



Building a foundation for life.

SOCIAL WORKERS  
*generations*  
STRONG

MARCH/APRIL 2020

## PROM FOR OUR BOYS AT THE RANCH

*Because of the generosity of Der Manouel Insurance*

Every year Der Manouel Insurance Group (DMIG)/Hub International, provides a Prom for the boys at the ranch. They decorate, provide a dinner and dessert bar, take professional photographs, and serve the boys through the entire evening. It is a real act of charity and love.

We could not be more appreciative to DMIG (Mr. Thacker, Judy Murakami, and all our friends) for providing a Prom (at a beautiful location) for the boys at the ranch!

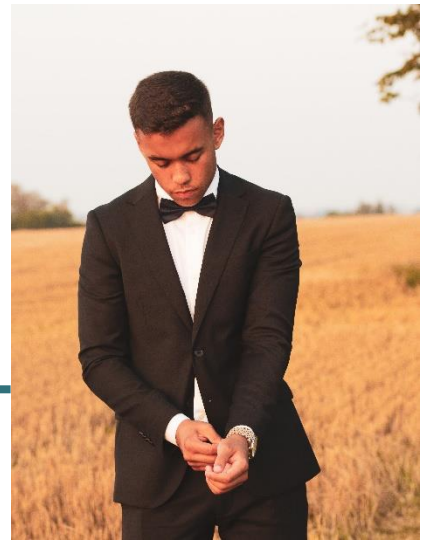
Staff prepare these young men for the evening by teaching the boys rules of etiquette and shopping for their tuxedos.

In fact, when the night began, one boy prayed for the night and for the food. One boy said, "I would have never gone to a prom. I am a senior so I would have missed it." Another boy walked around thanking each person individually for the special night. All the boys had a very good time and said thank you as they left!

After the Prom, Mr. Thacker and crew stay and clean up and make sure there is enough food and goodies to send home with the boys at the Ranch and Transitional Home.



A Division of HUB International



**THANK YOU FOR THE TUXES FOR PROM!**

**We are thankful to Suzanne Bertz-Rosa, Amy Dixon, Rachelle Marie and Janet Alvis Ogletree who donated to us on Facebook for the Tuxes!**



*DMIG Crew setting up VTR Prom*



### March is Social Worker Appreciation Month

We celebrate all of our social workers at VTR – The Ranch, Foster Family Agency and Adoption Agency!

*Three of our social workers pictured at the Ranch, are Carlos Vigil, Adriana Luna, and Kevin Alvey.*

## WISH LIST

♥ Gift Cards for Therapeutic Meetings, clothing and general needs

- Starbucks
- McDonalds
- Target
- Walmart
- Kohl's

♥ Donations for Summer Activities for foster children and youth at the Ranch

♥ EASTER Donations

## SAVE THE DATE!

VTR Annual Celebration!  
Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>  
at Wolf Lakes Park

## APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

### VTR Foster Family Agency Serves Children and Youth Who Are Victims of Abuse

The children's data on child abuse and neglect for ages 0-17 on kidsdata.org, show that Fresno and Madera Counties rate high in general neglect, at risk (because their sibling was abused), and physical abuse.

If social services removes the child or youth from their home, Foster Family Agencies are there to provide professional care. The VTR Foster Family Agency (FFA) provide supportive services and therapeutic care to children and youth who are victims of abuse. Our professionally trained social workers provide trauma-informed practices, intervention, advocacy and personalized care.

VTR FFA social workers recruit, approve and train potential Resource Families (Foster Care Families). Once approved, these families receive ongoing training, support and supervision while providing a loving and stable environment for children and youth to experience stability and care so they can grow and thrive.



### Volunteers are Wonderful!

Thank you to our volunteer Chef William who bakes homemade bread and cookies for the boys on the ranch!

### Refinishing Furniture at the Ranch

Maura Solis is a Supervisor at the Ranch. She thought it would be fun for the boys to learn how to refinish furniture. It started with a TV stand, a coffee table, and now they are talking about refinishing cabinets in the homes! If you have any wood refinishing supplies you would like to donate, contact [Development@valleyteenranch.org](mailto:Development@valleyteenranch.org) or the office at 559-437-1144, ext. 325.

Ms. Solis is pictured below-bottom, fourth from the left.



## THANK YOU!

March is Employee Appreciation Month. VTR has over 65 VTR Employees who we celebrate this month for their professional contributions and care of children, youth, young adults and families.



### Quotes from men who were once boys at The Ranch...

"I built a mahogany box when I was at the Ranch, back in 2000. I still have that box. I filled it with objects that hold memories of my life. Today I have my own wood shop in my garage and build furniture for our home."

-Mr. Hendrick

"I am alive today and have a family with children and grandchildren because of you. Thank you for seeing something in me when no one else could."

-Mr. Williams