

RANCHO SAN ANTONIO

Boys Home, Inc.

21000 Plummer Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311, (818) 882-6400

Volume 34 No. 3

www.ranchosanantonio.org

Winter 2016

Happy Holidays

*Wishing you and your family the very best during
the holiday season. May you have a happy and safe
New Year.*



From the youth and staff

at

Rancho San Antonio





A LETTER FROM BROTHER JOHN CROWE

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

In this Year of Mercy we continue to be called by Pope Francis to love, to be kind, and to show unbound generosity,

It is important that we remember that we are also called to mercy. God asks that we see the presence of Jesus in those to whom we have been called to minister the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

We are well into this Jubilee Year of Mercy, and discovering daily the many ways God extends His mercy to and through us. When I re-read the parable of the merciful father I am always struck with his patience, love, hope, and mercy. He had never stopped thinking about his wayward son, and as he sees him he runs out to meet him and embrace him with tenderness, without a word of reproach.

God repeatedly shows us mercy in spite of our weaknesses. Shouldn't we also be patient and forgiving?? Mercy is the force that installs in us the courage to look to the future with hope.

The joy of God's abundant blessings are not for us alone, but to be shared with others in His name. Thank you to all of you who have supported Rancho San Antonio this year with your prayers and gifts.

Each of you, and your families, will be remembered in a Novena of Masses by Rancho San Antonio.

Brother John Crowe, C.S.C.



RANCHO'S JOB AND CAREER CENTER

The objective of Rancho's career program is to provide our youth with the essential guidance, knowledge, and skills needed for pursuing a career, seeking employment, and enrolling in post-secondary education. The program content includes assessments, career exploration, college exploration and enrollment, financial aid, job search skills, interview skills, and resume writing. Through this program, our youth are given the opportunity to attend seminars and/or workshops off campus to obtain further education and career information. Los Angeles County Probation Department YDS College Summit and 100,000 Opportunities Initiative Job Fair in Los Angeles are two of the events Rancho youth have attended this year. Most recently, residents attended Survival Saturday, hosted by the Alliance for Children's Rights, Life Lock, and Children's Law Center of California.



CULTURAL COMPETENCY

Rancho has developed a Cultural Competency Committee to ensure that its membership and leadership reflect Rancho's diversity, and to infuse culturally competent and sensitive practices in all of the daily practices. RSA's Cultural Competency Committee is comprised of a diverse group of staff and includes input received from youth. In the month of September we celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. Our theme was Carnival which is a celebration with colorful costumes and masks. Boys and staff decorated the dining hall like a big colorful fiesta with flags of all the Latin American

countries. A few of our youth researched and presented the history of why people celebrate Hispanic Heritage and the history of Carnival and fiestas. The night ended with a fun concert with Folkloric dancers, modern Latino Hip Hop dancers, and a band playing Latin inspired music. We look forward to providing positive and educational experiences for our youth with the many upcoming holidays and culturally inspired activities.



OUR FANG-TASTIC HALLOWEEN EX-FEAR-IENCE

Halloween gives us all permission to have a little fun by being someone or something we are not. This was no different for our youth this year for our Halloween celebration. The fun began with the youth and staff decorating our dining hall and turning it into a circus tent, Pokemon center, and a haunted graveyard. One of our favorite traditions is the costume and skit competition where our youth dressed up as funny clowns, Pokemon characters, silly monsters, and Spongebob. The day was filled with smiles and laughter. Events like this remind us that joy and laughter exists everywhere, just waiting for us to seize it.



TAKING A R.I.S.C.

Rancho's Intensive Search for Christ or Change (R.I.S.C.) is a program where our youth attend a two day retreat at the Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in Sierra Madre. We take five annual trips for individual dorm units to attend this retreat. The program involves intensive group sessions and individual



written exercises focus on family dynamics, the need for change, values clarification and forgiveness. The purpose of the retreat is to supplement the principles the youth are already learning in the dorms while focusing more on the individual and his past. This program has proven to be a successful tool for our youth to take risks, to make a change and grow.

A SUCCESS STORY

We all enjoy hearing success stories, sweetened by the struggles it took for people to achieve such success. Here is a little story we would like to share with you that made all of us proud.

Raul became a resident at Rancho San Antonio at the age of 16, 4 months shy of 17. Before arriving at Rancho, Raul was placed in two different foster homes and another group home like ours. Raul has always had a tough life, mostly struggling with building a relationship with his family, among many other personal issues.



Raul successfully graduated our program in November of 2015 at the age of 18 and transferred to our Transitional Housing Program (THP) with many scholarships accumulating to over a couple thousand dollars. While staying at our THP, he attended Pierce College full-time and maintained a full-time job. He has since moved to Bakersfield after landing a job as an electrical apprentice. In December 2016, he will go back to school to obtain a Bachelor's Degree at Bakersfield Community College while continuing his involvement in the Union Program to become a Journeyman for the Electrical Union.

Raul has always been ambitious and hardworking so it is no surprise that he is finding such successes. When asked, "What have you learned while at Rancho?" He replies with confidence and pride, "I learned how to grow up and become mature. I also learned to be more independent and most importantly, I learned to look ahead to the future." Raul is just one of the many success stories we have here at Rancho San Antonio. It's the stories like these that help us remember why we do what we do daily.

Rancho San Antonio Benefactors List

Rancho is grateful to our friends who contributed from August 18, 2016 through November 1, 2016.
All donations are greatly appreciated, our mission would not be possible without your continued support.

Please excuse our mistake if your name was omitted and contact us so that we may correct our error.

Mr. Richard Adams	Mr. Edward Guiza	Dr. & Mrs. Earl P. Petrus
Ms. Shirley Allen	Ms. Rosemarie Gunning	Mr. Robert Quon
Mr. & Mrs. John Archer	Ms. Isabel Gutierrez	Mr. Robert Radford
As You Are Church	Mr. & Mrs. Gary J. Herman	Mr. & Mrs. Roy Rehfeld
Mr. David J. Aylmer	Mr. Harold Herrity	Mr. Rodney N. Ridgley
Ms. Judy A. Beer	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hodgson	Mr. Robert B. Rinde
Mr. James Berry	Mr. Willard Howard	Mr. Jorge Ruiz
Mr. Virgil Birgen	Mrs. Joann Jacks	Mr. & Mrs. Edmund J. Russ
Camille Bohamed	Ms. Janet Kaplan	Mr. & Mrs. Antony A. Sansone
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bratkovich	Mr. Frederick Kupperts	Mr. Freddie Santiago
Mr. Robert Bryant	Mr. Edward Littleton	Mr. Richard M. Santoyo
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brykalski	Mr. John Loesel	Ms. Kathryn Saravia
Ms. Ellen Carlson	Los Angeles Water & Power Emp Assn	Mrs. Jacqueline S. Sarosi
Mr. Brian Cavanagh	Ms. Clara Mazzeo	Ms. Vicky Sater
Ms. Genevieve Chevrez	Mr. Paul A. Mazzeo	Mr. Thomas Sedwick
Classic Chevys of SoCa	Mr. & Mrs. John G. Miller	Mr. Larry Shelburne
Ms. Donna Clervi	Ms. Marianne Miller	Ms. Mary S. Sima
Mr. Ronald Cloutier	Mrs. Mary Mahon	Mr. & Mrs. Edward F. Smith
Ms. Claire Colicchio	Ms. Carol Morgan	St. Euphrasia Parish
Mr. Donald Cruze	Mr. James Murphy	St. John Eudes Swim Team
Mr. Larry Deagon	Ms. Rose Nalbandian	Ms. Angelina D. Thornton
Dr. Aurelio De La Vega	Network for Good	Ms. Kilouria Touma
Mr. Steve Dey	Mrs. Antoinette T. Nothacker	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Tinsley
Mr. Jonathan Evans	Ms. Darlene Nowacki	Mr. Joel Tubbs
Mr. & Mrs. John Farrell	Mr. Benedict Oakley	Ms. Irene P. Vincent
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Ferry	Mr. & Mrs. John O'Flynn	Mr. & Mrs. John D. Weinbeck
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Fuess	Mr. Daniel Olsen	Ms. Sue D. Wellman
Mr. Manuel Gonzalez	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony O'Shea	Mr. Laurence Weisner
Mr. Martin Gordon	Mr. Augusto Pastoral	Mr. Keith Wieser
Ms. Debra Greene	Mr. James Pepping	Mr. George Zaki
Ms. Annie Grimes	Mr. & Mrs. Walt Petrovsky	

We thank you and wish you Season's Greetings.

