

The Ranch Hand

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“Under the guidance of the Catholic Church, provide a safe home for all youth who have experienced physical or emotional trauma, where every act is done with love to help them discover the dignity of the human person and learn the skills to manage life’s challenges.”

Resident Testimonials

We are so proud of our boys and girls when they speak in front of groups and share their stories. It takes a lot of courage and confidence. Here are a few speeches the kids gave at various functions and speaking engagements.

**Text is taken directly from their written testimonials. Grammar and spelling hasn't been corrected or changed. Due to confidentiality reasons, their names have been changed.*

“Hi my name is Charlie. I’m 14 I lived in Jacksonville, FL for 9 years, then I moved to Williston, ND. I have 10 siblings. I started smoking weed when I was 9. I started vaping when I was 7. I’ve been vaping and smoking ever since. When I was growing up I didn’t have my parents around a lot. My dad was a alcoholic for a while. My mom was gone most of the time doing stuff. My dad was always working to make money for us, so me and my siblings kind of had free rein for a while so we really did what we wanted to. Then during the beginning of the summer of 2021 my mom left us and left my dad. They were married for 20+ years so it was hard for my dad and all of us older siblings new what was going on so we told the younger kids lies to protect them, but I was so busy focusing on everybody else I didn’t take time for me, so I started to blame my dad for my mom leaving us then I started to smoke, drink and vape more. I started to sneak out with my friends and my ex. I started car hopping. I started stealing food from stores to help my family survive. I stole guns to sell for money. I went around doing stuff I shouldn’t have. I started skipping school. When I did go, I would vape and smoke weed in the bathroom. I would get in fights at school too and my siblings saw the things I was doing, so they started to follow in my foot steps. They all look up to me and I didn’t realize that. My dad kept telling me that all summer and I didn’t listen. I went to the YAC and I kept running away from there so I got sent to YCC for a few days. They did that to scare me so I went back to the YAC. Then on November 14 I came to Home On The Range. Since I’ve been here I’ve learned how to read a clock on the wall. I learned how to change oil and I’ve learned some coping skills. I’ve learned how to calm my stress down by thinking about the people I love and getting in fights won’t help me get out of here, so that has helped me through a lot. Home On The Range has also taught me that I’ll have to work with people I might not like or get along with, so they have prepared me for a job outside of here. So these are the things they have taught me. So far I am happy to be at Home On The Range.”

“Hi my name is George. I’m from Minnesapolis, MN. I lived there till I was 12 years old. My mom moved my siblings and I to Jamestown, ND. When we got there I started getting into trouble. When I turned 13 I got sent to the youth correctional center in Mandan. I was there for 2 months and after that I got sent to DBGR in Bismarck. When I left I was 15 and went into foster care. I didn’t get along with my foster family and was there for about three months because I started getting into trouble with selling weed and I had a problem with alcohol. I got caught and got sent to YCC again. I was at YCC

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Financial Support

HOTR does not receive direct financial support from the Bismarck Catholic Diocese. Care rates charged for services cover approximately 75% of the actual cost. The remainder must be raised through gifts, grants, our agricultural operation, fundraising events, and investments.

Financial Statements Available

A copy of the most recent HOTR financial statement is available to persons or organizations upon request. Please contact our business office at (701) 872-3745.

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Testimonials continued

for a year and 11 months. I left when I turned 17 and went to another foster family. They were in Devils Lake. When I got there I got off to a bad start. I started skipping classes and I had a nicotine addiction and I started smoking weed again and I started drinking again. I got told that I will end up getting sent away again if I keep failing to follow my community placement agreement so I got a job at Dairy Queen and tried to stay in classes but it wasn't enough and I got sent to Home On The Range. While I've been here though I've learned how to change oil on cars. I help with feeding the cows. I'm doing my GED. Once I'm finished with my GED I'm going to start working full time on the work crew and my IL worker has helped me with a lot of stuff like teaching me how to pay taxes. I've signed up for the selective services and he helped me get an apartment set up for me in Devils Lake for when I get out. Home On The Range has helped me more in the 2 months that I've been here than YCC helped me in the year and 11 months. It's taught me how to be more mature and responsible and how to succeed in life."

"My name is Brooke and I'm 18. My mom was always in the picture. Dad hasn't ever been in the picture. And my family struggled with adiction on the other hand. However, I got into smoking pott but that wasn't the issue for me. My addiction was alchol. **Why are you at HOTR?** Well I was 14 of course starting to act out at home. Mom couldn't handle me with stealing her belongings such as personal use so I went into state custody and had got placed at HOTR. However, I've been in and out of there since 14 to 18. **What have you learned about yourself and life while here on ranch?** Believing in myself! Approaching and seeing my life diffrently surrounding myself with postive people. And that I can have a great time without alchol and drugs! **What do you like most about HOTR?** Working they had called it workcrew. Also was loved and liked by many staff so staff were like my favorite. Along with getting to do activities. **What has been your hardest adjustment at HOTR?** Accepting the fact that I was being controlled by other adults at that time. **What are your plans for the near future?** I'm currently working on my GED, along with working. In the process of getting my permit/drivers lisence. Currently in this program were edventally they are going to start me some where with my own car. **What are your plans for the distant future?** Edventally getting a house, by then have my GED career for college. Having a higher step of a good job and having my car. **How are you different now than when you first got to HOTR?** Well when I first got to Home OnThe Range I was lost in my own world and at one point I had to come to a point I have to do this for myself, for my people that I loved that I was hurting, and for my support system who was helping to see me make it. **What are you thankful for helping you make these changes in your life?** Finding myself, becoming the better verson of myself. And mainly God having a connection with Him, knowing him, letting him into my life."

Dakota Scramble Golf Tournament



Congratulations to our 1st place team at the 6th annual Dakota Scramble golf tournament, which was held at Bully Pulpit Golf Course in Medora, ND! Team members include Jace Steier, Thad O'Donnell, Jesse McCann and Joe Gentilini.

Thank you to our corporate sponsors!



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Home On The Range was honored to have Congressman Kelly Armstrong and his two field directors for a visit. They enjoyed a tour of the facility and meeting some of our treatment team of horses and dogs!



Thank you to Farm Credit Services of Mandan for the Rural Community Grant to purchase a generator for our girls dorm!

Home On The Range received three awards from the North Dakota Safety Council for our safety program, videos and trainings!



Workplace Safety Merit Award
Safety Improvement Award
Workplace Safety Milestone Award

