

RANCHO SAN ANTONIO

Boys Home, Inc.

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

Volume 40 No. 1

www.ranchosanantonio.org

Spring 2022



CAR SHOW & BBQ

SUNDAY, MAY 1ST 2022

Free Admission 11am-4pm

Over 100 classic and restored cars and trucks will be displayed on our beautiful field. Rancho youth will facilitate tours of our campus, and our World-Famous Rancho BBQ Chicken, Pulled Pork and Beef dinners will be available for purchase. Make sure you enter our raffle to win cash prizes. Tickets are on sale through October 9th when the winners will be announced. You can also support our program through our first time ever apparel sale. T-Shirts will be available at the event with the cover design above. Proceeds from ticket, apparel, and food sales will be used to fund programs that support youth at Rancho San Antonio. Some of our programs to benefit include our Creative Healing Arts and Music Program, Education Department, and our Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Housing Program.

For more information please call (818) 882-6400 x110.



MEDITATION ISN'T ALWAYS QUIET

Being in a state of mindfulness means being in a state of awareness. It's a non-judgmental state where the common hopes, fears, and desires that typically run through your mind are accepted, but not latched onto. Every day at Rancho, we are called to help youth calm the chatter of their minds and be present in the moment. We teach mindfulness techniques and encourage participation in a variety of activities as a means of moving meditation.

Amongst the noise, are the moments that bring us into a state of awareness. The most meaningful moments for me usually involve the youth: A youth recently coming by my office to interview me for a class; driving in every morning to be greeted by kids wishing me a good morning; a former youth calling to share his success and ask what he can do to give back. Probably the moments that are the loudest and yet the most peaceful, are listening to our youth create and perform their own productions in our music studio. Music is a form of moving meditation that truly heals both the performer and the recipient. It is easy to get pulled in by the chatter around us, check our emails and our phones, but often in an attempt to read the message, we are missing the message.

The holidays and Black History Month were filled with performances from those in the Creative Healing Arts Music program. There have been some powerful breakthroughs via this medium of expression. As we sit back and listen to the messages coming forward, we are called to take our Rancho Records music program to the next level. Stay "tuned" for more to come on the exciting new elements to the program we are working on!

A note from the Executive Director
Aubree Sweeney

THE GIFT OF LIFE

One of the most noble and selfless acts of humankind is to save a life. Our own Nisi-Jo Marquez, the Activities Program Supervisor, saved not one life, but two. Nisi-Jo donated her kidney to a person in need, subsequently moving her brother to the top of the list as a kidney recipient. This true act of heroism has been in the making for years. Initially, she was motivated to donate a kidney to her brother, but when she was not considered a match, she learned that donating to a stranger would lend help to her brother.

Nisi-Jo spent the past year preparing her body for the toll this would take. She has been highly focused on her mental and physical health, diet and exercise, getting both her own body and someone else's future body "part" ready for this intense transition. Others describe Nisi-Jo as a high energy and giving person. At work, she rarely takes time off and she is always there for the youth at the Ranch. They sent her off with a huge campus celebration and wore bracelets representing organ donors in her honor. Our goal is to teach the youth about healing and giving as well as help them reach their goals. Nisi-Jo did not just encourage this, she lived it and modeled it. She is always giving of herself, and this was the ultimate gift.

Nisi-Jo has touched so many lives through this process. She has saved the life of a stranger, her own brother, and others that may be inspired by her story. There is an expression, "You don't make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give." Nisi-Jo, you inspire us all.



Nisi-Jo and her brother, Johnny

“EXTREME MAKEOVER” TAY HOME EDITION

The Transitional Age Youth (TAY) apartments are for young adults aging out of the system, to learn independent living skills on the campus of Rancho San Antonio Boys Home. The TAY apartments are here for those who need housing and are



ready to make a commitment to themselves to have a better life and to take advantage of this amazing opportunity.

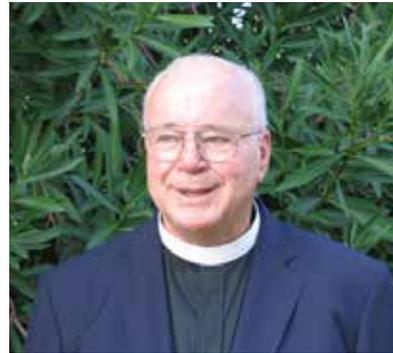
All apartments are fully furnished and we have recently added new computers, printers and Wifi so all residents can access and manage resources they need to be successful. For the first time since inception in the early 90’s, the TAY apartments are undergoing a remodel of the restrooms and kitchens, which is made possible through the generous donations of our donors.



CELEBRATING THROUGH MUSIC

The Creative Healing Arts and Music Program put together a live music and spoken word concert for the campus in honor of Black History Month. The event featured the musical collaboration of staff and youth outside on our football field. Two of our brave youth performed their original pieces as staff jammed out on the drums, guitars, saxophone and turn tables to complement the youths’ original pieces. Below are some of the heartfelt lyrics created by our youth in one of their Creative Arts class.

**“You can’t spend life running from problems,
feeling alone with no intention to solve them,
on our phone looking for drama,
this is for those who’ve been through the trauma.”**
**“They are going to tell you what you can or can
not do, just know you are worth it,
All the blessings you will receive will be worth it.”**



BROTHER JOHN’S REFLECTION

In our crazy world today, let us not forget to pray.
“Be not afraid, only believe.” Mark 5:36

As we consider the uncertainties of the future, we are confronted with a powerful temptation to play it safe. Unwilling to move mountains, we fret over molehills. Unwilling to entertain great hopes for tomorrow, we focus on the unfairness of today. Unwilling to trust God completely, we take timid half steps when He intends for us to take giant leaps.

Ask God today for the courage to step beyond the boundaries of your doubts. Ask Him to guide you to a place where you can realize your full potential – a place where you are freed from the fear of failure. Don’t ask Him to lead you to a safe place; ask Him to lead you to the right place. And remember, those two places are seldom the same.

Become so wrapped up in something that you forget to be afraid. -Lady Bird Johnson



Rancho San Antonio Benefactors List

Rancho is grateful to our friends who contributed from Dec 1, 2021 through March 1, 2022.

All donations are greatly appreciated. Our mission would not be possible without your continued support.

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As you begin spring cleaning, Rancho would like to remind you that donating your used car is not only 100% tax deductible but also helps us to make changes in the lives of our youth.

For more information and details,
call Brother John Crowe at Rancho (818) 882-6400, ext. 113.

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