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SNTR Goals & Needs List 2022: More ways to Help!

Greetings!



### SNTR is Now Accepting Youth!

*SNTR is now accepting applications/interviews for our residential youth programs. Go to our [WEBSITE](#), enter the the Contact Page and fill out the form. We'll be in touch.*

**Before we get Started..... Everyone has a Voice.**

**Make your Voice Count!**

We can't help our local at-risk youth if they don't know we exist. Somebody needs to tell the community. We need **YOUR** voice. For example, you can share this newsletter and add your personal note; make your voice count by arranging a speaking engagement for us with your church, civic group, social group. You can tell your friends, neighbors, co-workers. Tell the parents who are pulling out their hair due to unresolved issues with their teen. Tell the juvenile justice system, tell the social workers. Because we are practically debt-free we can offer the above services at a about **one-third to one-half** what other like-programs charge. Remember we offer: 24/7 residential care in a ranch-like setting; onsite education, vocational exploration, spiritual development, individual and group counseling, recreation, life skills, anger management, and gang awareness classes. **Marv and I will meet with you to clarify the vision and help in any way we can. Email us: [marvinneal@sntr.org](mailto:marvinneal@sntr.org)**

Gratitude for 2021 – really?? You bet! Although we had hoped that 2021 might be better than 2020 and maybe it was for some... Still, it has been filled with tough turmoil and trying times. I do not believe any of us has been untouched. However: Wherever we find ourselves and whatever situation we are in let's take a moment to find something or someone we can truly be thankful for – it will change our hearts!



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This is a **long newsletter** because we have so much to be grateful for. We, Jan, Marv and the SNTR Board, are **grateful** for all who gave of their time, skills, prayers, and money to SNTR; and for the hope and encouragement that your generosity gives to us all.

**In this newsletter you will find the following:**

Tom's Story  
SNTR Gratitude list: Massive Amounts of Household Donations  
Our Volunteer Movers  
Classroom set-up  
Pavers, Patio's & Persistence  
The Chicken Whisperer, & the Coop  
Cabinets and Porch Projects  
The Hoop House  
Our Newest SNTR Board Advisor - Jake Wiskerchen of Zephyr Wellness  
2021 List of Donors  
Our Finances

**How You Can Help**

**2022 SNTR Goals**

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We are **grateful** for the mom who trusted us with her son (our first client at the Ranch) and to Tom himself for who he is and what he accomplished. Read on:

Sierra Nevada Teen Ranch *accepted its 1st client at the ranch, in March of 2021! With his and his mom's written permission, we share his story.*

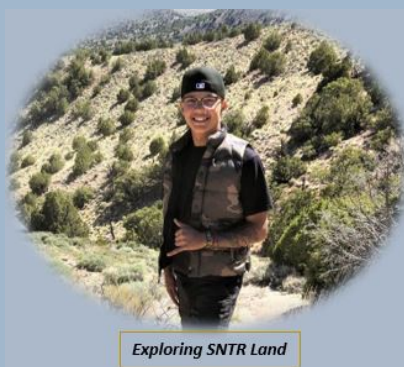
Just prior to March 2021 Tom OD'd from a cocktail laced with several other drugs prepared for him at a party - Tom almost died. Ironically, this party, initiated by his gang-friends, was to celebrate his leaving the gang because he told them he wanted out. Tom was admitted to Renown



Medical Center where he was treated, cared for and released to a behavior facility. There he was diagnosed with major depression disorder and an anxiety disorder. Tom denied to them that he was having suicidal ideations (SI) and homicidal ideations (HI) yet he was.

Marv, Tom and his family meet and interviewed each other and it was decided that Tom was a good fit for our program.

The second night of his stay with us at SNTR, Tom began to hyperventilate while experiencing a panic attack. He was found in his bedroom on the floor, in a semiconscious state. He was able to tell us that he could not move his hands or fingers or move his legs or feet. 911 was called and the operator assisted us in getting Tom to do breathing exercises while assuring us that paramedics were on the way. Marv talked Tom through the breathing exercises, along with massaging Tom's hands and fingers; this began to calm his breathing and get control of his extremities. By the time paramedics arrived, Tom's breathing had returned to normal, and he had gained control of his extremities. After doing a medical evaluation, the paramedic told us that Tom was okay, and this episode was probably brought on by being placed in a new environment, not knowing the people, and/or not knowing what his future would be especially after the harsh treatment at the previous facility. Tom had one more much milder attack wherein Marv talked him through, and then no more. We are so grateful that he began to trust us and his environment.



Sometime later, during a life skills class however, after being in our program for a short period of time Tom admitted to having suicidal ideations and he admitted that his life was all messed up, and he was guilty of some bad things. He asked Jesus to forgive him and gave Jesus permission to take control of his life. We saw a remarkable change in Tom's disposition. Up to this time, Tom expressed nothing but anger and hatred for his family members and indicated that he did not want visits from them;

however, after inviting Jesus into his life his attitude toward his family changed, and he requested visits. In time, Tom forgave each of his family members and began working on restoring family relationships - it was truly remarkable to watch as these relationships were being restored. God also began a work in Tom's heart, his mind, his soul, and his spirit to bring healing into his own broken areas. He (God) called Tom back to life with Jeremiah 29:11:

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."*

Tom got excited about his newfound relationship with God and the hope it gave him. He began to embrace life! The anxiety and depression lifted! He dove into his schoolwork with a passion and began completing online classes in record time. In about 6 weeks, Tom had completed all his junior classes – even before the junior school year was over. That being the case the school administrator working with Tom told him he could start his senior classes. Tom worked through those classes in record time as well, only experiencing problems in algebra and geometry, and was able to work through these classes with help from his tutor. Tom's hard work paid off – he completed 2 years of high school classes in 3 months. School officials informed him that he would graduate with the 2021 graduating class – a full year ahead of his graduating class of 2022!!! Some say this is phenomenal, some call Tom's story a



miracle, some call Tom a Renaissance man; while each of these characterizations may be true, we see it as the power of God working in and through an individual to bring about change and extraordinary achievements. Go Tom! May God continue to bless you and give you God speed in all your endeavors!

We are *grateful* for Leif and Bobbi Johansen, longtime financial supporters to Marv and to the juvenile ministry programs he's been involved with. They have stepped up in a big way with skills and resources to help us provide great surroundings for our young people at the Ranch. Leif, & Bobbi Johansen (of Johansen Masonry in Truckee), along with Leif's brother sold a condo property in Squaw Valley and donated almost all the condo furnishings and kitchen supplies. In addition to what you see in the pictures, TVs, king beds, linens, comforters, blankets, pillows & towels. We emptied the kitchen with all its small appliances, dishes, utensils, pots, pans and more.



We are *grateful* to Toby & Lorri Evans, and Russ Gardner & his friend who made up the whole of the volunteer team that drove a 26' U-Haul to Truckee where they packed up everything in the kitchen, hauled the furniture up and down two flights of stairs and packed the U-Haul to its full capacity.

Feeling exhausted, they then drove to the Ranch where they were met with another couple of hands, Rick Flowers and Leroy Manigault, and they worked unloading the U-haul way into the early morning hours. Marv and I sat helplessly at home while he suffered with COVID, and I was awaiting test results.



We are *grateful* for Russ and Jane Gardner for their donation of student computers.



We are *grateful* for Leif and Bobbie Johansen and their collaboration with Parker Hardscapes to provide us with over 4000 sq ft of pavers for patios and recreation areas. Toby, Marv and Lorri did the groundwork and installing.

We are *grateful* for Cecy Weiss, the Chicken Whisperer! When Cecy heard about the ranch she asked me

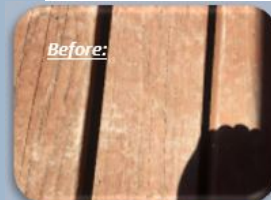
(Marv) if I would like to have some chickens. Being mindful that animal husbandry is a part of our program I jumped at the offer. In my mind I thought she was offering 2 or 3 – but she donated 10 egg-laying hens and 2 roosters that needed housing for their new home! Hence the chicken coop and yard. Between them we get all the healthy eggs we can eat, and even farm some of them out. Cecy, thank you for whispering up such a bountiful gift for the ranch. And the roosters are faithful to let us know every morning with their cockle doodle doo when it's time to get up!!



By the way, the Chicken Whisperer has a variety of chickens, ducks, turkeys, and geese. Friend her on Facebook to keep up with her and her fowl friends!

We are *grateful* again for Toby, Lorri & Todd Evans. They designed and built the chicken coup and yard for the chickens. They have the run of open land during the day, and we've (Jan & Marv) learned that they are smarter than most kids because they always come home before it gets dark!

Again, Lorri and Tobey Evans purchased and installed cupboards for each teen's personal storage & bedrooms and the utility room. They donated a Captain's bed for teen use and a fenced-in yard for chicken protection. They redid the wooden front door porch as the gaps between the wood provided great housing opportunities for little critters under the house. They have volunteered to help anytime where they can in the future. Thank you Lorri, Tobey, and Todd for the unselfish giving of your time and talents. You are a God send! Check out their handiwork:



WAYS TO HELP!



TO DONATE!



We are *grateful* again to Russ & Jane Gardner – this swamp cooler did its job perfectly; we were comfortable all summer long!



We are *grateful* to Tom's uncle who donated and planted trees to enhance our water-resource pond and recreation area. Thank you, John, for digging in deep!! And for the cover for our first garden hoop house.



We are *grateful* for Jake Wiskerchen and Zephyr Wellness. We are excited to introduce to you the head of our therapy program and ask you to join Sierra Nevada Teen Ranch in welcoming Jake Wiskerchen Founder and Chief Executive Officer of his organization, Zephyr Wellness. We chose to partner with Jake and his team to provide professional therapy for our teens at the Ranch. Together, they bring a truck load of knowledge, wisdom, experience and professionalism to our therapy program.

And, we are *grateful* for all the thoughtful and caring people who have helped us get and keep our doors open this last year:

A Voice in the Wilderness  
Adams, Julia R.  
Aguirre, Juan Pablo  
Allison, David & Shirley  
Baker, Renee and Kevin  
Brown, Michael &  
Candace  
Carano, Kimberly I.  
Cross, Maria  
Dahl, David  
Durio, Pamela

Fabbi, Edmund & Shari  
First Presbyterian  
Church - Virginia City  
Foster, Bruce & Sandra  
Giannotti, Dave & Jeanie  
Lemay, Eugene & Carla  
Link, Richard  
National Christian  
Foundation \* Calif  
Neal, Jan & Marvin  
Neal, Sandra

Network for Good -  
Nichols, Tom & Carole  
Palmer, Kenneth & Lidia  
SmileAmazon  
Spirit Filled Church  
Stine, Kenneth & Patricia  
Wacker, Eric & Jetta  
Webb, Dianna & Ralph  
Webb, William & Violene  
Western Nevada Supply

Special Mention: Kevin Haines for serving as our residential aide assistant. And, Julie Adams for her volunteer time at the Ranch.

**Share Your Skills, Time & Money.** Sponsor a client. Commit to a monthly placement fee donation. If you're comfortable, ask others to commit to a monthly donation. Please access our 2022 goals and needs list – it shares product needs and volunteer opportunities. As we look to 2022, we share these goals with you, and ask for your prayers, financial support and labor (bring your friends, church, organization, etc).

[SNTR Goals & Needs List 2022: More ways to Help! \(click here\)](#)

[TO DONATE](#)

Blessings and Good Will Towards All,



Janice L. Neal Marvin C Neal

Sierra Nevada Teen Ranch | P.O. Box 14945 | Reno, NV 89507 US

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