



IN BRIEF

89.5 FM KTSY Radio Bike Ride

Sunny, windy, and eventually rainy all describe the KTSY Family Radio ride from one end of their broadcast reach to the other. Three riders—Morning Show Host Jerry Woods, Chaplain Brian and their friend Craig Nowaski—covered over 325 miles raising funds to sponsor kids at PATCH. Their courage, discipline and heart for troubled teens raised \$9,694.33 in listener pledges. We thank them and their wives, who gave up their husbands for a week. Thanks also to the generous listeners who gave to help hurting kids have a chance at a brighter future!

Congratulations Jennifer!

Jennifer Matoske, PATCH's Development Director/Idaho, has been honored twice in 2008 by the The Idaho Business Review: first as one of Idaho's Women of the Year and, secondly, as one of its 2008 "Accomplished under 40" honorees. These are honors both for Jennifer and for PATCH.

PATCH works!

You Want Us to Do What!?



There are some "team-building" exercises that elicit responses of incredulity from the kids when they are told what is expected. Sometimes the task looks impossible, but they know that here at Project PATCH, the exercise is not optional.

They begin discussing how to do the impossible. Tension builds and tempers begin to move toward the boiling point. Arguments start, things are said, feelings are hurt and the whole process grinds to a halt.

Failure? Not at all, the team-builder is doing exactly what it was designed to do—put stress on people who have not been dealing well with stress. Yes, that may sound crazy, but this is the way we can recreate the feelings these kids were struggling with at home. Feelings that led to poor decisions and dysfunctional ways of dealing with life.

At this point a group therapy session is called and all those feelings and issues are discussed. The kids begin to think of ways to deal with the feelings, as well as methods to achieve the team-builder objective. Some methods are discarded, others seem worth trying. With a renewed sense of purpose they try again.

Finally after many tries, scrapes and a few bruises they succeed. What a celebration! There are exclamations of "We did it!" What did they do? They learned that if they put away their differences, control strong emotions and trust each other, things that look impossible can be accomplished.

With just a few boards, cement blocks and pallets—the strength, patience, durability and creativity of the group is tested. Don't forget this is a group of teens with bad attitudes, anger issues, abuse issues and certainly trust issues. The exercise starts off very rocky but ends with laughter, cheers, a few tears and many hugs. What begins as a disjointed and dysfunctional group, transforms to a team with new goals, self-understanding, and willingness to help each other achieve the impossible—a new life.

Hopeless to Hopeful

“Rags to Riches” describes the process of moving from poverty to prosperity with perseverance and hard work. “Hopeless to Hopeful” can describe the process of changing one’s life emotionally. This process also takes perseverance and hard work, but most of all it takes humility. One of our residents, Katrina*, describes her process below:

“By the time I walked through PATCH’s doors I was pretty screwed up. Every person who should have been there for me—never was. I never knew my birthparents and still don’t know my birthfather. My adoptive mom was a single mother who worked all the time. I was sexually abused by family friends. I felt like a loser at school and was constantly picked on and beat up a lot.

“Everyone I got attached to left. I even watched as a little dog I became friends with got hit by a car. So, at a young age I learned I had to take care of myself because I was the only one who was going to do it. By age eleven I was going downhill. My mom took me to a good counselor to try and get me help. He gave up on me after a month. I was so hurt, I tried to cover up the pain with drugs, alcohol, self harm and codependent relationships. I used fights and criminal activity to try and vent all the anger I had toward myself and others. I was a mess.”

“Patch was probably the hardest thing I’ve ever done. I would never want to do it again, but I can’t deny all the changes I’ve made here. No, I don’t skip everywhere and sing hymns, and I still have trust issues and have a hard time talking to people about myself. I still have days where I just want to “go psycho” in group therapy sessions or take a car and just drive. But I don’t have as many of those days now. I have worked through my stuff and now when those days hit I grab my mp3 player and run as fast as I can to the kitchen, play the piano or yell at my counselor. Now I want to finish high school. I want a future. I have hope.”

Katrina moved through the process with the help of counseling assignments, therapy, school, team building exercises and the challenge of living in a very structured environment with other girls. It was hard, painful work to face what had been done to her and what she had done. She unraveled her dysfunctional conclusions about who she was and about life in general. Her family worked together on communication problems and misunderstandings as they learned about their differences in family counseling sessions.

With hard work, perseverance and humility Katrina has graduated from the program and is staying at the Ranch a few more weeks to finish her junior year of high school in the Honors Program. She is bright, full of energy and has hope about the future.

Thank you for your part in providing a place where young people like Katrina can move through the process from Hopeless to Hopeful.

**Not her real name.*



Alumni Updates

PATCH is pleased to report on three Alumni who serve their community, country, and colleges.

Jeff Patterson, now at Union College, works in the dorm and recently performed first aid on one of the residents who had broken his wrist. Jeff soon travels to Colorado to teach first aid for White Water Rescue and other survival skills. He’s also considering a year in Micronesia as a student missionary. Jeff loves both the outdoors and helping others.

John Shaver is on leave from Iraq (he is a National Guard MP). He returned to be with his wife for their son’s birth. Mom and baby are doing well. John loves to serve and plans on a law enforcement career when his tour of duty is over.

Ryan Young will graduate from Academy soon and loves playing baseball. He’s received a scholarship to play baseball for any Adventist college he chooses. Ryan is as yet undecided, but is considering Walla Walla University.

Each of these young men graduated from the PATCH program and returned to their communities ready to take what they had learned and apply it to their lives. These young men are now servants; thank you for serving them with your prayers and gifts.

A Wonderful Feat for Our Feet!

There's nothing harder on a floor than 50 pairs of feet coming and going three times a day. Especially when most of them are teen feet and their mission is a meal! So, after many years of feet and meals with their resulting spills, the floor in our cafeteria was quite tattered and desperately needed replacing.

Chuck Hagele, our Ranch Administrator, thoroughly researched the optimal type of flooring. He came up with Marmoleum – a fused-seam type of vinyl flooring used on battleships. Now that's tough! Perhaps even tough enough to withstand all those feet coming and going.

Can you imagine how much that special flooring was going to cost? It came to \$10,000 including the labor! Where would we ever find the funds for that? That mission took our Boise fundraiser over a lot of ground to several potential sources. Several times she met with defeat, but kept her feet moving. Eventually, she found two wonderful local foundations that made this feat a possibility. The **Harry W. Morrison Foundation** and the **Brighton Foundation** generously each gave \$5,000. We are deeply grateful to these wonderful community partners for turning our defeat into a victory!



Pathfinder Mission Trip

Amazing things happen when Pathfinders from 18 different clubs throughout the Upper Columbia Conference come together at one location. In March, 72 Teen Pathfinders, 16 Junior Pathfinders and 34 adult leaders converged in Goldendale, Washington. One of their purposes was to work on projects at PATCH's emerging family center.

The Pathfinders and their leaders spread out, with some building gazebos in scenic locations on our property. Others cleared the woodlands by piling and burning brush while others built fences. Probably the most arduous task was rebuilding a 100-year-old trail around the 70-foot waterfall which led to the historic generator on the Little Klickitat River. Rob Lamberton, an experienced trail builder, shared his expertise with the Pathfinders as they worked to improve the trail.

It can be truly said about these Pathfinders that neither sleet nor hail, rain or shine, cold or blizzard can keep them from a mission project. This week-long project allowed the Pathfinders to experience most every type of weather except heat with no complaints and no more serious an injury than a smashed thumb.

Thank-you Pathfinders for a job well done.



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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 360-690-8495 or patch@projectpatch.org

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PATCH works! BOUQUETS

Our prayers go out to you as you continue your ministry. It definitely is a challenging one in these unsettled times...enclosed is a gift...wish I could do more. God does have His ways of stretching our resources.

C&S, Washington

So glad for the safe haven you all provide for needy kids. Bless you for all you do to keep the "Project" going. God's records will show your every act & word of kindness. He cares! With gratitude I send this little gift – wish it could be more.

L&L, Oregon

I thank God I can give a small donation. God has given me many blessings and opportunity to bless others. Keep helping the children.

C, Washington

**PROJECT PATCH WISH LISTS
 GARDEN VALLEY RANCH**

- SMALL OFFICE PRINTER/COPIER\$250
- ROCK CLIMBING SHOES EA\$45
- SOCCER GOALS AND NETS\$500
- AIR SCRUBBER FOR WOOD SHOP\$400
- BOX CLAMPS FOR WOOD SHOP\$35
- SCREWS FOR WOOD SHOP PROJECTS\$40
- LAWN MOWER (3) EA\$200
- WOOD SPLITTING MAULS (4)\$35
- BISCUIT JOINER\$125
- YARD RAKES (MEDIUM)\$15
- GARDENING GLOVES (20 SMALL – MEDIUM)\$4
- BASC-2 BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT SYSTEM\$900
- BIKE TUBES, TIRES AND REPAIR TOOLS
- VEHICLES IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION
- GIRLS' DORM STAFF (2)PRICELESS

GOLDENDALE

- MICROWAVE OVENS (6) EA\$100
- NEW WATER SAVER PLUMBING FIXTURES?
- NEW ELECTRICAL FIXTURES?
- FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM75,000
- QUEEN SIZE BEDS (MATTRESS, BOX SPRINGS & FRAMES) (12) EA600
- HIDE-A-BEDS (4) EA1,000
- VOLUNTEERS SKILLED IN PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL, ROOFING, SIDING, PAINTING AND FINISH CARPENTRYPRICELESS!

Many thanks to those who have given items from our previous wish list!