

★ Northstar News ★

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Howdy Folks!

Things are off and running at Northstar Youth Ranch! We have seen God provide above and beyond our expectations. We have begun the process of applying for our non-profit status and have started our clothing closet. We continue to be amazed about how God brings many blessings into our lives when we least expect them.

Many of you have offered to be riding coaches, help build fence and horse shelters and help with the clothing exchange. Some of you have even donated horses, feed and offered to pay veterinarian bills. What a blessing you are to us, our family and soon the children of Northern Arizona! We are truly thankful for each and every one of you.



Latest News

The first step towards getting the barn ready for visitors is completed. We now have safe lighting that meets the county building code, from front to back.

The building to be used for the clothing exchange has been cleaned out (thanks Nate) and has boxes, tubs and bags full of children's clothes, shoes, sippy cups and all sorts of baby accessories stacked to the ceiling.

Thanks to your help and donations we were able to bless a young mom who is aging out of the foster care system with clothing and supplies needed for her newborn son. Thank you to Brenda Dale with Inn Transitions for the clothing donations and NDOW women of North Point Church for sorting clothing and donating money to buy tubs. We have many light jackets in various sizes so if you know of a family in need this

summer please put them in contact with us.

We hope to have a website up and running soon. Thanks to Joyce Reid with Creative Gifts to Go for helping us get a domain name and build a site. We will get the address out to you as soon as it is up running.

New Additions

We have a new some new members in the Northstar family. Please come meet our latest additions. A sweet, gentle Flemish Giant rabbit named Mabel has retired here and we have ducklings and baby chicks galore! The most exciting is Pepper a beautiful grey Quarter Horse gelding donated by the Torres family. He loves being groomed and fed apples and is an incredible addition to the "herd". A big thank you to Dominic and the entire Torres family for the generous donation of horse supplies, fencing, panels and most of all labor at Northstar. Many hands really do make for light work. Thank you!!



Coming Soon!!!

We are in the planning stages for our first big event. The Independent Living Skills groups with Arizona's Children Association are kids aging out of the foster care system. These kids, for whatever reason, were never adopted and are soon to be living on their own. We would like to encourage them and give them a helping hand as they enter into this exciting yet scary new phase in their lives. We will be having them out for a BBQ, recreation and to enjoy a little country life. We hope to provide them with some fun memories and build relationships that will hopefully grow into mentoring later on. A date has not been set yet but we are hoping for a weekend in June. If you would like to help cook or come to the BBQ to meet these incredible kids, please call or email.

We are having a work day next Saturday the 22nd, to finish cleaning up a hay barn that collapsed prior to our moving to the property. We plan to use the materials to build three sided horse shelters. We will be starting around 9:00. Lunch will be provided - "build-your-own" sandwiches. Families are welcome.

Please join us for all or part of the day. Let us know if you plan on coming out so we will have enough food.

Prayer Requests... *PRAISE for safety from 89 Mesa Wildfire.

*PRAISE for needs being met for the early stages of the mission.

*Continued health and safety for all at Northstar – two legged as well as four

*Continued direction and wisdom in mission

*Pray for God to bring the families to us and for us to be ready!! ☺

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Needs... *Recommendations for non-profit attorney and insurance agent

*Brochures and business cards

*People to teach horsemanship and to work with horses (grooming, training etc...)

*Mentors

*Someone to build/install shelves for the clothing exchange

* Riding helmets

*Fencing materials and feed



MISC.....

The National Foster Care Prayer Vigil is May 16-23.

The National Foster Care Prayer Vigil is calling followers of Christ together across the country during the week of May 16-23 to cry out to God on behalf of children and youth in our nation's foster care system, their families, their workers, and the church as it responds to the needs of those involved in the foster care system.

Join us as we pray for the Foster Care program in Arizona and nationwide Thursday, May 20th from 5 to 5:30pm at Northstar Youth Ranch. For more information please visit: <http://www.cryoftheorphan.org/Display.asp?Page=PVOverview>

Help Wanted.... Amber is looking to hire a “mother’s helper” to help with the upkeep and running of the Martin household so she can dedicate more time to the youth ranch. This person must love God, children and animals, be able to pass a CPS background check, have an excellent driving record and be willing and able to be flexible enough to fit into our crazy schedule. Approximately 10-15 hours per week. More possible if the ranch or our family should grow. If you or someone you know is interested, please call or email. Only the brave should apply. ☺