.

You can elect to adopt a whole, half, or quarter acre of The Ranch today. With your generous contribution, The Ranch will be able to better serve youth at-risk and veterans and their families right here in your community.

To adopt an acre today, visit: WildwoodHillsRanch.Org/donate/ or call (641) 396-2414.

BECOME A DREAM BUILDER

Becoming a dream builder is the perfect way to make an ongoing difference that can really accumulate over time that is customized to fit your individual budget. You can sign up today to donate a custom amount of your choosing each month that will automatically be charged to you. Whether it's \$5 or \$20—every amount helps make a difference in the lives of vulnerable and abused youth!

To become a dream builder today, visit: WildwoodHillsRanch.Org/donate/ and “click to become a dream builder” or call (641) 396-2414.



Take the **leap of faith** today and change a life forever.



Facility and Asset Recognition

Ensure a lasting legacy at The Ranch by donating funds to a building or tangible asset and having your personal or business name featured on a plaque within or outside of the facility. This is an incredible way to honor a loved one, give a gift from your business, or make a lasting contribution with your family's name on it.

To learn more about facility and asset recognition: call Executive Director, Matt Moeckl, today at (641) 396-2414.

2019 MAJOR DONORS

A sincere thank you to each and every one of our generous supporters.
To our anonymous donors—you know who you are and we salute you!

Generous Gifts

\$25,000+ | PARDNERS

Iowa Machine Shed Restaurant
Contributors Breakfast Club
Dave and Toni Robison
River Valley Church
Julie and Tom Jackowski
Lutheran Church of Hope
J. Elder/Elder Corporation
Reynolds Gregg Inaugural Committee
Doug and Julie Siedenburg/The
Siedenburg Group
Mike and Kim Whalen/
Whalen Foundation

\$10,000 – \$24,999

David Osthus
Jerry Foster Sr.
Ruth A. Harris
Microsoft
Principal Financial Group
Principal Charity Classic
Meredith Drive Reformed Church
Julie and Jay Jacobi
Casey's General Stores Inc.
Adam and Steph Geneser
Richard and Peggy Herr/Herr
Plumbing
Scott and Amber Mikkelsen
Jordan and Cheryl Bose
Dr. & Mrs. Gary & Cindy Quinby
Finn Family Foundation, Inc.
Jerry and Nancy Foster
Max & Helen Guernsey Charitable
Foundation
Psalm68five Ministries - Bryan
Johnson
Walt and Judy Tomenga

\$2,500 – \$9,999

I-80 Concrete
Kevin and Luann Smith
Brian and Angela Tessau
Brett and Alyson Halley
Syverson Strege and Company/Strege
Family Foundation
DAV Chapter 53
Grand Aerie Franternal Order Of
Eagles
Dixie Rhiner/Rhiner's Plumbing
Alan Roberts
Gary Sandquist Revocable Trust
Steve Shirk
Nick Tarpein
Greg and Denise Hester
Dr. Jon and Connie Van Roekel
Jered and Christy Boley
Break the Cycle 200
Richard Holman
Keith and Eileen Denner/Loving Wings
Foundation Fund
John and Rena Schulz
Al and Connie Voorhees
West Bank
Westwind Church
Brandon and Angie Champlin
Ecolab
Edward Don & Company
Hurd Real Estate
MidFirst Bank
Juan Pablo De La O
Doug and Carol Shull
The Rasmussen Group
US Foods
Holmes Murphy & Associates
Altar'd State
Norwalk Community District
Thomas and Brooke Terronez

Archer Daniels Midland Company
Baptist Convention of Iowa
Morency Family Foundation
Cy and Meighan Phillips
Joe and Donna Raemaker Zahn
Kamden and Holly Wright
Nat'l Assoc Of Ins & Fin'l Advisors-
Iowa
Barb and Bruce Logan
Bank of Sun Prairie
Bow & Arrow Productions
Charles Gabus Ford
Colorado Classics
Denovo
Jordan and Hilary Frank
Roger and Barbara Grefe
Kinzler Construction
Curt Manatt
New Innovation, LLC
Pizza Ranch
Storey Kenworthy
Vista Real Estate & Investment
Corporation
Daniel and Jeane Moeckl
Jesse and Angela Veenstra
Jordan and Danielle Boley
Kyle and Katie Pfitzenmaier
Justin and Jaime Stoltenberg
Central Bank
Scheels
Summit Creek Church
Jeffery and Alyson Matney
Roehl Family Foundation
David and Rita Ostrom
Cedar Valley Church
Brad & Joni Preston
Prairie Pella, Inc.
Ted Lare Design Build Inc.

PREMIER, STATE-OF-THE-ART CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

Nestled among rolling hills, an abundance of wildlife, stunning scenery and a sparkling lake –The Ranch is the ideal location for your corporate retreat, leadership development event, board retreat, school or church camp, sporting camp, men's or women's retreat and so much more!



In 2019 alone, The Ranch served **42** conference center groups totalling **2,087** people!

Our facilities can comfortably sleep 312 individuals at one time and we offer bunk house and premier private lodging accommodations.

We also have a full-service dining center and can provide breakfast, lunch and dinner customized to your group's specific needs and tastes.

The Ranch provides elite leadership development programming and team building that we can walk your group through—including a high ropes course that is the only one in the state of Iowa that requires mutual team work by all participants in order to complete it.

Other activities at The Ranch include: high and low ropes course, horseback riding, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, lake blobbing, sports field activities, hiking trails and more!

In 2019, The Ranch completed another addition to our private lodging accommodations that defines rustic elegance – a gorgeous cabin featuring two separate top and bottom units overlooking our serene lake.

Interested in Booking an Event with Us?

We would love to talk to you! Contact Michelle Van Roekel today by phone at: **(641) 396-2414** or email: mvanroekel@wildwoodhillsranch.org. Also, check out our conference center page on our website at: WildwoodHillsRanch.Org/facility-rental/.





GET INVOLVED

Fundraiser Events Throughout the Year

Wildwood Hills Ranch has amazing, major fundraisers throughout the year that are a fun and unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the youth at-risk that we serve.

Be sure to check out our events tab on our website often as event dates and times change each year. Here is a look at our events throughout the year.



May Wild About the Child Shindig

This annual event at The Stine Barn was a huge success in 2019. With over 250 people in attendance, gourmet food and drink from local vendors, live music, auctions and more it was a night to remember. This is a great opportunity for your business to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable and abused youth. We would love to talk to you about being a sponsor of this incredible event. The 2021 event will be in May as once again at The Stine Barn and we hope to see you there!



September Wild Boar Challenge Race for Charity

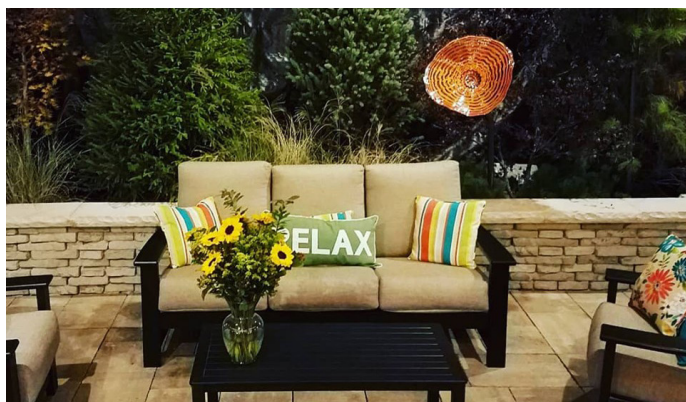
The Wild Boar Challenge was a record turn-out this year with over 600 runners registered and \$30,000 raised to provide for a tractor for at The Ranch! This annual 5-mile obstacle course race is hosted on The Ranch's 400-acre grounds and is a TON of fun. We would love to have you sponsor, run, or volunteer at this one-of-a-kind event. To learn more about this year's upcoming September race visit: WildBoarChallenge.Org today. A huge thank you to the men of Contributor's Breakfast Club (CBC) for planning, executing and making this entire event a success each and every year. Visit: WildBoarChallenge.Org today to sign up!





November Wild About the Child Barn Dance

The Wild About the Child Quad Cities Barn Dance hit a new all-time record at 2019's event! We are so excited for this year's November event and hope to see you there! A huge thank you to event chairs, Ajay and Tammy Singh for making this event such a huge success each year. Also, a huge shout-out to Mike and Jen Cavins of Uncommon Grounds of the Quad Cities for transforming the barn each year and donating so much time and talent to the event. With bull riding, dancing, a gourmet sit-down dinner, drink, auctions, live music, and more, this is truly an event you don't want to miss. Be sure to check out our event page on our website to snag your sponsorship or ticket for the annual Wild About The Child Quad Cities Barn Dance.



Work for us

During our summer programming sessions, we hire 50+ individuals who love to work with youth and serve others. If you would like to work for us this summer, or know someone who would, check out our job opportunities at [WildwoodHillsRanch.Org/get-involved-2/job-opportunities/](https://www.wildwoodhillsranch.org/get-involved-2/job-opportunities/).

Questions?

Contact Matt Waring at: 641-396-2414 or email him at mwaring@wildwoodhillsranch.org.



November Iowa Machine Shed Thanksgiving

Each year on Thanksgiving Day, Wildwood Hills Ranch partners with the Iowa Machine Shed to host a Thanksgiving Buffet that is open to the public. 2019's event raised a record \$25,715.89 to go towards scholarships for vulnerable youth to attend our programming. This event would not be possible without the volunteers that sign up each year to help. 112 volunteers showed up to help serve the meal this past Thanksgiving. Over 800 pounds of turkey was consumed and 1,380 individuals came and dined to support the fundraiser. We would love to have you serve or dine with us next Thanksgiving! Check out our event tab on our website to learn more closer to fall time.



Volunteer

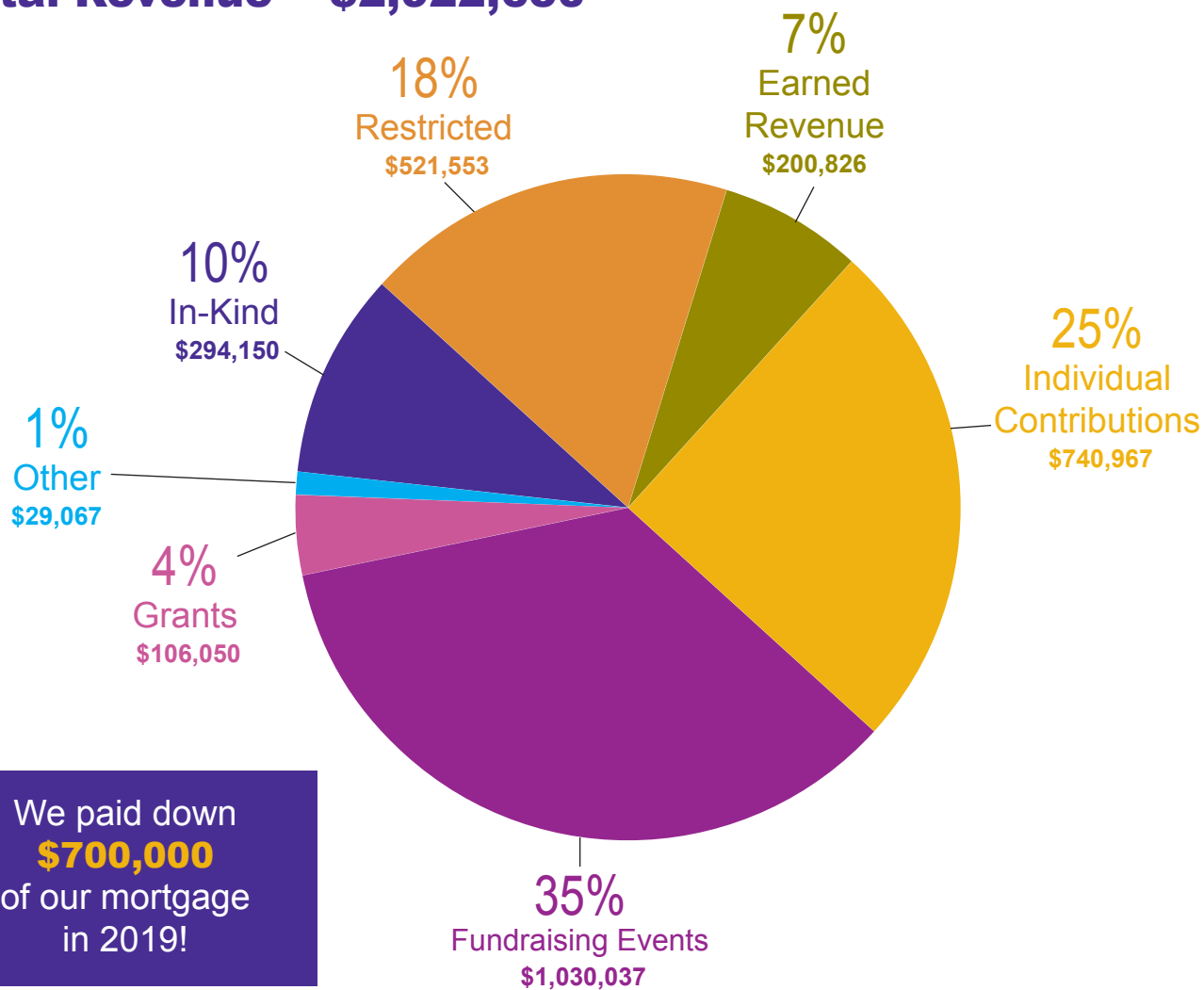
We accept volunteers on an ongoing basis. We love working with mission teams, church groups, corporate groups, and individuals who enjoy giving back.

Interested?

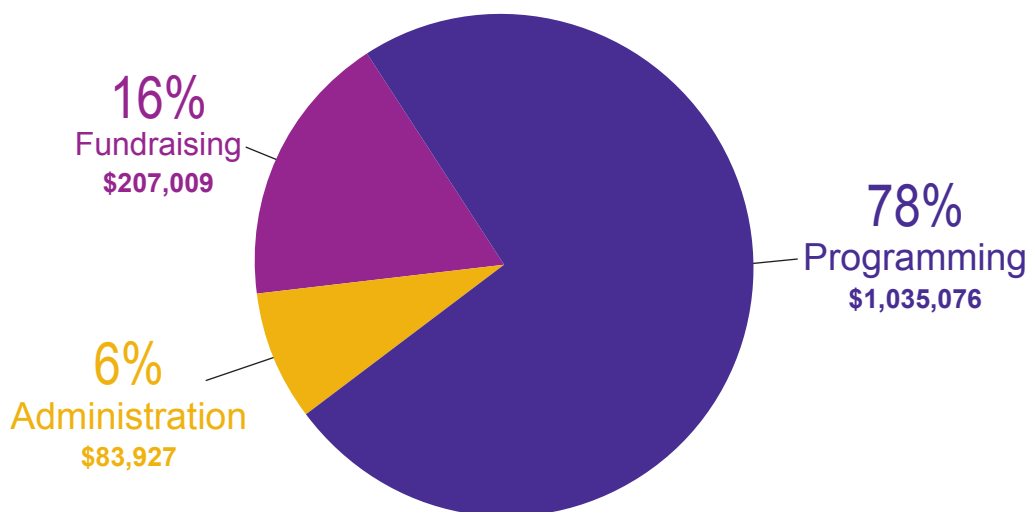
Contact Kaitlin Lundeen at: 641-396-2414 or email her at klundeen@wildwoodhillsranch.org. Visit [WildwoodHillsRanch.Org/get-involved-2/volunteer/](https://www.wildwoodhillsranch.org/get-involved-2/volunteer/) to learn more about the volunteer process and upcoming opportunities.

2019 FINANCIALS

Total Revenue = \$2,922,650



Operating Expenses = \$1,326,012



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE RANCH

Social Media

Like and follow us on Facebook (Wildwood Hills Ranch), Twitter (WildwoodRanchIA) and Instagram (wildwoodranchia).

E-Newsletter and Blog

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter (we promise we won't bog down your inbox) at: WildwoodHillsRanch.Org (scroll down to the bottom of the home page to input your name and email).

To read our blog and latest updates go to WildwoodHillsRanch.Org and check out the "Latest News" section.

Events

Stay posted and sign up for upcoming events at:

WildwoodHillsRanch.Org/Events.

Thank You

A big thank you goes towards our Board of Directors and Staff for all that they do each and every day to help serve vulnerable youth and veterans and their families in need.



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Jered Boley, Prairie Pella, Inc.

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