



Rod & Tina's Corner

"I have decided that this is my home"

That is a huge decision that many of our children have to make as they mature and grow up here at Santa Marta. Many of these children suffer from neglect and rejection from their parents and family members. The quote above was from a young teen who always had hopes that his mother, father or anyone from his family would show up on visitation Sunday. Nobody from his family ever visits so this teen asked us if we would check with the social worker to see if there was news of his family. The social worker said that they had put many notices out in the newspaper and social media sources, but no one had ever responded. When this news was relayed to him he became quiet, very pensive then lowered his head and said that Rancho Santa Marta is his home and his family now. He was going to do his best here in school and see what happens when he turns 18 years old. How sad it is to see these children go through that rejection and despair. It moves your heart for these kids. They are the worst behaved children in our school and tyrants in the houses, but God loves them and we love them. We ask that you pray for them as well as the house parents as they minister to them daily. Thank you for your support and blessings to you and your family. Blessings,

Rod & Tina

The Ensenada House

Our Ensenada house is in the process of being "remodeled"! It was time to make some modifications to our Ensenada house where our university students live during the week in order to attend classes. We decided to actually flatten it and start all over again. We have plans to build another two-story house that will be able to accommodate fifteen to twenty students as well as rooms for the housekeeper and family, kitchen and living/study room. We do not have the funds for this project so we will probably work on it by stages which will allow us to break down the costs: stage 1: rough plumbing and foundation, stage 2: framing of walls, roof, and windows, Stage 3: electrical and plumbing, Stage 4: insulation and drywall, Stage 5: cabinets, doors, and other carpentry details, Stage 6 flooring and other finishing details. If you are interested in this project we would love to send you the plans as we begin to save for stage 1 costs.



Projects have expanded...

In our 10-year plan we would like to build a library for the five schools we have in our Colegio Santa Marta: kindergarten, elementary, junior high, special education and high school. The library will be used for both classroom use and for parents to use as a resource with their children. Attached to the library will be a larger teacher conference room and several other classrooms. In order for that to begin we need to move our carpenter shop, clothing and sewing rooms and other storage areas. Those will be moved to our new pole barn building where we are focusing our attention now.

Thank you to Pathways Community Church of Santee, CA for their help with that project, along with all the other concrete jobs we had around the ranch. They not only were a huge help with those projects but they also were a big hit with their slip and slide event for the kids. Thank you Pathways!



Will You Join Us?



We are a faith-based ministry and rely on God's provision moving through people like you to support this home and school for at risk children. As we expand the Ranch, we are in need of increased financial support. Here are two ways to help.

Payroll Deduction: This is where your employer sets aside a specific amount or percentage of one's paycheck before taxes to dedicate to a non-profit organization such as ours. Services such as Network for Good, align donors with nonprofit charities like Santa Marta/Bethesda Teaching Ministry as a beneficiary. If this is of interest to you, please investigate with your employer.

Online Donations: You can also support the Ranch with donations through our website. Click here: [Web Donation](#). Consider sharing this with link your friends and family. Thank you!

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E-NEWS

Time for Independent Life



Alejandro came to Rancho Santa Marta 10 years ago with his two older sisters, Veronica and Guadalupe. Veronica has married and has two children and Guadalupe is working in our school as an assistant and taking online courses for a teaching credential. Alejandro graduated from junior high in our school and has been working with Jeronimo and Martin our construction guys learning carpentry and masonry skills. He is 22 years old now and it is time for him to live outside of Santa Marta's care. That is a huge step for him and he is nervous about the coming change, but he understands that this is necessary for his own maturity as a young man. He will be under Jeronimo's supervision in San Vicente, our closest town, as Alejandro adjusts to the change of living on his own, being responsible in his new job and managing his own finances. He will not be far from us and it will be most likely that we will see him at our services every Sunday.

Memorials & Honor of

- Suzanne Kahn in memory of husband Phil of Novato, CA

Thank You for:

- Wal Mart cards and other retail store cards to help with our groceries and children's personal hygiene items
- Furniture donations: couches, tables and dressers
- Fund raising efforts from Tri-Valley Presbyterian to purchase an ice making machine.

Needs for:

Reimburse general operating funds for the purchase of a new pump and motor for our well. The ranch was out of water for one week because of the pump failure. A new pump and motor were installed, and we praise the Lord that our well is supplying water again for the ranch and school!

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Hello Cameron!



CAMERON

We are always looking for English teachers for our elementary, junior high and high school programs. We want to welcome Cameron for stepping up this year to fill in for the elementary English teacher position.

Hello, my name is Cameron Robinson. I'm an 18-year-old from Sacramento, California and I have just begun my year long journey as an elementary English teacher here at Rancho Santa Marta. I have been coming to the ranch for the past four years with my church, Fair Oaks Presbyterian from Fair Oaks, on our week-long mission trip in mid-June. During our last trip in June, I had recently graduated from high school and I was deciding whether I wanted to go to school, join the workforce or wait for a different type of opportunity to be presented to me. Right before my eyes, God had opened a

door for me and done just that. He put a calling on my heart to serve the ranch and its people in the capacity of being an English teacher. I can't say that this decision was made without a little doubt, but being here and beginning to teach I know God has put me where he wants me to be. I am up for the challenge and excited to see what the Lord has planned for me this year.

Thank you Cameron and his father Chuck who came down with him to help out with the construction projects for a couple of months.



CHUCK