

Connie's Corner

“God has not called me to be successful. He called me to be faithful.” Mother Teresa

Webster's Dictionary defines faithful as loyal, steadfast, accurate, true to one another. At our Valley Teen Ranch Board meetings we reflect how we are doing on being faithful to our mission, which is: *“To assist vulnerable young people and their families in rebuilding their lives through caring relationships and opportunities to grow mentally, socially, physically and spiritually by living in a safe and healthy home where faith in God is lived.”*



As we look forward to celebrating our 25th Anniversary of operation on May 17, 2012, we can honestly and humbly say that we ARE staying faithful to our mission, budget, policies and procedures, the State of CA Community Care Licensing, and what God has called us to do with the children and youth we serve. God's faithfulness to us is evident in the fruit that we see in our kids' lives.

Valley Teen Ranch was actually founded by David Purvis and we were officially incorporated June 1, 1983. It took four years to raise the money, purchase the 80 acre property, and build our first residential group home. Therefore, we call May 1987, when we were able to admit our first young man into our home, as our beginning date. Since that time, we have been able to build and pay for two more homes on that property, retire the mortgage, open our Foster Family Agency, Adoption Agency, and Transitional Living Home, as well as purchase our office building. As of December 31, 2011, we have admitted 1543 children and youth into all of our homes and facilitated 123 adoptions. Our oldest kids are now in their early forties. As you can see from the fiscal pie charts and statistics below, we are continuing to make solid progress in all of our programs.

The most significant part of our work is the relationships we have with our kids. We hear from many of them on a regular basis. They call, write letters, or find us on Facebook to “check in” with us to let us know how they are doing and to find out what's going on with us, too. Their comments are always about people they connected with while with us, whether that is staff or other residents they lived with. They remember the places we went, their achievements in school, lessons they learned, how healthy they were, and the fun times we shared together. They felt significant AND successful while they were with us and attribute their current success to their time with us, whether that was in our group homes or in a foster home. People make the difference in our lives. Yes, we are a program, but really it is the people who really count!

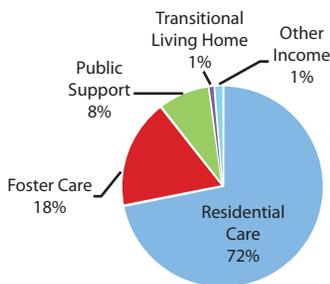
As the lyrics of *Great is Thy Faithfulness* say, “Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed Thy hand has provided. Great is Thy Faithfulness, Lord unto me!”

I hope to see you at our 25th Anniversary Celebration on May 17. Tickets can be purchased online at www.valleyteenranch.org or by calling our office at 559.437.1144. We are also seeking Corporate Sponsors to help us underwrite the event.

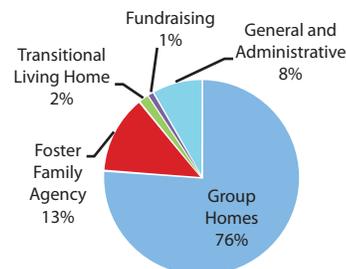
Keep the Faith,

Connie Clendenan
Connie Clendenan, CEO

2011 Revenues



2011 Expenses



This year we had the following children and youth outcomes in our agency:

2011 Totals

Group Home Admissions	60
Group Home Graduates	13
Foster Family Agency Admissions	22
Adoptions	19
Total Admissions	114

24 Year Totals

Group Home Admissions	1029
Group Home Graduates	303
Foster Family Agency Admissions	514
Adoptions	123
Total Admissions	1969

Our Accomplishments Include:

- Boys' Academics Improved
- Increased Counties Placing
- All Four State Licenses are in Excellent Standing
- Met Our Budget & had a Clean Audit
- 30% Successful Completion at the Group Home

Goals for the Future:

- More High School Graduations, Honor Roll, & College Admits
- Recruit & Train More Foster & Adoptive Parents
- Expand the Vocational Training Program at the Ranch
- Expand Donor Base by 200
- Continue Development of Organic Farming & Other Projects