



Harvester

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

A publication of the **Morning Star Foundation**

From the Foundation Board President

A lot of water has passed under the bridge since the last issue of The Harvester. With the resignation of Dale Simison and Jason Hays' return to the Boys' Ranch as a counselor, Morning Star Foundation quickly set out to refocus its needs. We forged ahead by hiring Ager Consulting (Jeanne Ager, Kathie Burch, Mary Anne Brown, and Donna Halvorson) to assist us in the fund-raising process. Jeanne Ager comes to us with 34 years of knowledge and experience in philanthropic fundraising, foundation and program management, public relations, grant writing, grants management and endowment growth. She has been responsible for raising over \$20 million for many local non-profits through capital campaigns. In addition, she is a YWCA Woman of Achievement, Outstanding Sustainer for Junior League of Spokane, and recipient of the Marie-Rose Award as Outstanding Alum of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Donna Halvorson has served as a Development Director, Marketing Director, Resource Development Manager and Associate Director for four large non-profits in Spokane. Her communication and volunteer skills will contribute much toward grant writing and events. Kathie Burch has spent 30 years researching for grant seekers and grantmakers in development. She created the Funding Information Center at the Spokane Public Library and has recently been named the Grants Coordinator for the Hagan Foundation. Mary Anne Brown brings 30 years of experience with paralegal, data management and graphic design knowledge. She has 13 years of capital campaign management association with Jeanne. We are grateful to our new team for their focus in the area of development.



Bill Hawley (Morning Star Foundation Board President) and Fr. Joe

Morning Star Foundation is the major source of funding for Morning Star Boys' Ranch, one of our beneficiaries. Your continued donations will support the Foundation as the need continues to grow to provide services to our youth. The Ranch is trying to make space for the "boys on our waiting list" but that's not easy, and our support of that effort is critical. Your donations in the past are what keeps the Ranch going, and we thank you for all you've done over the years.

On a side note, the Foundation has hired Terry Neal (not our board member, but his wife) as our new Administrative Director. She is highly qualified, and we are so lucky to have her. Please welcome her at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your support of the Morning Star Foundation.

Bill Hawley



Our Continuing Mission



Morning Star Foundation Development Team, Left to Right: Donna Halvorson, Mary Anne Brown, Kathie Burch, Jeanne Ager, Terry Neal (Administrative Director)

“Giving so youth can succeed!” It is our mission at Morning Star Foundation, and we can think of no better person that emulates that mission than Darrell A. DuChene. Though we are saddened by Darrell’s recent passing, we continue to be inspired by his vision and commitment to youth over his years of service to Morning Star Boys’ Ranch, one of the Foundation’s beneficiaries.

For 17 years, Darrell provided counseling services to boys in need. He was also a very successful foster parent to 114 children through the years. It is his mentoring to boys that makes the legacy of the Morning Star Foundation unique. Darrell motivates all of us to carry out the goals of helping to feed, house, clothe and heal the emotional pain in the lives of challenged boys.

With a new development team at Morning Star Foundation and renewed interest in strengthening and growing the charitable foundation, we are committed to making sure that Morning Star Foundation leaves a permanent legacy in the Inland Northwest. Our combined years of experience bring many opportunities for growth, and our main goals are to ensure that the mission of Morning Star Foundation continues by building a sustaining fund dedicated solely to youth. We will safeguard the values of protecting a vulnerable generation by supporting boys experiencing difficulty in their home

environments and preserving the rights for challenged boys to become successful husbands, dads and future leaders of our communities.

Our expertise in research, writing and winning program grants will help Morning Star Foundation flourish while we also work to advance the asset growth through individual and business contributions.

In this spirit, the Unrestricted and Support A Boy Funds at the Morning Star Foundation urgently need your individual gifts. The attached envelope makes it easy for you to send donations. We also encourage you to sign up for monthly or quarterly pledges. Appreciated gifts of securities or real estate are also welcome. Help us change a life with your generous support so that together we will grow Morning Star Foundation. The needs of many young boys depend on your support.

There is no better person to remind us of that than Darrell. His passion and energy will continue even though he is no longer with us.

Call us at (509) 448-1412 to arrange a lunch and tour of our beautiful pastoral setting at Morning Star Foundation.

Morning Star Foundation Board of Directors

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Robert Morgan
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R. Terry Neal
Marcus Ourada
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A Case for Giving

Incorporated in 2006, Morning Star Foundation is an independent legal entity under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code and contributions to the Foundation are fully deductible under Section 170 of the Code. Its purpose is to solicit, receive, administer and manage gifts, funds and other assets in order to support tax-exempt, charitable pursuits for the benefit of youth in the Inland Northwest. Although the Foundation benefits other charitable youth activities, its major beneficiary is Morning Star Boys' Ranch in Spokane, Washington.

The Directors were thoughtful in forming the Morning Star Foundation as they saw a future necessity to preserve critical therapeutic program services urgently needed for troubled boys to grow into men in the twenty-first century. At the Ranch, it is currently supporting Structural Behavioral and Responsible Living Skills Programs, including academic tutoring, creative arts, diversity, agricultural skills, and equine-assisted therapy, in a safe residential environment. In fact, 80% of the Ranch support comes from private contributions made possible through generous donations to the Foundation. Additionally, Morning Star Foundation has benefited Southside Christian School, AAU Basketball and Victoria's Montessori School.

Contributions for these programs are held in Education, Support a Boy or Unrestricted funds. This dynamic Foundation is led by a board of directors who have an abiding will to make Morning Star Foundation the most effective foundation it can be. An experienced finance committee oversees a strong investment policy for growth and preservation. The \$7 million Foundation Investment Portfolio is currently managed through the Trust/Wealth Management Division of US Bank and Morgan Stanley Smith Barney with the following annual returns achieved in 2009 and 2010:

22.6% - 2009 at US Bank	14.9% - 2009 at Morgan Stanley
12.3% - 2010	12.6% - 2010 Smith Barney

Morning Star Foundation encourages all forms of charitable giving including gifts of cash, appreciated securities or real estate, bequests in your will or living trust, life insurance or gifts that provide you an income as a result of a charitable gift. We are available to meet with you and your advisors about various options. Please join with us in our permanent energetic plan to assure ongoing success and sustainability for Morning Star Boys' Ranch and programs dedicated to youth in Spokane and the Inland Northwest.



How to Give

If you would like to donate to the Morning Star Foundation, you may do so by using the enclosed envelope. You can also call the Morning Star Foundation at 509-448-1412, or visit the website at MorningStarFoundationSpokane.org and click on **Donate**.

Members of the Morning Star Foundation Board of Directors, Left to Right: Bob Durgan, Terry Neal, Bill Hawley (President), Dominic Decaro, Jennifer Lucke, Bob Morgan (not pictured, Ed Sonneborn, Director)



PO Box 31330

Spokane, WA 99223-3022

MorningStarFoundationSpokane.org

Return Service Requested

Save the Date

Evening in Tuscany

Sunday, August 7, 2011

Morning Star Foundation's most prestigious event of the year, our Evening in Tuscany includes live opera and a fabulous five-course dinner in a historical Rockwood neighborhood home. This event is limited to 90 guests, so make your plans early.

55th Anniversary Celebration and Cook-Out

Saturday, September 17, 2011

The Morning Star Boys' Ranch Anniversary Celebration honors the Ranch founders, alumni and neighbors. Join us for a family style barbecue at the Ranch. Please call Ms. Terry Neal at 448-1412 for details.



Caring for Kids

Caring for Kids

Thursday, September 15, 2011

The 15th annual Caring for Kids luncheon will raise money to help make a difference in the lives of Spokane's most vulnerable children. The primary beneficiaries of the event are Morning Star Boys' Ranch and St. Anne's Children and Family Center. This event will be held at the Doubletree Downtown Spokane, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Please call Judy at 358-4254 for reservations.

Reuniting Boys with Family

Morning Star Boys' Ranch has a rich 55-year history of providing a safe, home-like therapeutic experience to boys. For a variety of reasons, these young men are not able to reside with their families. We are committed to reunifying boys with their families and work to ensure that every child has the opportunity to develop in a supportive, nurturing environment. These outcomes are attained through our comprehensive, strengths based program.

Our social work team places families at the center of the treatment process. Forming a partnership with parents, areas of strength are identified as are day-to-day challenges and specific skills tied to alleviating those stressors. Social workers design in-depth treatment plans, and provide counseling and case management for each boy.

Residential counselors put these treatment plans in action through proactive interventions as the boys go through their daily lives at the Ranch. Adaptive coping skills are learned and become a part of each resident's behavior repertoire.

We are blessed to have many specialty areas in which the boys can participate and gain competence. These include creative arts, horse,

agriculture, diversity, and recreation programs. Highly trained staff assist boys to gain leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills. They learn to work comfortably as a team.

All of our residents attend public or private schools in the area. We place a high priority on education and work closely with school personnel to ensure that each resident is placed in an appropriate program so that academic success is enhanced.

Throughout the treatment period, focus is placed on utilizing community resources to broaden the network of support for residents and their families. This strengthens their ability to thrive once the child has returned home.

Currently, we have 16 residents at the Murphy House campus and 6 at the Bosco House campus, a Responsible Living Skills facility that prepares boys for independence. Morning Star is moving forward to expand our range of services to include an urgent temporary care component. This will enable us to provide placement for boys whose behavioral and/or emotional issues exceed the level of care available in foster care receiving homes but are too young to be placed at a Crisis Residential Center.

Morning Star Boys' Ranch Board of Directors

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Morning Star Boys' Ranch Staff, Left to Right: Mary Roach, Marciano Meckle, Susan Kirkeby, Daniel Kuhlmann, Lois Rose-Cobb, Anita Herdener (Board Member), Richard Petersen, Christopher Thompson, Jason Hays, Philip Eager, Barbara Roma, Spencer Hampton, Catlin Dix, Timothy Moroney, Laurie Lantrip, Larry White, Amanda Schafer, Conrad Bagley, John Hindman, Jared Cook

The purposes of Morning Star Boys' Ranch are to operate responsible living skills and transitional programs, and residential treatment facilities for youth in need of shelter, care, support and direction. Although the Ranch receives income from the State of Washington for State-placed residents, that income only covers a portion of the costs for those residents, and the majority of Ranch residents receive no State funding whatsoever. Accordingly, the majority of funds required to operate Morning Star Boys' Ranch are received from grants from Morning Star Foundation.

Lives Transformed

Ask any of the little boys at the Ranch and they will tell you that Austin is a great “big brother” who sticks up for anyone who is being picked on.

But it hasn't always been like this. When he was five, Austin's world changed with the divorce of his parents. The little boy missed having his dad at home. His sadness continued for several years and, in the fifth grade, that sadness turned to anger.

Through late elementary school and middle school, Austin's behavior at home and at school caused many problems. He built a history of defiance, fighting, property damage, running away, school suspensions, and theft. A suicide attempt resulted in Austin being hospitalized for a time and transitioned to a therapeutic group home for several months.

There was such hope that this would be a turning point, the beginning of a happier life. But the old anger was hard to shake. A brush with the law resulted in a Malicious Mischief charge, some time in detention, and admission to Morning Star Boys' Ranch.

Austin has been with us for a few months now and has worked hard to make a fresh start. He no longer takes medication for behavioral/emotional issues and is actively participating in all the programs



the Ranch has to offer. He is doing well in school. He attends every day and has had no disciplinary problems. Our staff characterizes this young man as an intelligent leader who is strong, sensitive and creative. Austin has a fun-loving nature, great sense of humor, and passion for sports. He is building healthy relationships with both staff and peers. These interpersonal skills are also demonstrated on home visits where Austin reports that he and his family are really enjoying time spent together.

In a few short weeks, Austin will turn sixteen and all indications are that this young man has a bright future ahead of him.

Performance and Outcomes

Morning Star Boys' Ranch Program Director, John Hindman, recently attended a national conference in Seattle for residential treatment providers that addressed the transformation occurring in our field of service.

The trend setters in this field, Boys Town in Nebraska, Children's Village in New York to name a few, have reviewed the treatment outcomes research, made vast changes in their approaches to residential care, and shared their results at the conference. In addition, the conference highlighted several state initiatives that have direct implications for us as we respond to the new performance based contracting model that will be in effect this fall.

The changes in residential treatment services begin with a drastic reduction in the length of stay. In addition, residential centers will need to be family

centered. Family centered includes open visitation, increased family reunification efforts, and a family advocate to help the parents become more influential in the child's treatment.

The good news is that Morning Star Boys' Ranch is headed in the right direction. We know that children most often return to their home. Longer periods of separation increase the difficulty of resolving the actual issues that led to the placement. By experience, we know that at risk boys are a very difficult population to complete sound psychological testing and medication supports when required, and residential centers vastly increase the ability to complete these important interventions. It makes good sense to strive for shorter stays, become family centered, complete the testing, and provide aftercare to ensure successful reunification.