

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



WILDWOOD
HILLS RANCH OF IOWA

WHO WE ARE



Founded in 2001, Wildwood Hills Ranch breaks cycles, builds leaders, and transforms communities. We are a 400-acre safe-haven located 25 minutes South of West Des Moines in St. Charles, Iowa. We are a research-backed and outcomes-based leadership development organization 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% donation funded system that is at no cost to the individual participant.

The Ranch serves over 1,000 youth at-risk and veterans and their families in need annually. 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 2021 our veteran equine therapy program conducted over 250 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.

The Ranch also rents out conference and retreat center facilities for business/corporate needs, church events, sports camps and more. To learn more about our conference center rental options please flip to page 13.



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,

I am humbled by The Ranch Family and your continued support of our mission! We just completed another record setting year that could not have happened without our faithful supporters! It was unbelievable to complete our first full year being debt free! It is exciting that all of that funding is now being spent on youth and veterans instead of debt service. I could not be more grateful for how much all of you stepped up to help our vulnerable youth and veterans!

The Cabins of Hope were finished and, as soon as furniture gets in, we will have all 14 units open. We were able to host our first Foster Family Weekend with the addition of the cabins. We had a mission team from River Valley Church in Minnesota come to help us pamper the families while the parents were able to complete their continuing education.

We ran programs with the youth while parents were in their sessions and then did family activities like horseback riding in between.

One mom pulled us aside at the end of the weekend and said, "This is the only way someone should get their continuing education. I have seven children. Do you know how hard it is to find a babysitter for seven children? Now imagine you have to do it six different times and have to find a licensed respite care provider to do it." We are expanding into more weekends this spring to serve more families.

Our year round programs and conference center are back close to 90% of where they were in 2019. We were thankful to be open

serving students without experiencing a single case of COVID!

It was great to see students that we weren't able to serve in 2020 other than dropping off food and care packages. It was so nice to see The Ranch full of children again. Full of life and hope. It was hard to hear the additional abuse caused by the pandemic.

We were so thankful for Heartland Christian Counseling that sent volunteers every Wednesday this summer to help our students unpack their trauma. Demand for the work we are doing is unfortunately on the rise. We are bracing for growth. Growth in our business isn't good. It means there are too many youth being abused.

Because of your generosity of time, talent, and treasure last year we are better positioned for growth than ever before. We are grateful for how you allowed God to use you to make a difference! We had 14,000 volunteer hours that saved over \$280,000. We are thankful for what God did in 2021 and are looking forward to even better things in 2022!

Blessings,



Matt Moeckl, Executive Director



2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

RANCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Program Updates

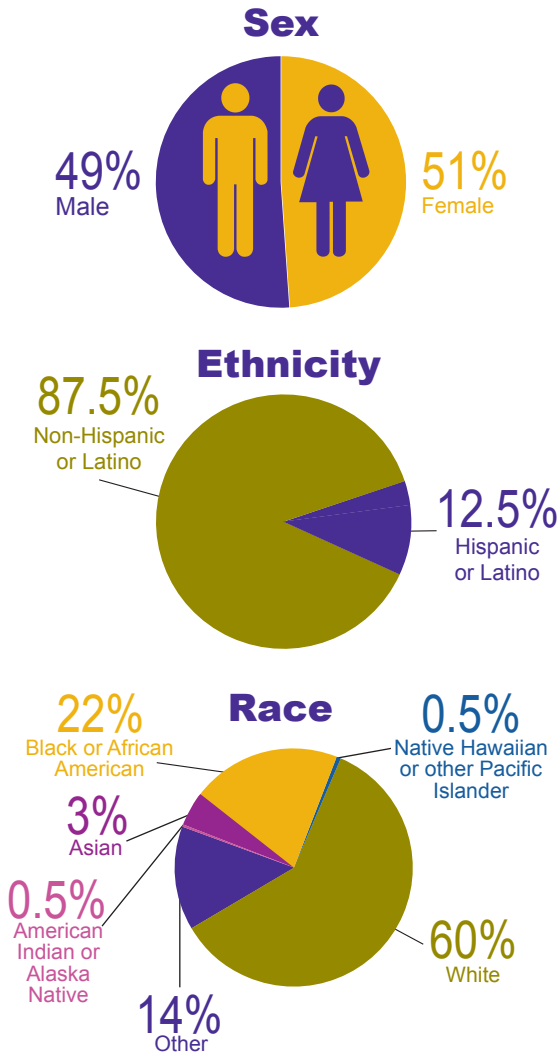
- Finished our first full year entirely debt free
- Successful year with over 800 students on property and 0 Covid-19 cases
- We are in a better spot financially than ever before thanks to generous donors like you
- Held our first ever Foster Family Retreat with 14 families
- Had two sold out shows for our Wildwood Christmas Program
- Completed Cabins of Hope which will help us to be more effective in our programs and help generate more conference center revenue
- Served 15,646 meals
- Opened the Carv Trudeau Worm Farm
- Missions Teams did 5,590 hours of service projects, 3,100 with 122 people by a single church. This saved us conservatively \$110,000!
- Volunteers logged over 14,000 hours that saved us over \$280,000 in wages.
- Continued a longitudinal study by Drake University for our after school Equine Therapy Program
- Conference Center revenue grew by 42%
- Had 236 new donors start giving to The Ranch
- Hosted our first job fair at Elder Corporation



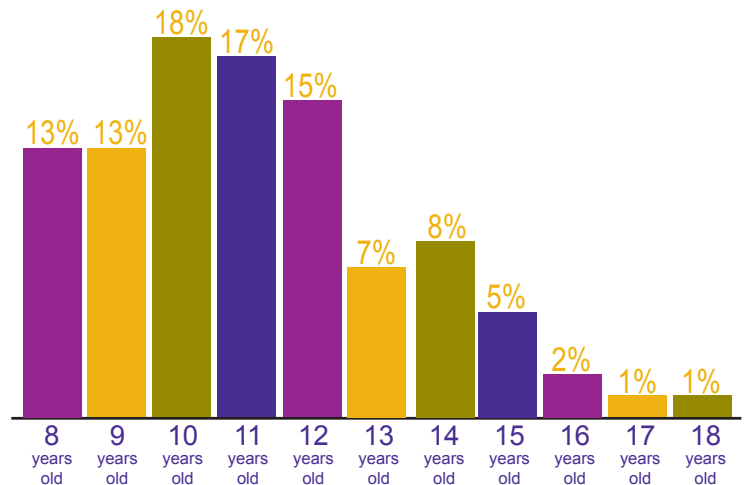
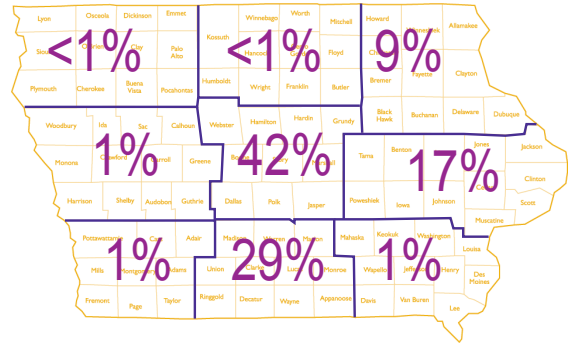
IMPACT ON YOUTH AT-RISK

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of youth at-risk that we have been able to serve on-site at The Ranch for programming has been impacted. However, thankfully, we were still able to serve 825 youth on site, and we have

continued to serve youth on-site safely since. Due to financial crisis, isolation and other tensions in 2020, the number of abuse cases increased, making the work we do more important now than ever before.



Children Served by Regions in Iowa



Age of Youth We Serve

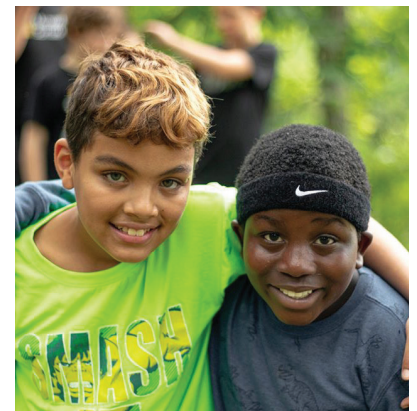
2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

SUMMER PROGRAMMING RECAP

"The Greatest of These is Love"

Our theme for 2021 summer programming was “The Greatest of These Is Love”, based on 1 Corinthians 13:4-8;13. Within that theme we delved into how God Loves, Leads, Provides (for), and Protects. To teach those truths, we taught from the parables of The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son, The Talents, The Lost Sheep, and the story of Zacchaeus. 95% of our youth come from a single parent home, with 62% not having a father taking an active role in their life. With that in mind, it is all the more crucial that God’s love, leadership, provision, and protection is made known to our students. Through their time at the Ranch, many students were able to walk away knowing a Greater Love than what the world offers them – our Heavenly Father’s Love.

We served over 800 youth from around the state of Iowa. God's love is evident as our students took steps in faith, gained a renewed hope, and discovered the greatest love that never fails.



YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMMING NOTE

The Ranch is not just a summer program!

The Ranch is not just a summer program! We have the privilege and honor of serving vulnerable youth year-round through our monthly leadership retreat sessions and equine (horse) therapy. Plus, we operate our veteran's equine therapy program.

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

We are excited for our program 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.

2175 Hours of Life Skills (Financial Literacy, Leadership, Purpose/Calling Finding)
976 Hours of Aquatics Fun and Learning
976 Hours of Student Art and Self-Expression
732 Hours of Student Fitness
732 Hours of Student Agriculture Education
2021

A STORY OF THE SUMMER AS TOLD BY KATIE SULLIVAN, OUR CREATIVE ARTS DIRECTOR

Summer 2021 was one for the books. We feel more encouraged than ever and thankful for all that God is doing here at Wildwood. It's truly incredible how each year just gets better and better. God's promise rings true that **"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus..."** Philippians 1:6. He is faithful and continues to work in the lives of our staff and students. One of our staff members, Katie Sullivan, summed up the summer well...

*"The past 10 weeks at Wildwood Hills Ranch have been indescribable... but I'll try anyway. The challenges have been many, but the moments of sheer and honest joy have been more. **This place does awe-inspiring work for the youth of Iowa.** You have no idea until you watch it firsthand.*

I had the pleasure of teaching Creative Arts and leading worship at The Ranch this summer. Every night I got to



hear 75-120 kids sing out to God despite whatever back story they might be walking in the door with.

They made friends. They processed their hardships with our

team leaders. Some struggled and some fought. They swam, planted flowers, danced, sang, painted, ran... most of all, they experienced God's love.

And the PEOPLE, y'all. The precious friends I made this summer are unbelievably committed to God's Kingdom and it was the most refreshing thing to be around. The best team. We worshipped together and heard the sound of a group of hearts eager for God to move. There is no greater sound than that.



I can't say enough about Wildwood and the impact it has made on my life... but witnessing the way it impacted the 8-18 year olds this summer has been the true treat. Thanks, God, for Wildwood Hills Ranch."

We are over-the-top thankful for all that God did this year and also very eager to see what He continues to do at The Ranch.

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 2021, The Ranch conducted more than 250 therapy sessions with veterans and their families resulting in 300+ equine therapy hours. Veterans ride the horses, learn the 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 weren't able to perform at as many functions this year due to the pandemic but they were able to participate in a few events and put on a show for the public in attendance at our Christmas Program in December.

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.



EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

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 have you read about is from a rancher who is currently in our equine program...

Rachel Simpson

Hello, my name is Rachel Simpson. I've been coming to Wildwood since 2008 where I started as a rancher. A few years later in 2010 I joined EAL, Equine Assisted Learning, and joined the horsemanship team as a result. I fell in love with all of the horses and being down at the barn; it became my second home. In the late winter of 2012, I became a member of the Wildwood Wranglers Drill Team, which I am still a part of as a rider and coach combo. I've been a wrangler every year since I was 14 and I am now a director at the barn starting this summer!

While all of these amazing things were going on in my life, I had a very hard time when I wasn't at the ranch. At age 10, I was physically, emotionally and sexually abused by a non-biological caregiver. I avoided going home when my mother wasn't there. I spent a lot of my time at friends' houses or at the library just to get away from all of the darkness that awaited me at home. In 2013, my father suddenly died from a drug overdose. This was the moment my world truly came crashing down around me. I couldn't



understand why God's plan had something so devastating in it. How could someone who loves me hurt me so badly? I became angry and isolated myself from friends and family. As I entered high school, I began hanging out with kids I had always stayed away from, kids who drank alcohol and did drugs. My grades were hurting but I didn't

care about them anymore. Nothing seemed to matter anymore.

It was around this time of not caring that I joined the Drill Team. Lynn Winkelmann was (and still is) the instructor and instantly became a light in my life. I admired his work ethic, his teaching abilities and the way he lived his life. I was met with a decision; to stay where I was at and continue down darker paths or make a change. My behaviors were not aligned with the contract I signed to be on the team. So, I ended those toxic friendships and formed healthy ones. I started to complete my school work and became more involved in band and theatre. My faith grew as I listened to Lynn talk about God. Wildwood helped me realize that I was living for a purpose and that God has a plan. I am who I am today because of The Ranch.

Today I'm currently attending Grand View University and working toward my psychology degree. I've got a lot of years left in school before I'm a psychiatrist but I'm up for the challenge! I spend several nights a week at the barn either riding or helping Mr. Lynn with barn duties. As mentioned earlier, this summer I will be one of the directors at the barn for the 2022 summer session and I am beyond excited! The ranch has given me a lot of opportunities, so I try to give back as much as I can. I am very thankful for this place and everyone in it who continue to transform the lives of the kiddos we see each summer. I am also thankful for Mr. Lynn who has taught me everything I know about horses and for making a difference in my life. I am very grateful for everyone who helped make this possible by investing in The Ranch. Thank you so much!



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS, VOLUNTEERS AND TRUSTED PARTNERS

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

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO TWO OF OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS:

David and Jen Strege



We have many volunteers who dedicate their time, talent and treasure to the mission of The Ranch. In this issue, we would like to highlight two of our incredibly effective volunteers, David and Jen Strege. David and Jen came to The Ranch on a tour with Lutheran Church of Hope in 2014 and felt so moved

during that experience that they quickly got involved and began volunteering their gifts and abilities to serve our youth.

Jen Strege has so generously volunteered her time and energy to work with our draft horses. You'll see these horses in parades, at events, and on carriage rides through The Ranch. It is critical that they function well as a team and Jen has a desire to help in their preparation. Jen also helps in many other capacities, she's helped out with leading various activities for our youth, including cookie decorating.

David Strege, Senior Financial Planner at Syverson Strege & Company, began heading up our financial literacy program

and uses curriculum from Dave Ramsey to teach our students how to budget and manage their finances – an incredible skill that equips our students to overcome the cycles of poverty many of them come from. He has also helped to establish a group of amazing volunteers who come and teach our youth how to fish. His most recent endeavor at The Ranch is launching The Carv Trudeau Worm Farm, a new program of ours that will teach our students how to run a small business that will in turn provide scholarships for more youth to come to The Ranch!

David and Jen are a dynamic duo that have advanced our mission to serve youth in numerous ways! We appreciate all that they have done to serve our students. David said, "It brings me joy beyond understanding to serve at The Ranch and use the gifts that God has given me." He has found life to be more purpose-filled and full of joy ever since he started volunteering more of his time.

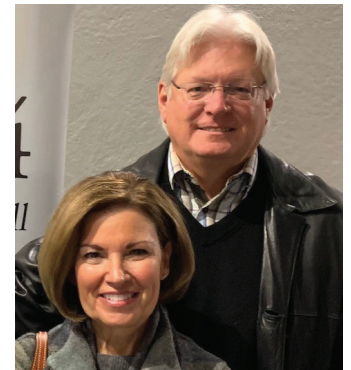
Thank you, David and Jen for using your gifts to help transform the lives of Iowa's most vulnerable youth.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO TWO OF OUR DEDICATED DONORS:

Doug and Julie Siedenbarg

Doug Siedenbarg has been an integral part of Wildwood Hills Ranch from the very beginning. He has used his giftings in the real estate realm to bless us immensely as a supporter and a board member here at The Ranch. Doug was even a key player in finding and purchasing the 400-acre property that is now Wildwood Hills Ranch! Doug is an incredible business leader in the community, known for his integrity, character, and follow-through and that has carried into the way that he loves and serves our youth. He has an immensely large heart for vulnerable youth and thanks to his leadership and wisdom as a board member and supporter, we've been able to serve and share the gospel

with more students. Doug has provided a tremendous amount of financial support through the years, providing numerous scholarships for vulnerable youth to experience hope, healing, and God's unconditional love at The Ranch due to his generosity.



Thank you, Doug and Julie, for everything you have done to move our mission forward.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO TWO OF OUR TRUSTED PARTNERS

Wildwood is blessed to have numerous dedicated partners to support our ongoing mission. In this issue, we want to highlight two key partners that together, have played a huge role in our mission to eliminate child abuse in our community.

Tim Lubinus & Doug Rowland



Tim Lubinus, Executive Director of the Baptist Convention of Iowa, has been a faithful supporter of The Ranch for a number of years and is now using funds from his organization to empower and enable churches in his organization to fund scholarships for youth in our community. He's worked with Doug Rowland from Rock Island Bible Church in Illinois to get more youth involved and together they have been incredible effective ministry partners.



Doug Rowland has been a community partner since 2017 and with his partnership, we have been able to see many students from the Quad Cities area attend our programs here at Wildwood. Doug is community-driven and others-centered. In 2020, we had the opportunity to send some of

our summer staff to deliver meals and other goods in the Davenport and Rock Island area thanks to his partnership. We were able to see the impact Wildwood had on the students there and the great impact and connection Doug has with his community.

Doug shared with us a story about the impact that our partnership has had with a family in his area...

Doug got to know three students that were living with their grandma and had never attended church or been exposed to the gospel. He began to build a relationship with them and gave them the opportunity, with the help of Tim Lubinus, to come to Wildwood and experience summer programming there. They all had great reviews to share when they returned and there was a noticeable shift in their demeanor and attitude. One of the students started to excel in school and gained recognition for his leadership in his community and the whole family started to attend the church that Doug pastors. He expressed how impactful it was to see how much transformation had taken place not just in the students but also in their family as a whole.

"Wildwood is a place of rest and refuge. There is a renewal for those who go there not only for the kids but also for the adults. When you turn into the driveway, The Ranch tells our youth that they are worth all this and so much more. The Ranch does this not only through the programming but also through the people who work there and the facility itself."

-Doug Rowland

We are deeply grateful for Doug and Tim and the impact that their partnership has had on The Ranch.

**In 2021 alone,
we had over
14,000
volunteer hours
at The Ranch!**

A special thank you to all of our other incredible donors who give so willingly and freely of their time, talent and treasure throughout the year! We highly value and appreciate your relationship and ongoing partnership with The Ranch.

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.

2021 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

Contributors Breakfast Club
Jerry & Nancy Foster
Jordan Bose
Nikulski Financial, Inc
Wayne & Nancy Stuedemann
Bob & Lois Vermeer
Ted Lare Design Build Inc.
River Valley Church
Lutheran Church of Hope
J. Elder/Elder Corporation
The Davenport Branch of Baird and The Pribyl Group

\$10,000 – \$24,999

Baptist Convention of Iowa
Barb & Bruce Logan
Casey's General Stores Inc.
Christopher & Deborah Boley/Prairie Pella, Inc.
Jay & Julie Jacobi
Lou Trudeau
Psalm68five Ministries - Bryan Johnson
Roehl Family Foundation
Tana Kirkpatrick
Principal Charity Classic
Michael & Kim Whalen
Mitch Coluzzi
David & Jennifer Strege/Strege Family Foundation
Rick & Peggy Herr/Herr Plumbing
Jerry Foster Sr
Chuck & Melissa Larson
Dr. Tyson Cobb
Finn Family Foundation, Inc.
Max & Helen Guernsey Charitable Foundation
Walt & Judy Tomenga
Tim & Wendy Mallicoat

Edward Don & Company
Dave & Toni Robison

\$2,500 – \$9,999

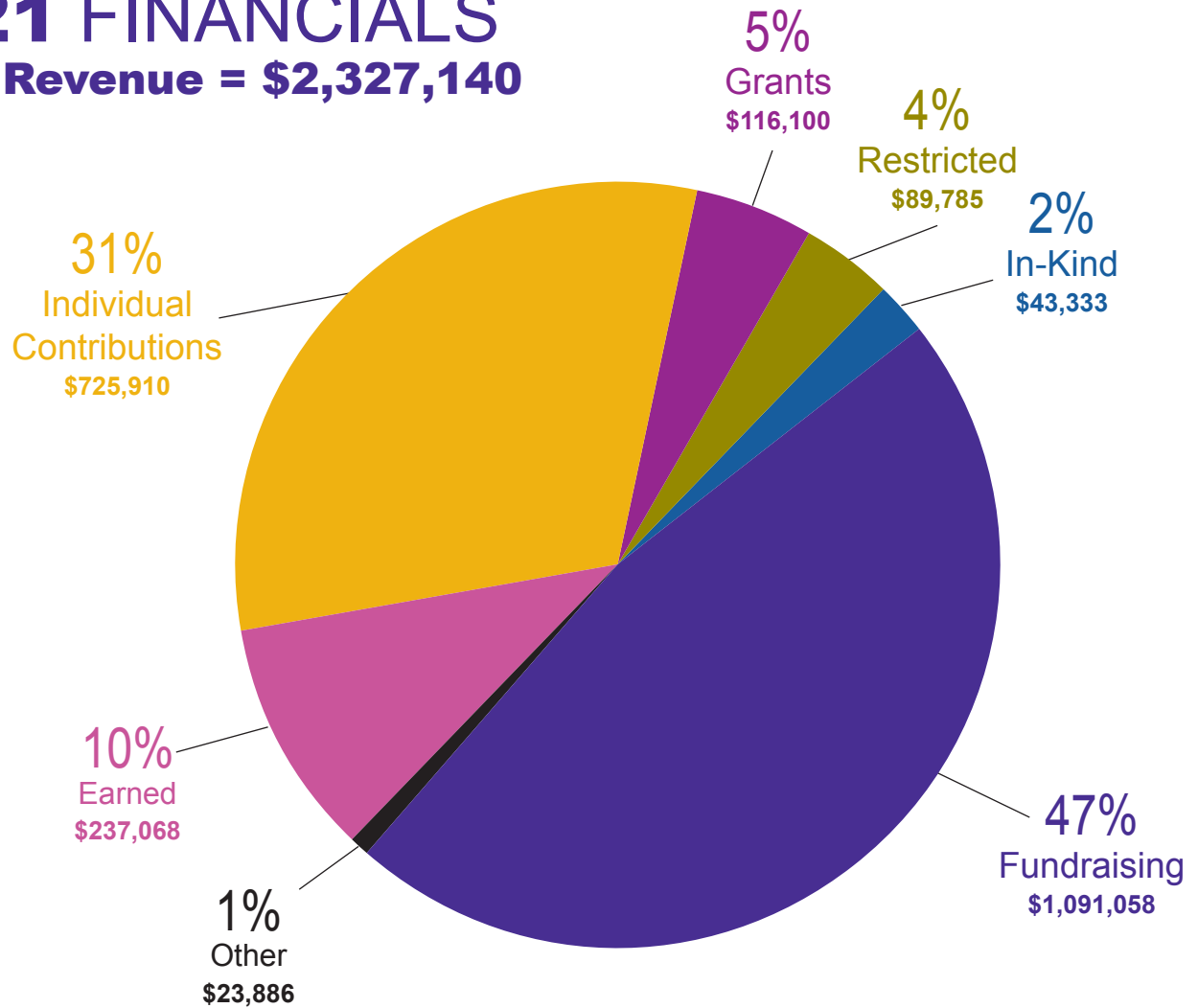
Harvest Bible Chapel Des Moines
Jim & Cindy Pierce
Keith & Eileen Denner
Kimberly BMW of Davenport
Preston & Ashley Moore
Keller Brick Barn
Roger & Margaret Langpaul
Sammler Insurance & Financial Services, Inc.
First Family Church
Continental Western Group
Davis Equipment/Turfwerks
Laura Thompson
Jason & Lori Willis
Paul Youngberg
Thomas Thoms
Kyle & Jill Beard
Celebration Church of Jacksonville
Ecolab
Green State Credit Union
MidFirst Bank
Jenna and Joel Kapp
Westwind Church
IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union
Jennifer & TJ Bryant
Nathan & Jill Johnson
Kevin & LuAnn Smith
Dr. Jon & Connie Van Roekel
Nick Tarpein
The Rasmussen Group
Bank of Sun Prairie
Charles Gabus Ford
DAV Chapter 53
Eick & Day Construction LLC
Gary & Kim Bryan

Jamie Geneser & Shanda Boone
Lawson Family Charitable Foundation
Meredith Drive Reformed Church
Morency Family Foundation
Pepsi Co
Pizza Ranch
Randy Bern
Scheels
Steve Moyna
Vista Real Estate & Investment Corporation
Voya Financial
Andrew & Shauna Norby
Caleb & Erika Wheeler
Patrick & Karri Rose
Scott & Amber Mikkelsen
Dr. Scott & Mimi Paulsen
Daniel & Jeannie Moeckl
Governor Kim & Kevin Reynolds
Rachel Mutambuki
Jo Sandquist
BerganKDV, LTD
Chad & Jenn Saemisch
Geri Doyle
Kamden & Holly Wright
Curt Manatt
Keith Kuennen
Master Builders of Iowa
Ruth A. Harris
Joni Preston
Tony & Sheila Thelen
Linda Allen
RJ McElroy Trust Inc
Riverdale Church
Joe & Phyllis Hutchinson Charitable Fund
Reach Church

In 2021, The Ranch gained
236 new donors!

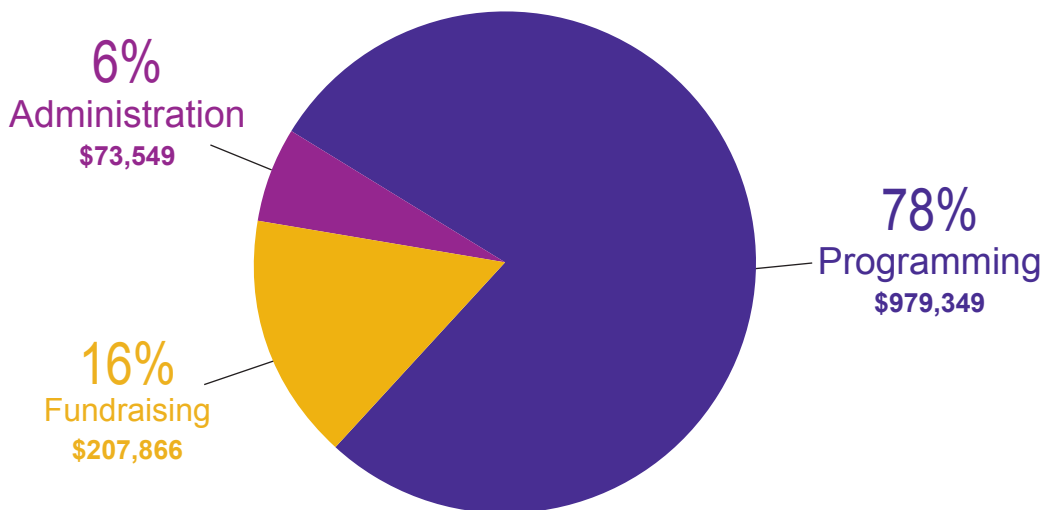
2021 FINANCIALS

Total Revenue = \$2,327,140



In 2021, The Ranch served **15,646** meals.

Operating Expenses = \$1,260,764



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, sports camp, men's or women's retreat and so much more!



Our premier and private lodging accommodations can comfortably sleep 320 individuals at one time.

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 courses, horseback riding, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, lake blobbing, sports field activities, hiking trails, fishing and more!

The Ranch has several gorgeous private cabins on property that are available to rent that define rustic elegance and overlook the lake.

In 2021 alone, The Ranch served **85** conference center groups totaling **1,704** people, that's nearly double what we did in 2020!

Interested in Booking an Event with Us?

We would love to talk to you! Contact Michelle Van Roekel today by phone at: **(641) 330-5339** or email:

mvanroekel@wildwoodhillsranch.org. Also, check out our conference center page on our website at: [WildwoodHillsRanch.org/conference-and-retreat-center](https://www.WildwoodHillsRanch.org/conference-and-retreat-center).





GIVE THE GIFT THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

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.

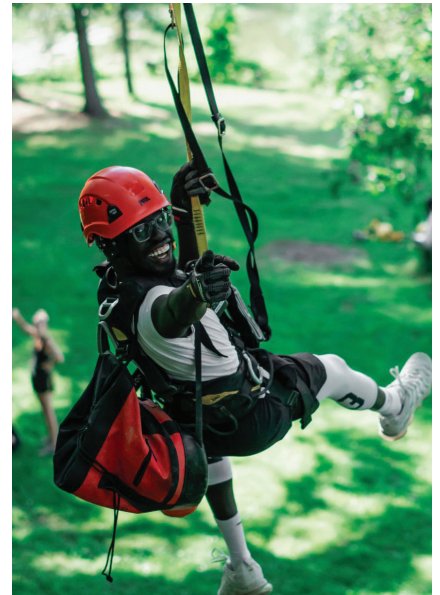
Facility Naming Rights

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.

Give A Non-Cash Gift

Maximize your impact by giving a non-cash gift in the form of bitcoin, stock, grain and in-kind donations. By donating an appreciated asset, you can help avoid having to pay out capital gains taxes. Contact us today for more information.



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

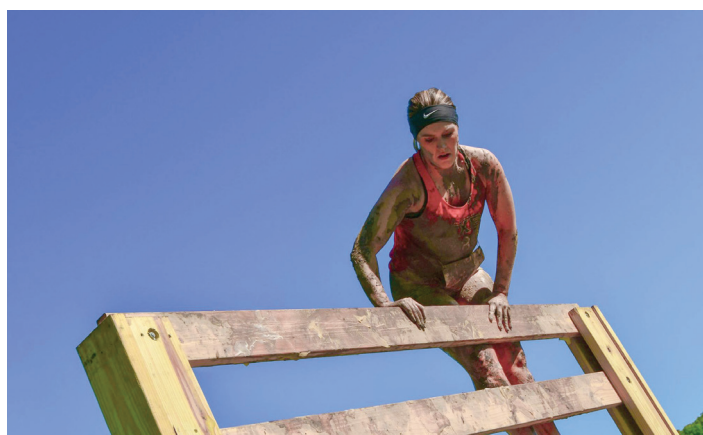
Wild About the Child Shindig

This annual event at The Stine Barn is a huge success. This past year, we had over 300 people in attendance – more than ever before! There's gourmet food and drinks from local vendors, live music, auctions and more, making it a night to remember. This is a great opportunity for your business to make a difference in the lives of Iowa's most vulnerable youth. We would love to talk to you about being a sponsor at this incredible event! This year, the event will be held on Saturday, May 21st at The Stine Barn in West Des Moines. Visit bidpal.net/shindig2022 to secure your ticket or sponsorship today.

October

Wildwood Hills Ranch NAIFA Golf Outing

The 3rd annual NAIFA Golf Outing benefitting Wildwood Hills Ranch was one for the books! With over 70 golfers and \$16,000 raised, this event was a great way for us to engage with the community and enjoy a sunny day on the green while raising funding for the youth we serve. We would love to have you sponsor and/or attend this year's golf outing on Friday, October 7th. Be sure to visit our events page on our website and follow us on Facebook to stay informed.



September

Wild Boar Challenge Race for Charity

The Wild Boar Challenge was a great event this year with over 500 runners registered and "\$30,000 raised to purchase a Medical Rapid-Response UTV Vehicle and finish construction on our waterslide 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 race on Sunday, September 18th visit: WildBoarChallenge.org today. A huge thank you to the men of The 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 is always a highlight of the year with bull riding, dancing, a gourmet sit-down dinner, drinks, auctions, live music and more, this is truly an event you don't want to miss! We were able to raise over \$300,000 this year! 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. 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 this year.

November Iowa Machine Shed Thanksgiving Fundraiser



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. Unfortunately, 2020 and 2021's event were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. 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 in 2019. 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.



December Wildwood Hills Ranch Christmas Program: The Reason

Wildwood hosted a Christmas Program this year that was a SOLD OUT fun-filled event geared towards families to give a glimpse into our equestrian program. The event allowed participants to complete crafts and activities, cookie decorating, and watch our drill team and veterans perform in a horse show. The afternoon was wrapped up by a free chili dinner and a bonfire. We hope to make this an annual event open to the public every year. Please follow our event page on our website and social media to stay tuned.

Volunteer

We accept volunteers on an ongoing basis. We love working with mission teams, church groups, corporate groups and individuals who enjoy giving back. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Kaitlin Lundeen at: 641-396-2414 or klundeen@wildwoodhillsranch.org. Also, visit our website to learn more about the volunteer process and upcoming opportunities.

Work for us!

During our summer programming sessions we hire 60+ 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 on our website. Questions? Contact Matt Waring at: 641-396-2414 or mwaring@wildwoodhillsranch.org.



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 (wildwoodhillsranch).

E-Newsletter and Blog

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter (we promise we won't bog down your inbox) at: [WildwoodHillsRanch.org](https://www.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](https://www.wildwoodhillsranch.org) and check out the "Latest News" section.

Events

Stay posted and sign up for upcoming events at: [WildwoodHillsRanch.org/Events](https://www.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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