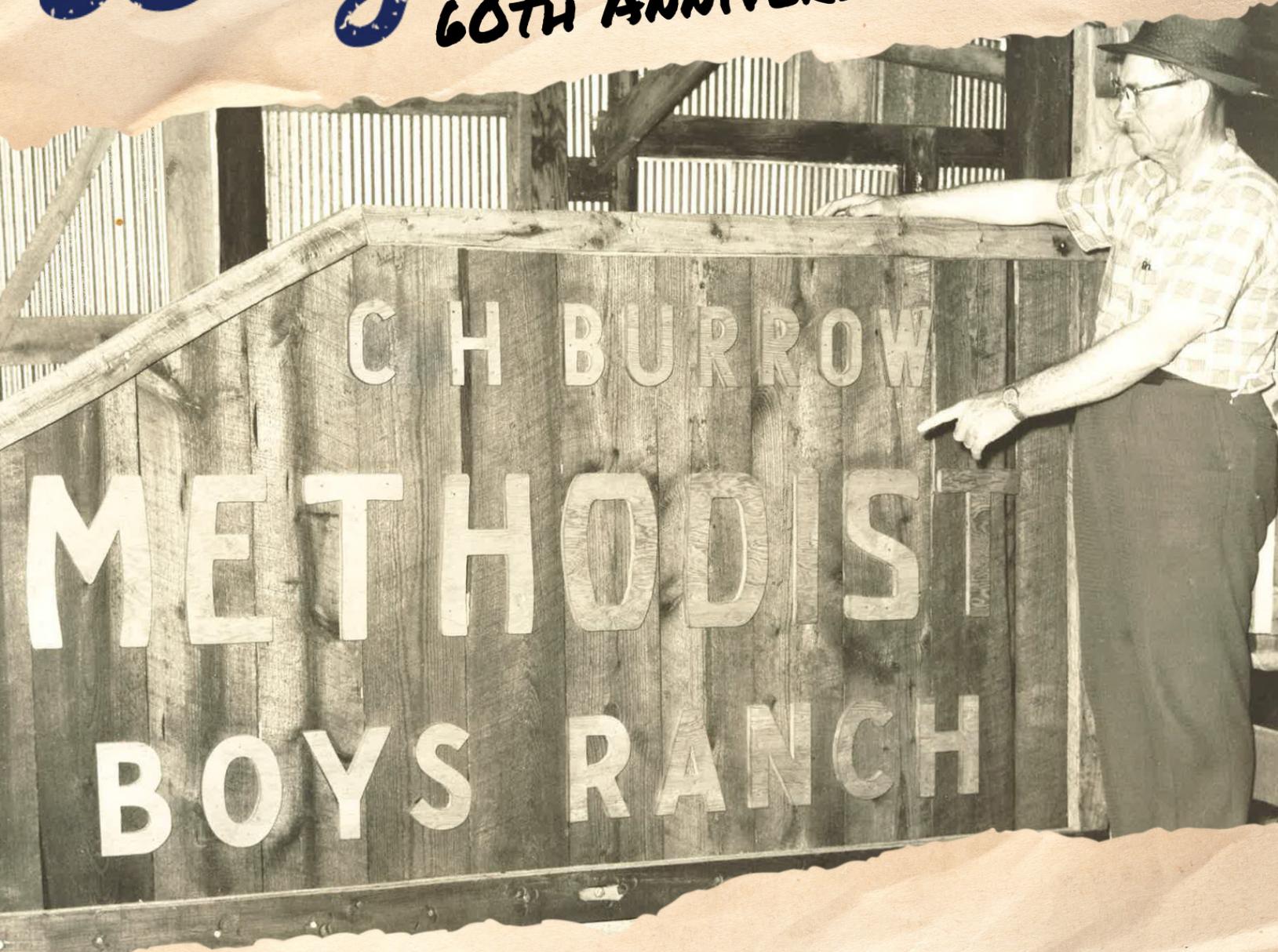


FALL 2021
V.39 #3

A quarterly publication
of Circle of Care, Inc.

Lifeline Boys Ranch

60TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION



CIRCLE OF CARE

Help, Healing, and Hope since 1917

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CIRCLE OF CARE

Ministering to Oklahoma's kids, youth and families in crisis through intervention, prevention, and restoration since 1917.

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A Word From the President

KEITH HOWARD



I remember the first time my wife and I drove to the Boys Ranch. It was while I was interviewing to become the Vice President of Programs and we followed Don Batson over from the Children's Home to get a view of the ranch. I remember driving on and seeing the wood carved statue of a man and a boy welcoming guests as they arrived. I remember going into the office and looking out the conference room window and seeing an incredible view of Lake Tenkiller. I was amazed at the location and the beauty of the ranch. It was a few short months later that I'd hop in an old beat-up truck with Don and Daniel Moore to explore the back side of the ranch in a truly "off-road experience!" Hills, creeks, ponds, cattle, and so much more to explore. It would be a few more months later that I'd experience my first, and one of our, last Boy's Ranch rodeos. The people, the kids, the food, the auction — was a good day.

Every time I visit the ranch, two words always arise in my spirit —history and legacy. Circle of Care has plenty of both and the ranch is a testament to this. As we enter into the last quarter of 2021 and prepare to launch into 2022 we are excited to celebrate all that has been accomplished over the years through the Boys Ranch. Between 1962 and 1963 the dream of the Boys Ranch came to fruition and to celebrate and honor that we are embarking on a capital campaign to renew, refresh, and prepare this beautiful ranch for its next 60 years of service.

A lot has changed on the ranch over the years, but two things have always remained the same; people stepping up to make an impact and the lives of young people being transformed. In 2014, we began transitioning away from the traditional Boys Ranch to become a foster care community. Over the past 7 years we have leaned into that vision and been able to serve several children and teenagers in foster care on our ranch.

As we move toward the future, we are excited to continue the history and legacy of this beautiful ranch. Our board and leadership our excited to announce the launch of a new capital campaign. We believe it is the right thing to do, in the right season of our history. Our goal is to raise \$3 million and with these funds we will replace the current homes with 4 new homes, better designed for family style living, add a pavilion and playground, renovate the gymnasium and office, as well as, the lake lodge where mission teams, staff and foster families get to experience the breathtaking views of Lake Tenkiller.

To provide Christian help, healing and hope to children and families in crisis to ensure a safe, healthy, and spiritual future.

Circle of Care Mission Statement

In 2022, we will begin the celebration of 60 years of serving young people at our ranch and we will also be celebrating 105 years of service across our programs at Circle of Care. That is history and legacy. As we enter into this celebration, we also are fully committed to keep going, keep doing more and keep moving forward to provide Christian help, healing, and hope to children and families in crisis.

I'm looking forward to locking arms with many of you as we make an investment in the future of the ranch by launching and completing a successful capital campaign to build on our legacy and history.

I hope you'll join us!

60TH ANNIVERSARY

Boys Ranch Legacy Campaign

Four new homes built family style

A new pavilion and playground

A renovated indoor gymnasium, commercial kitchen

Volunteer space for mission groups and church teams.

Updated sidewalks and roads

Renovation on offices to provide therapy space for children at the ranch

Renovations of lake lodge for mission groups, staff, and foster families

Increase capacity to serve up to 24 children and teenagers at one time

SO FAR: \$1.6 million preliminary committed to the project!

Keep your eyes and ears open for updates from leadership regarding the Boys Ranch renovations.

To give or learn more about the campaign, visit circleofcare.org/boys-ranch-legacy

For naming opportunities, contact **Shannon Davis** at shannon.davis@circleofcare.org

A HISTORY OF CARE

Henry Burrow dreamed that someday he and his wife, Clara, would contribute something to their church that would help young people. A staunch Methodist and a youth worker in this church, Henry began to envision a ranch where boys from city streets and broken homes might have an opportunity to grow into manhood — mentally, physically, and spiritually qualified to take their place in the world.

With determination to bring his dream to reality, Henry began acquiring a sizable acreage on the west side of Lake Tenkiller in Gore, OK, a short distance from a dam on Beacon Point. As the lake area developed, the land became the finest site on the lake, and its monetary value increased tremendously. Henry received some large offers for his land, but he and Clara rejected them and told prospective buyers, “We have something in mind for the land; it’s not for sale.”

As acre after acre was added, Henry’s dream came closer and closer to reality. Finally, with a deed for 200 acres of land in his hand, Henry announced that he and Clara were presenting the land to the Methodist Church in Oklahoma for the establishment of a ranch that could offer structure, opportunities, and hope for boys in need. Henry and his pastor, Rev. L. D. Thomas of Sallisaw United Methodist Church, approached Dr. W. Angie Smith, Bishop of the Oklahoma Methodist Conference, with the idea. At first, Henry’s visits were met with little encouragement, but Henry was driven by his desire to turn his Lake Tenkiller property in a dedicated and worthy cause.

Finally, in 1961 Bishop Smith visited the property. He stood on the bluff overlooking Lake Tenkiller and realized the tremendous possibilities offered by the dream Henry Burrow had expressed to him. Bishop Smith returned to his office in Oklahoma City and immediately began the ground work needed to bring the Boys Ranch into being.

In June of 1962, that following year, Bishop Smith appointed Rev. John Wesley Porter as full-time superintendent of the Boy’s Ranch project at the Methodist Church annual conference. On June 18, Henry Burrow turned the first shovel of dirt at the ground breaking ceremony over which Dr. T. Poe Williams, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the proposed ranch, presided.

In September 1963, many Methodist clergy and lay leaders were present, along side Henry and Clara Burrow, for the consecration and open house of the first building on campus, the Boy’s Ranch Dormitory. Three boys were already in residence in the dorm. For several months before the dorm opened, Rev. Porter had received applications from judges and court workers across the state, and as soon as the new dorm was ready in August, the three boys had moved in.

The Ranch opened under the Christian guidance of the Methodist Church and in the Methodist tradition of establishing a climate of love and acceptance. Soon, boys began to arrive from all over the State of Oklahoma — boys needing new beginnings away from the city streets and negative home environments. By the time the Ranch opened, various farm equipment and several head of registered cattle had already been donated



From the beginning, the use of animals was an important part of the program. The animals provided the boys with something to care for — something dependent on the boys for feeding and grooming. Many boys who considered leaving the Ranch before completing the program changed their minds and stayed to care for their animals.

In 1964, Rev. Troy Clinesmith, an ex-highway patrolman-turned-Methodist preacher, was appointed superintendent of the Boys Ranch. With the support of the Oklahoma conference and Henry Burrow, he began the job of creating a beautiful campus out of the rocky soil of Beacon Point. The residents and staff worked with enthusiasm and energy to clear timber and move rocks. Volunteers helped add barns and fences; soon more cattle, lambs, and hogs were donated. Under Rev. Clinesmith's direction, the campus started to become what it is today.

In 1966 Spencer Cottage was added to the campus. A retired school teacher by the name of Miss Fannie Spencer came with her church group from Bartlesville to tour the Ranch. She was very impressed by the Ranch's work with the boys and asked Rev. Clinesmith, "If you had another cottage, would you take more boys?" when he replied affirmatively, she provided the funds to build another cottage.

In 1968, the administration building was built and a full-time secretary was hired. In 1970, Rev. Clifton McKoy was appointed superintendent of the Ranch. During his administration a gymnasium was added, and in 1977 McFall Cottage was built with funds from the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Carl McFall.

Henry Burrow remained on the Boys Ranch Board until his death in 1971. Few men are privileged to see their dreams come true, but Henry lived to see hundreds of boys pass through the Boys Ranch gates. The Burrows invested in humanity, and the dividends of their generosity will be paying off throughout eternity.

THE BOYS RANCH TODAY Over the past 20 years, new state and federal laws governing residential child care have created stricter standards and greater requirements. Consequently, the cost per day to care for adolescents on the Ranch has risen substantially.

The types of problems young people are experiencing today have also changed. When the Ranch first opened, most of the residents were experiencing typical teenage problems that their parents simply did not know how to handle. Today, the Ranch has transitioned to house several foster families who have a calling to foster large sibling groups. The transition of the Ranch has helped Circle of Care grow the opportunities for families to foster siblings, and lower the percentage of siblings being separated by the system each year.

Henry and Clara Burrow had a dream — to help young men in need. Although the ways of helping young men have changed through the years as their needs have changed, the primary mission of the Boys Ranch remains the same — to minister to the needs of the young people in its care. The dream of the Burrows and the support of the Oklahoma Methodist churches and other donors across the state made the Boys Ranch what it is today — a program steeped in Christian love and principles that opens its gates to those in need.



Boys Ranch

THROUGH THE YEARS



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF OKLAHOMA

BOYS' RANCH
ROUND-UP





DONOR STORY: A LASTING IMPACT

“So many people have blessed me in my 70 years of life, and I am grateful for the opportunity to share my blessings with others.”

Clark Nutting grew up in the Methodist church and after visiting a lot of churches in his younger days, has been a loyal member of the Methodist church all his life. As a Methodist, Nutting has always wanted to support Methodist missions. Alongside his support for the Boys Ranch, Nutting gives in memory throughout the year to several Circle of Care programs, including Pearl’s Hope in memory of his mother, and the PAL program in honor of his uncle and aunt.

The Boys Ranch made it’s first impression on Nutting in 1966, when he was 14 years old.

Nutting was attending a cattle show in Pawhuska, where 25 boys from the ranch were in attendance. At the end of the show, a livestock donation was given to the Boys Ranch. This gift to the ranch was so significant that it moved Nutting; he found himself that day making a promise that if he were ever in the position to do the same, he would give to the Boys Ranch.



A rancher by trade, Nutting donated his own cattle to the Boys Ranch. Throughout the past few years, Nutting even sold his cattle and still donated the funds directly to the ranch. The Boys Ranch is incredibly special to Nutting, and he believes in the hope that it has restored in many lives throughout the years.

Circle of Care is so grateful for the generosity and steadfast graciousness of Mr. Nutting and so many other donors. Without this kind of support, we would not be able to provide programs and resources to rebuild families in Oklahoma.

MEMORIES OF THE RANCH

Calling all donors, alumni, or anyone with a Boys Ranch connection ...

Do you have a story, picture, or any memorabilia from the Boys Ranch that you would like to share with us?

In honor of the upcoming 60th Anniversary of the Boys Ranch, Circle of Care is looking for memories of the Ranch to prepare for upcoming events and campaigns.

If interested in sharing your connection or memory at the Boys Ranch, please contact Aubrey Siess at aubrey.suess@circleofcare.org or (405)-613-2276.



Honors & Memorials

FALL 2021



Circle of Care sincerely appreciates the following who support this ministry through the Honors & Memorials program.

We regret any errors or omissions. Help us correct our records by writing Circle of Care, 1501 NW 24th Street, Suite 214, Oklahoma City, OK 73106, or by calling (405) 530-2078.

IN HONOR OF

REV. FRANCIS BARTLEY
LOWRY & REBECCA BLAKEBURN

NANCI JUDKINS, VBS SUPERINTENDENT
DON & JEAN LEWIS

BRYAN & GERI STITES
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L AND J FOR K
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KEITH HOWAD
MICHAEL MITCHELL

REV. JERRY & MRS. JENIFER RAAB
ALTUS UMW/COUNTRY KITCHEN

FRANK & NADINE WILKERSON'S ANNIVERSARY
BOB & MARILYN EWING

IN MEMORY OF

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ELIZABETH & TYLER TETRICK

DEBBIE HIX, DAUGHTER
DON & ALICE LOWE

PATRICIA MEADORS
GREGORY MEADORS

GROVER SMALLWOOD
DON CONRAD

KATHY BROD
DON & JEAN LEWIS

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O.D. & MATTIE NUTTING, JR.
CLARK NUTTING

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To set up your gift, please contact Karen Thomas at karen.thomas@circleofcare.org, or send in a check with the remittance envelope included in your Lifeline.

Let's Talk.

Empowering communities to
strengthen families

NOVEMBER 6
OKLAHOMA CITY

An event featuring a series of short lectures with diverse speakers from around the state, seeking to educate and inspire dialogue to build stronger families and communities in Oklahoma.

LISTEN

Each talk will feature a speaker with expertise speaking about a topic that they feel will inspire change. Talks are 20 minutes each so that the day is packed full of opportunities to learn.

CONNECT

There will be several opportunities throughout the day for attendees to connect with each other whether it's during a break over coffee, or during the provided breakfast and lunch! This is a great opportunity to connect and find resources amongst peers.

TALK

Once attendees are done for the day, they're encouraged to say "Let's Talk" to a coworker, friend, or family member, and share what they learned and kick-start change together.

circleofcare.org/LetsTalk

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Supporter - \$500
Believer - \$1,200
Sustainer - \$5,000
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HOW TO GIVE

Mail

1501 NW 24th, Suite 214
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

Online

CircleofCare.org

SITES

Administration

1501 NW 24th St, #214 OKC, OK 73106
405-530-2078

Children's Home

549 Mathes Park Drive Tahlequah, OK 74464
918-456-6166

Boys Ranch

PO Box 999 Gore, OK 74435
405-530-2078

Frances E. Willard Campus

1616 N Gilcrease Museum Rd Tulsa, OK 74127
918-583-9506

Holsinger Home

Enid, OK 73703

Oh Be Joyful Farm

Haskell, OK 74429

PROGRAMS

Foster Care Services

866-978-2956

Preparation for Adult Living

918-456-6166

Pearl's Hope

918-583-9506

Counseling Services

405-593-6306

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Be a speaker, sponsor, volunteer, or join a committee.

**for more info contact
shannon.davis@circleofcare.org**

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