

IN BRIEF

Kudos

We are very proud of recent PATCH graduate, Preston Fosmore. He has been invited to join the National Honor Society at his new school. Congratulations, Preston!

Hurry to the tee!

2nd annual Match for PATCH Golf Tournament, July 14, 2006, 7 am at the Spur Wing Country Club, Meridian, Idaho. Sign up at www.projectpatch.org or call Jennifer Matoske at 208-375-8965.

Bike for PATCH

The Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation selected Project PATCH as charity beneficiary of the Blue Cruise Bike Ride, held August 12, starting at the Blue Cross Office Complex in Meridian, ID. Our team will wear PATCH jerseys. To register for the ride go to www.bcidahofoundation.org. To ride on the PATCH team, call Jennifer Matoske at 208-375-8965.



Chuck Hagele, Ranch Coordinator and Cory Currant, Counselor are completing their rafting certification. Part of that process includes taking the youth down the Snake River to utilize their new skills.

PATCH works!

Gaining a New Perspective

Depression in adolescents has been linked to oppositional behavior. Because children cannot express deep emotional hurt like adults, they often give the impression that they have coped with a life-altering trauma but in reality they have not. Sooner or later they will need to stop and address those deep hurts in order to move successfully into their future.

"Josh," arrived at PATCH a very angry and active young man. PATCH staff quickly determined that much of his internal turmoil came from the emotional memories of his birth mom's death when he was five-years old. He responded well to the PATCH program and made it to Level 2 of the four levels but then began to stagnate. Clearly Josh was stuck. Our Wilderness program is designed for kids that need quiet reflection time to gain new perspectives as well as for kids that are acting out. Josh needed a new perspective. He was sent to Wilderness with a number of grief oriented counseling assignments tailored to his specific needs. Here is Josh's account of that experience.

"I wasn't very excited when I went out to Wilderness. In fact, I was pretty angry. "Josh, you're going to Wilderness," my counselor said. Those words rang in my mind for about three hours. You see, I wasn't being bad, I was on Level 2 and didn't see any reason why I had to go to Wilderness. Once I got over the whole anger thing, it actually wasn't that bad, aside from the powdered milk!

I was sent out to grieve the death of my biological mom. It wasn't easy by any means but by the time I came back to the dorm, my outlook on life and certain people had changed. After wilderness my behaviors had changed from angry to positive. I achieved Level 3 in the program not long afterwards and now I am preparing to graduate! Wilderness was a great experience that I know would help anybody with an anger or depression problem." – JOSH

After his Wilderness experience, Josh put together a memorial service for his birth mom. Although very emotional, the service gave Josh a sense of closure and frees him to develop the relationship with his step-mom that he deeply wants without feeling disloyal toward his birth mom. Anger no longer dictates his response to life's frustrations.

RAFTING CERTIFICATION



Can I do It?

For the most part, I hated school. In third grade, I remember getting in trouble for talking too much and distracting my peers. It seemed to me that there were at least 10 other better things that I could be doing rather than math, science or social studies. High school provided me with an opportunity to have a little more freedom and a lot more friends. There would be days where I would go to class, write down notes and fully try to participate. On other days, I would decide to play a little hooky and stay home to watch Lifetime movies. In doing this, I started to fall behind and got discouraged.

Over the next couple of years, I made some decisions that led me to Project PATCH. One of the consequences from a decision I made was expulsion from school. This meant that I was most likely not going to graduate and I was fine with that. At PATCH part of the daily routine is to go to school except for the weekends and breaks. I remember working with my teacher looking at how many credits I had and what my best option would be. We then concluded that I was so close to graduating that it would be best to go for my diploma.

Throughout the next 10 months, I worked on three subjects to finish my schooling. In public high school, it was easy to go to class and at least pass with a C or D. At PATCH, the education is more thorough and difficult. Every week you have a goal and if you don't pass it you have no free time the next week. I started to feel good about myself when I saw that my GPA was going up and that I was starting to understand more.

At PATCH, there is constant "hands-on" learning in psychology. I realized my compassion for people and wanted to look further into a possible career in psychology one day. Learning that it was a good 4-6

years of school I felt a little discouraged and through maybe I should take the 12-15 months of cosmetology school. As my schooling and working at PATCH went on, I felt more confident about the 4-6 years of college. Right now, I am in the process of turning in my registration papers to a college in my home town where I will be for the next 3-4 years taking classes for a major in psychology. The next 2-3 years after that I will be attending a private college to finish up my masters in psychology.

This is definitely a big jump for me because school wasn't where I wanted to be. I lacked the self-confidence to do what I really could do. Now instead of taking the easy way out and doing something because it is simpler, I am now working towards a career in something that I will truly enjoy even though it will be more difficult.

Currently I am finishing up counseling and school because I am graduating in less than a week. At my graduation, I will receive a certificate of the level program as well as my high school diploma. This shows me that I can do it even when it feels too hard. I came to PATCH with low hopes and no expectations of myself. Wow, look how far I've come with the help of my family, PATCH and myself.

Goldendale

Special thanks to the following for their contributions to the Goldendale project:

- Boys from the Ranch for building fences
- Sam Adams for helping build fences
- Gary Garvin and other volunteers for thinning trees
- Jonathan Baumgartner for excavating the roadway
- John Mohr for work on the roadway and rebuilding our John Deere loader
- Rowand Machinery for donating use of a large excavator for two weeks
- Those donors who made possible the purchase of a Caterpillar grader
- CamCat Tractor of Myrtle Creek, Oregon, for rebuilding the grader's engine

We could not have done it without your help!
Thank you so much!

A Letter of Thanks

Dear Tom,

It's been ten years since I was a resident at PATCH. I am now a proud mother, a student and a Seventh-day Adventist.

I don't know where to begin about how differently my life would be without PATCH. I imagine I'd be a lifer in jail, or dead. I was so selfish and self-destructive. I didn't care what I was doing to myself and especially to others (family) as long as I was doing what I wanted, and what I thought was making me happy.

Before I went to PATCH, I was on a formal probation for several years, on house arrest with home monitor system, in and out of juvenile hall, a constant runaway, a junior high dropout in general, a menace to society. Since leaving PATCH, I have received my GED and am going to school to be a surgical tech. I have a wonderful relationship with my family, my daughter and the Lord.

I am so grateful to the patient caring and support shown me by the staff at PATCH.

Thank you! — Cristy Harper, Kings Beach, CA

Busy Volunteers



A group of Maranatha Volunteers arrived at the Ranch on May 15 with hammers, tape measures, saws, and paintbrushes in their hands and passion for

PATCH in their heart! The major project was a new building to house a woodworking shop so the kids can learn new skills! In addition, the pump house, the two duplexes and a mobile home received fresh exterior paint, plus many other projects. We are so grateful not only to this particular group of volunteers, but to all the dedicated Maranatha Volunteers who have expended so much of their time and energy over the past 14 years improving the Ranch and loving our kids.



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PATCH works! is published three times yearly by Project PATCH for alumni, board members, parents, staff, and philanthropic supporters...

Comments are welcomed please contact 503-653-8086 or patch@projectpatch.org

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PATCH works! **BOUQUETS**

Keep up the good work! Many prayers go up for you. May you feel God's blessings on you.

Milton-Freewater, OR

Thanks for all you do to make life even more than bearable for God's hurting and frightened kids. God blesses.

Rockaway Beach, OR

This [gift] is for helping spread the gospel to these young people. Bless you all!

Salmon, ID

Thank you for the [news] letters you send concerning the youth and how God has touched their hearts and lives; that is the reason for my donation.

Riverside, CA

PROJECT PATCH WISH LIST

- **Urgent Need** NEW FAX MACHINE\$200
- RADIOS (GMRS/FRS 2-WAY RADIOS w/ 10 MILE RANGE)\$60 PAIR
- ORBITAL FINISH SANDER 5" SANDING DISKS – GRIZZLY\$25
- BRAD POINT DRILL BIT 25 PC SET 1/8" – 1/2" – GRIZZLY\$20
- 35 PC ROUTER BIT SET – GRIZZLY\$120
- VEHICLES IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION?
- LARGE WOOD STOVE FOR CORE BUILDING?
- FOOD PROCESSOR (INDUSTRIAL)\$200
- PANS (COMMERCIAL) EA\$25
- REVERSIBLE JERSEYS FOR PE CLASS (24) EA\$15
- VACUUMS (INDUSTRIAL) (3) EA\$250
- SOFTBALL GLOVES –9 FOR RIGHT-HANDED PLAYERS. EA\$35
- NETS FOR HOCKEY AND SOCCER GOALS\$75
- VOLLEYBALLS AND SOCCER BALLS, EA\$30
- ASPHALT FOR CHAPEL PARKING AREA
1,200 SQ. FT @ \$1.35 PER SQ. FT\$1,620