

You can be a light in a dark world!

December 2006

<Mr. John Smith>
<1234 W. Miscellaneous Road>
<Anytown, IL 12345-6789>
<BARCODE>

<Dear Mr. Smith,>

Thirty-two single mothers have called me here at Salem Ranch in recent months. Thirty-two mothers in desperate need of help with their sons. Thirty-two sons with fathers in prison, dead, or otherwise absent.

Often by the time I hear from mothers, their hope seems to be gone. Turmoil, sadness, and confusion reign in the family as the mothers grasp for something to keep their sons from falling into complete destruction.

These mothers lack the kind of church support that could encompass them with Christ's love and surround their sons with wholesome role models. They usually have little or no financial ability to help provide for their son if he were to come here.

What should Salem do? We cannot disobey God's command to minister to orphans and widows. We cannot tell mothers, "I am sorry, but there's not enough money for the staff or food that it would take to help save your son."

We must do what we can. In obedience to God's leadership, Salem Ranch has taken in seventeen boys in this situation this year alone. We have said, "Yes! Bring your son. We will trust the Lord for His provision."

That is where we are today—ministering to boys and their single mothers, as well as dozens blessed with both parents—waiting for God to provide.

Every day I watch in amazement and humility as He changes lives and molds the futures of the boys here. And it's the support of many people like you that help make this possible—your prayer support, your volunteer service, and, of course, your financial gifts.

This Christmas, it is my prayer that you will join us in this effort. Through a one-time gift or an ongoing commitment, your financial support allows us to continue to say "Yes!" to the desperate cries of single mothers, to the anguished questions of deflated fathers, and to the raw pain of shattering families.

Jesus came to bring hope and healing. Won't you join us in continuing this work?

Blessings and thanks to you!

Stephen Marshall
Steve Marshall M.Div., D. Min.
Executive Director

I'd like to invest in the young men at Salem Ranch to help transform lives. Here is my gift!

Monthly commitment: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

One-time gift: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

Please make checks payable to **Salem Children's Home**. Or charge your gift of \$ _____ to Visa MasterCard

CARD NUMBER _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____



15161 N. 400 East Road
Flanagan, IL 61740

815-796-4561 phone
815-796-4565 fax
www.salemranch.com

The Ranch Program at Salem encompasses troubled teens with an environment of biblical truth. Structure, discipline, accountability, and teaching promote spiritual, emotional, intellectual, social, and physical development. Daily chores centered on the care of horses are woven into a schedule of diligent education to build values and integrity. We make decisions knowing that God has provided everything necessary for individuals through His Word. We teach that we should seek to know Him and to live in a way that is pleasing to Him.

Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

PHILIPPIANS 4:17

Return this form with your gift in the envelope provided.



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