



## Here's How You Can Help

The ministries of Family Connection Inc. are dedicated to improving the lives of at risk youth. Our mission is "To partner with our communities by providing caring services to hurting children, youth and families, in helping them reach wholeness of body, mind and soul.

There are several opportunities for you to support our mission and help restore the lives of hurting and troubled youth. Below is a variety of gift options available to you:

### Current Needs List

#### Hygiene

Body wash  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Deodorant  
Maxi pads (regular & overnight)

#### First Aid/ Medical

Hydrogen peroxide  
Pepto-bismol  
Tussin cough medicine  
Tussin DM cough medicine  
Midol  
Ibuprofen  
Hand sanitizer  
Non-medicated chap stick

#### School/ Office

Dictionaries  
Page protectors  
Hand-held calculators  
Kleenex for school  
Paper towels for school  
Composition books (no spirals)  
Notebook binders-1"  
Black ink pens  
Poster board  
Post-It notes  
Copier paper  
File folders  
8-tab dividers  
Colored report folders  
Dry erase markers  
Binder clips-sm/med/lrg  
Stationary  
Postage stamps



On-line Contributions – Make a meaningful contribution through the convenience of your computer at [www.familyconnectioninc.com](http://www.familyconnectioninc.com) and click Donate Now.



Memorial/ Honorarium Gifts – Honoring a loved one through charitable gifts is often an especially meaningful act of paying tribute to someone special, while assuring that worthwhile values continue to influence the world around us.



Employer Matching Gifts – Does your employer match your charitable contributions? If so, you can increase your gift without increasing your out of pocket amount.



Gifts of Stock – Do you own Appreciated Stock? With a charitable stock income plan you can sell your stock tax free and bypass capital gains, increase your income for retirement and receive a tax deduction for a gift to charity.



In-Kind Contributions – You can find our current needs list on the left or on-line and provide some much needed items for the youth in our care.



Bequests – Leave your legacy through a planned gift in your will. For more information on planned gifts contact Vice President of Development Buzz Dixon at 765-620-1180



Cash Donations – Make a cash gift directly to Family Connection or Hope Hill through a monthly, quarterly, annual or one time gift.

Family Connection Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit agency. All contributions are tax deductible and a receipt will be provided for your records. For detailed information on making a gift to Family Connection, please contact [katy@familyconnectioninc.com](mailto:katy@familyconnectioninc.com).

Visit our web site for more info on work camp projects [www.hopehill.org](http://www.hopehill.org)



# Family Connection



## Teens Travel From California to Minister at Hope Hill

What would bring a group of teenagers from Southern California to the hills of Hope, KY? For the youth of Calvary Chapel of West Grove the answer is simple, Hope Hill Children's Home. Almost three years ago a group of about 20 youth flew across the country to minister to the Emanuel Baptist Church in Stanton, KY. After meeting Youth Pastor Eric Nelson,

through cookouts, games, carnival activities including bounce houses and blow up slides, dramas and just hanging out. Eric Nelson says, "As much as we like to have fun and give the girls a sense of normalcy, we really come to give them the hope of Jesus Christ. Bounce houses fade but Christ remains."

preparation for the trip and are glad to sacrifice their time and money for the girls at Hope Hill. "We have been blessed with a burden to help and serve the people in Kentucky. Jesus didn't come to be served but rather to serve. It blesses me that my youth are willing to do the same," says Nelson.

*This is one example of the many individuals and churches that have become partners in ministry with Hope Hill Children's Home. We thank each and every one of you who give through your time, money and prayers. You may never fully know how your ministry is impacting the lives of our girls every day.*



Between all their visits to Hope Hill there have been 50 to 75 youth from Calvary Chapel that have given up the typical spring or Christmas break trips with family and friends to come minister to the girls at Hope Hill. Their

Hope Hill's Program Director invited the group to spend a few hours with the girls at Hope Hill. No one knew this spontaneous meeting would develop into a lasting partnership that would result in five additional trips to Hope Hill.

Each visit that the youth of Calvary Chapel make to Hope Hill is filled with fun activities, good food and an invitation to know Christ. The group interacts with the girls at Hope Hill

youth fundraise year round in

### Honor A Loved One

Memorial Day has historically been a day designated to honoring the lives of fallen soldiers. Over the years many Americans have used this holiday to also honor other family members who have died. Perhaps your gift to the Annual Fund this Memorial Day could honor someone special in your life. When you send a gift of \$100.00 or more to the memorial/honorarium fund we will place a brick engraved with your loved ones name in the Memorial Garden at Hope Hill Children's Home. Your memorial gift will allow you to honor your loved one by creating a lasting legacy that will help restore the lives of hurting children and youth.



## Equine Program Featured in KMSHA Magazine

An upcoming issue of Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse Association magazine will be publishing an article about the Equine Assisted Counseling Program at Hope Hill Children's Home. Below is an excerpt from this article.

The early success of equine-assisted counseling at Hope Hill led to the birth of H.A.L.T.E.R. (Healing Adolescents Lives Through Equine Relations). Alison Chambers is now the H.A.L.T.E.R. Program Director and credits the unique characteristics of the Mountain Horse for the program's success. "The program has really taken off," states Chambers, "and the activities we do with the girls may change, but the horses remain consistent enough to trust even the most troubled youth in an arena with them." Aaron Cude, one of the program's counselors, says, "We use Kentucky Mountain Horses because they are gentle, curious, and able to mirror the girls' behavior in the arena. They adapt to various situations exceptionally well, and the curious temperament of our horses in the arena is an invaluable asset while in session with our young ladies."

Many of the activities in the H.A.L.T.E.R. program are designed to encourage the girls to reflect on some of the challenges they face. One activity involves a group of girls moving a horse over a low jump that represents an obstacle or conflict in their lives. This may seem simple to most, but the challenge is that the group must do this without speaking to each other or touching the horse.



"When we discuss the activity, we focus on what the participants do well with the horses in the arena and what behaviors work, thus providing multiple learning opportunities for the participants.



The horses are able to choose if they want to engage in the activity and 100% of the time they choose to. Every activity the girls do, ranging from grooming to natural horsemanship, provides an opportunity to teach the girls about self awareness, self worth, communication, and making choices that will benefit them in the real world," says Chambers.

After almost three years, Hope Hill Children's Home is pleased with the growth that the program has seen so far, but is still looking to the future. Chambers says, "Our goal is that every youth who comes to Hope Hill has the opportunity to experience the breed of horse that originated in their own back yard and to see how a horse can be used for more than riding. Working with the horses in a therapeutic setting can be a life-changing experience. In the coming years, we hope to raise the funds to build an indoor arena so that we can hold sessions in all weather conditions and provide a safer, more predictable environment."

To read the full article visit our web site [www.hopehill.org](http://www.hopehill.org)

## Triple L Youth Ranch Closes It's Doors

After months of working tirelessly with the state of Indiana in order to ensure adequate funding for the care of the children entrusted to us, and after working at recovering funds from the state that were owed but unpaid for past treatment services, it was with great heartache that President & CEO John Shue had to advise the Family Connection Board of Directors that there seemed to be little hope of reviving the program and recovering a viable operation without consuming every financial resource that we had and thus placing our sister agency Hope Hill Children's Home in serious jeopardy.

In November of 2008, the board of directors voted to close Triple L Youth Ranch and to sell and/or lease the property to other non-profit(s) that had a mission similar to ours and would help emotionally hurting children, youth and families.

Though this is a sad time for those who knew and loved Triple L, there is a bright side to this story. Hope Hill Children's Home, the sister program to Triple L, in Kentucky is doing well and is treating troubled girls who come from difficult backgrounds. These children need our prayers, support and encouragement. We hope that those of you who supported Triple L over the years will prayerfully consider continuing to help troubled youth by sending your support to Hope Hill Children's Home.

## Followed God's Leading to Hope Hill



At age eighteen, Ken Cude, Director of Hope Hill Children's Home, was called into ministry and for the last thirty-

six years he has dedicated his life to meeting the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of youth from all walks of life.

Cude came from a painful home life himself and can empathize with the youth at Hope Hill. "All they are trying to do everyday is to survive, every day for them is 'if I can just get through this day'. That is why they act out the way they do. They don't have any moral reasoning. No family or church to guide them," says Cude. Having experienced abuse himself from an alcoholic father, as a teenager he became out of control. It wasn't until he got involved with a local

church and experienced the saving grace of Christ that he began to find healing.

His career began in Spring Valley, MN and has taken Cude from youth pastor to missionary, direct care staff to therapist. All along the way Cude and his wife Janelle have followed God's guidance and direction which is exactly what led them to Hope Hill. Cude was not thinking of leaving his position at Buckhorn when he agreed to visit a colleague at Hope Hill but as Cude says, "I was driving up the road and just as I came to the top of the hill, God spoke to my heart and I knew this is where I needed to be."

What drew Cude to Hope Hill was the feeling of God's presence and the unique way in which the staff interacted with the girls and each other. Cude

explains, "Girls come in so crumbled and hurt and with no hope and in a few months they start seeing that hope. They start getting relationships built with the staff and they start realizing and understanding moral reason and they hear about Christ and a lot of them make decisions for Christ at that point. That is what keeps me here."

When asked what makes Hope Hill unique compared to other agencies Cude explained that it is the Spiritual aspect of treatment that sets Hope Hill apart. "We don't give up, we try everything possible to help the girls emotionally, physically and spiritually. You can't be fully whole or healed without Christ," says Cude. It is vital that Hope Hill exist to serve these young ladies because although we are but one small agency God has put us here for a purpose and for the 120 lives that we impact every year Hope Hill is their last chance.