

RANCHO SAN ANTONIO

Boys Home, Inc.

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Summer 2022

A little
PROGRESS
each day
ADDS UP TO
big results!

-Satya Nani





Success in the Past, Present, and Future

In the Spring, Rancho got an email from a former resident from the 1970's, Al, who was excited to return to his roots and show his classic Chevy Corvair at the car show. The email said, "My stay there molded me into the man I am today." I made sure to find the alumni standing next to his shiny red car where he reminisced about every detail of his life-changing stay at Rancho.



He shared that when he was at Rancho, he was encouraged to write a letter to his future self, a letter he still has and has shared with his own children. Al had a successful construction career inspired by a local internship he was selected for while at Rancho.

He said his teacher used to make him run laps at school in the morning because he was always late. So the morning of the car show, he took a "victory lap" for old time's sake. Politics have changed Rancho's business model, but not our mission. Inspired by success stories like Al and Ali (also featured in this newsletter), we got creative and diversified our programming. Over the course of the past year, Rancho has received an outpatient contract for substance abuse, a field-based diversion program, developed a Creative and Healing Arts program, and is about to embark on new residential program for unaccompanied children. What also has not changed is our appreciation and need for, you, our supporters. Thank you all for sticking by us, even when we were unable to have visitors on campus. We are grateful to have had a successful car show and to be open to visitors and events again. Inspired by the stories of the past and the stories of the future, let's all join Al and Ali in that "victory lap!"

Sometimes the smallest step in the right direction ends up being the biggest step in your life.— Naeem Callaway, founder and CEO of Get Out the Box, an education charity for at-risk youths

SUMMER TIME FUN

Memorial Day was the perfect time to kickstart our summer fun! We had a water day celebration including a huge waterslide obstacle course, snow cones, 100-foot slip n' slide, and a DJ from our very own music studio. In May, the Probation Department partnered with "Malibu Divers" presented our youth with the incredible opportunity to become Certified PADI Open Water Scuba Divers.



Students who participated had to complete an online course, two days of pool training, and complete four ocean dives in order to earn their lifetime certification. They enjoyed a

rigorous, yet rewarding experience throughout the course, culminating with multiple dives at Catalina Island and Malibu. While the youth were on summer break in July, Rancho hosted a Luau where we enjoyed some Hawaiian inspired games, music, and food.

THE YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS

2022 is the year of achievements, as we celebrate the many successes of our current and former youth. Despite the multitude of challenges they have faced, many of them have found the will-power to succeed. Among the many successes, we had eleven graduate high school in June. Five of them received scholarships to help further their education and will continue to be awarded scholarships throughout the year. One of our current youth joined their college football team, while others found jobs at local eateries and



clothing stores. One of our talented young men in our Transitional Aged Youth Apartments successfully launched his own clothing line, "LiveLifeNation" which symbolizes that "tomorrow holds a second chance at life and being surrounded by people that want and need a second chance is most important." We are proud of all our young men! (the above picture is a sample of the "LiveLifeNation" apparel)



A LETTER FROM OUR ALL-STAR ALI HAMZA

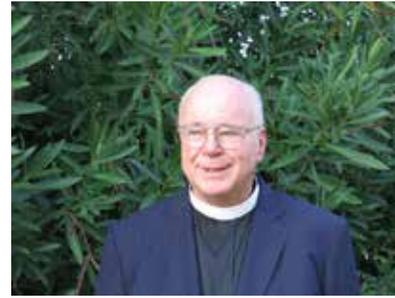
I am excited to inform you that I have successfully learned my Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from California State University Fullerton. It is my privilege and joy to share with you this accomplishment due to the fact that my success has been shaped through the confidence and willingness of those who supported and gave me appropriate resources



to achieve my goals. Through your support, I have been able to graduate with Business Honors Cum Laude for having a GPA of 3.5 -3.79, break a cycle of generations of dropouts, secure a job with a top public accounting firm, and develop as an overall human being. As I previously mentioned, I never thought attending college would be possible for me because of the external circumstances that had been bestowed upon me. However, I learned that your past does not define who you are, and I can only hope to inspire other former/current foster youth to do the same.

In terms of my future plans, I will be studying for the CPA exam over the next few months before beginning as an Assurance Associate with PwC in August/September. My hope is to pass 1-2 parts of the CPA exam, and complete the rest while working full-time. Ellen Johnson once said, *"If your dreams don't scare you, you are not dreaming big enough"*. With that being said, I am eager to begin my career and pursue my long dream goal of becoming a corporate executive.

Best regards, Ali
(Former RSA youth)



BROTHER JOHN'S REFLECTION

"No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." – Nelson Mandela

In the month of July, we came together as a Rancho community to teach our boys that everyone matters during our annual Awareness Month. We aimed to increase awareness and encouraged acceptance of others as well as who we are. While we highlighted information on several important topics, we also taught our boys and staff that this awareness must be committed to be the change we wish to see in our world.

Thanks to you, our benefactors, Rancho San Antonio continues to make a difference in those entrusted to our care; thanks to our dedicated staff and our generous benefactors for your continued support.



RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Make sure you enter our raffle fundraiser to win cash prizes. Tickets are on sale through October 9th when the winners will be announced. Proceeds from ticket sales will be used to fund programs that support youth at Rancho San Antonio. Some of these programs include our Creative Healing Arts and Music Program, Education Department, and our Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Housing Apartments. For more information please call (818) 882-6400 x110.

Rancho San Antonio Benefactors List

Rancho is grateful to our friends who contributed from March 2, 2022 through August 1, 2022.
All donations are greatly appreciated. Our mission would not be possible without your continued support.

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In Memory of Al Ghirardelli (1924 - 2022)

It is with great fondness that Rancho remembers our longest serving Board of Director and former Board President, Mr. Al Ghirardelli. Al served on Rancho's Board of Directors for over 25 years. Al was a successful attorney that dedicated much of his life to service through the Knights of Columbus, Rancho San Antonio and as one of the founding members of Holy Cross Hospital. He was a gentle man who got things done, who always did everything with a kind smile on his face. He had a fondness for the youth and mission of Rancho San Antonio. Al Ghirardelli led a life of the good Samaritan in our times. Al showed us how to love our neighbor. His years of service and dedication will never be forgotten.