



# Feeding the Flock

Have you ever fed 16 hungry teenage boys three times a day? What about for a week? A month? A year?

How would you feed hungry, growing teenage boys for many years?



Ranch boys love to eat with guests and staff. It is a special treat to have visitors at the Ranch.

That's what we've been doing at the Boys Ranch for *forty* years!

We provide private living quarters for each boy, a full time private school, a fine gym and horseback riding. But the breakfast, lunch and dinner events are a major part of the daily schedule.

Now in our fortieth year, the Boys Ranch continues to touch the lives of at-risk teen boys. Most have behavioral issues and these boys are required to adjust to a structured program. Many have been victims of abuse, neglect, drugs, and unstable home environments, which have left the boys to develop maladaptive behavioral issues.

We at the Boys Ranch are grateful for the generous offering recently given at the Texas Ladies Conference 2019. The prayers and financial support provided by individuals, businesses and churches are so appreciated.

When a new boy arrives at the Ranch, our first action is to give him a big hug, welcome him to the ranch, help him unpack and move into his private bedroom (with private bathroom). We work overtime to give him extra attention and show him a lot of love. Many times, this hug is the first one the boy has ever received. He is shocked by all the attention he gets. He quickly realizes his time at the Boys Ranch will be unlike what he has ever experienced.

Our next focus is to bring each boy to the realization that he needs the Lord in his life and that a strong walk with God will help him to get rid of his self-destructive ways. While we cannot help every single boy, our track record is strong. There are many former residents who contact us to say their days at the Boys Ranch were among the best days of their life.

Our cattle project provides vocational training for the boys and also provides meat for our food program. We also have horses for the boys to ride. In addition, the boys can catch lots of fish in the Ranch fishing pond, and participate in our agricultural project, including keeping vegetable gardens and maintaining the grounds of our 40-acre campus.



Pastor Michael LaBrie, board chairman, visits the Ranch boys often and helps to guide the progress of the Ranch.



Boys live at the Ranch from one to three years. They gain new friends and learn to get rid of their self-destructive ways.

Since this is a working Ranch, each boy is assigned chores and is expected to do his part to help maintain our physical plant and buildings.

This gives each boy the training and necessary experience to help prepare him for the future.



Danny Smith, president  
**Boys Ranch**

[dsmith@lighthouse ranch.com](mailto:dsmith@lighthouse ranch.com)