

*The Spirit of*



*SUMMER 2018*

## MEANINGFUL JOBS

*By Chief Operating Officer Barry Hamilton & Vocational Team Lead Katie Fontenot*

From the very beginning, Down Home Ranch has always supported the development of meaningful jobs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Here on the Ranch, job creation occurred to address the essential day-to-day operations including cleaning the buildings, working in the greenhouse, caring for the animals and general maintenance. The goal was not only to fill a crucial labor need, but also to support those who want to work with the opportunity to develop skills and self-respect from a job well done. Until August of 2017, the Vocational Program, which provides training and support to Ranchers to obtain and maintain employment, was exclusively utilized to develop and support on-the-ranch jobs. In order to broaden the scope of the Ranch's Vocational Program, resources were invested in the development of a full time Team Lead position. The Team Lead position not only provides one-on-one training on the Ranch, but also supports Ranchers interested in jobs in the city of Elgin and surrounding communities. *(continued on page 2)*





## MEANINGFUL JOBS, CONTINUED

The Ranch quickly identified an internal candidate who proved to have the skills and passion for supporting Ranchers to find and maintain meaningful employment. In order to develop a program based on best practices, the Vocational Team Lead's first assignment was to obtain the job coach certification through the University of North Texas. Through this continuing education, the Team Lead began the task of developing a person-centered program built on assessment and careful planning using specific timelines, meaningful curriculum and structured skills training. The first referral from the Ranch Case Manager, to support a Rancher to find a job off the Ranch, was January 2, 2018. Since that time, there have been a total of seven Ranchers referred, of which five are now employed with HEB, Camp DRIVE, City of Elgin Recreation Center and Skinny Lane Farms.



*Rancher Travis stands with one of his managers at the H-E-B in Elgin*

As the Vocational Program has developed, there has been a learning curve full of discovery and opportunity. There are three incremental steps to supporting an individual to become employed. First is the prevocational skills training that typically occurs during Day Program. This step focuses on general exposure to different work environments, how to complete assigned tasks and guidance on soft skills such as how to interact professionally with others. Second is the employee assistance, encompassing all activities between deciding to look for a job and getting a job offer, including the job search and mock interviews. Lastly, once a Rancher receives a job, they move into supported employment. This step can include transportation to work, facilitating meetings between Ranchers and managers and more structured time teaching job tasks. All of the services in supported employment are based on assessment and needs that have been identified through the different stages of the vocational process.



*Ranchers Cody and Jason work in the kitchen serving lunch*

In addition to supporting Ranchers to be employed on and off the Ranch, the Vocational Program, in conjunction with our Enterprise Center, created a consignment program to support those who are interested in creating desirable and unique hand-made pieces. Ranchers create and sell their handcrafted works through consignment in our gift shop and at local farmers markets, festivals and art shows. To get started, the Rancher must first contract with Down Home Ranch to sell their pieces. In exchange, the Rancher has access to a private draft table where they can work during independent art times. Many of the Ranchers have open access to their space in the evenings and on the weekends for whenever the creative moment strikes. Recently, one Rancher was requested to make pot holders for a local restaurant that will be used by wait staff and in the kitchen. The Ranchers create a wide variety of interesting pieces that include tote bags, mixed media and commissioned art pieces.

The future is brighter than ever to support more individuals with IDD to have access to the things that add purpose to all of our lives. The growth that the Vocational Program has enjoyed is directly related to the hard work of our employees and willingness of our local communities to partner, as well as the donors who choose to support Down Home Ranch through the *Voice for Choice* monthly giving program and other fundraising opportunities.

If you are a local business owner, interested in supporting the DHR vocational program, either through employment of a Rancher or consignment of their handcrafted works, please reach out to us at 512-856-0128 or send us an email to [info@downhomeranch.org](mailto:info@downhomeranch.org).



*(left to right) Two Ranchers assist the Development team with sending a mailout. Rancher Gregory proudly poses next to the embroidering machine where he embroiders hats, towels, shirts and more! Rancher Crystal mentors the campers at Camp DRIVE.*



**CRAIG RUSSELL**  
*Executive Director*

*"Being a parent to children with intellectual disabilities is what first drove my passion for this work."*

Craig's journey at Down Home Ranch started as a volunteer in 2012, assisting with technology while also fixing bikes for the Ranchers. He took his first formal position at DHR in 2013 with Operations and Day Program while continuing to work with technology and development. Craig's involvement grew in 2014, when he accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer. He was then named Executive Director in 2017, and has focused on a commitment to increase supports provided to the Ranchers as well as creating more choices and opportunities.

## COMMUNITY

I recently had a death in the family and had to fly home for the funeral. My mother fought a brave battle against cancer that ended February 27, 2018. As we made the necessary preparations for the funeral, I learned things about my mom that I did not know. My brother Jeff and I went about the tasks of putting her affairs in order. We went to her bank to inform them of the situation and the teller began to cry. She told us about a time when she was going through some personal trials and my mom called her every day to check on and comfort her. We went to a retail store and one of my mother's neighbors approached us and told us that every day she would stop by my mom's house while walking her dog and talk with my mom. She appreciated the time they spent together. She told us her dog still tries to pull her towards my mom's house when they walk by. My mom was very close with her neighbors and they looked out for each other. As I listened to these stories and more, I realized the impact my mom had on her community. It was not the fact that her house was in a certain location or that she banked at a specific place, it was the interaction that she had with the people around her during her life.

Similarly, it is not where Down Home Ranch is located, but it is the interaction of the Ranchers and staff members within the greater community which creates the impact. As I look at the progress we have made at DHR over the last couple of years, I know that we are on the right path. We have made community engagement a cornerstone of our Day Program. We ensure there are opportunities for each Rancher to participate, where they choose, in the community. We opened up our programs to non-residents so we could better serve our community, and are currently working on further expanding services to the community through satellite programs. We are fulfilling the requests of our Ranchers to work in the city of Elgin through our Vocational Program. All of these opportunities and programs are creating a bond between our Ranchers and the community we serve. I look forward to hearing the stories of the special relationships that will certainly become a part of their lives and ours.

Craig Russell, Executive Director



*I would like to personally invite you to take an insiders look into the Social, Educational, Residential and Vocational opportunities we offer here at Down Home Ranch. On the first Wednesday of every month, we host a Tour of SERVICE that is open to the public. I hope to see you out at the Ranch!*

### **Upcoming Dates:**

August 1, 2018 - Programs (1-3pm)  
September 5, 2018 - General (1-3pm)  
October 3, 2018 - Programs (1-3pm)

### **RSVP online at:**

[www.downhomeranch.org/tours](http://www.downhomeranch.org/tours)





**(left to right) Rancher Valerie works closely with Day Program volunteer, Peggy, as they sew one of Valerie's handmade tote bags. Rancher Eliza is studying hard with Day Program volunteer Linda. Ranchers Nathan and Vicki put together a puzzle with the help of past Day Program volunteer (now employee) Johnnie.**

## VOLUNTEERS IN DAY PROGRAM *By Program Specialist Heidi Lersch*

The Down Home Ranch Day Program presents Ranchers with opportunities to learn and develop new skills, pursue vocational experiences and express themselves in a positive atmosphere that promotes personal growth and fosters community. They are encouraged to explore, engage and give back to their community through volunteerism and educational outings. In addition, the DHR Day Program offers a wide range of continuing education courses on the Ranch. The courses, which are based on the Ranchers' interests, are created and rotated on a quarterly basis.

We are looking for volunteers who are enthusiastic, compassionate and seeking to have a positive impact on the lives of others. Read on to find out more about the various areas to volunteer and support the Ranchers in the DHR Day Program.

The DHR Vocational Program supports Ranchers seeking employment on and off the Ranch. The program facilitates job skill development starting with the application and interview process, continuing on through employment. New this year, the program is growing to accommodate and encourage job opportunities outside of the Ranch. With this expansion, there is a need for volunteers to assist in transporting Ranchers to and from their employment on weekdays and weekends.

In addition to vocational opportunities in the community, the Ranchers also engage in volunteer work. They currently assist the Bastrop Animal Shelter, Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry in Taylor, Elgin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and the City of Elgin. The Ranchers participating in the volunteer program are enthusiastic about giving back! Volunteers who are interested in assisting Ranchers at volunteer sites are currently needed to provide individual or small group support at locations in Bastrop, Elgin and Taylor.

### MISSION OF DAY PROGRAM

*"To create an empowering environment for adults with IDD, through access to opportunities towards the fulfillment of their best selves."*

While on the Ranch, Ranchers enjoy creating art, sewing and embroidering products to sell. They learn to express themselves artistically through a wide variety of media. Ranchers' products are sold at art shows, farmers markets, local festivals and community events, in turn creating additional income for the Rancher artists. In the future, we are hoping to guide the Ranchers interested in production, into the creating and selling of their own products as their own small business. We are in need of volunteers who are available to help work weekend events at the Bastrop and Lexington Farmers Markets, as well as to assist on weekdays, sorting and organizing art and production materials.

If teaching others is a skill of yours, we always welcome volunteers who are interested in lending their time and expertise to teach a course on a topic they are passionate and knowledgeable about. Course topics could include health and nutrition, self-care, healthy relationships, crafting, music or more. Ranchers love to learn and we would love for you to teach them something new! Additionally, volunteers with experience in athletics, yoga, weight training, meditation or stress reduction techniques, or those who enjoy walking and hiking, are needed to support Ranchers in their fitness and exercise goals.

The Day Program is open Monday from 9am to 4pm and Tuesday through Friday from 9am to 5pm. Whether you are available for an hour or for ten, we hope you will consider sharing your time and talents with the DHR Day Program. Experience working with individuals with IDD is not required. All volunteers are oriented and trained.

More information and a volunteer application can be found online at [www.downhomeranch.org/individual-volunteer](http://www.downhomeranch.org/individual-volunteer). We hope to see you soon!



# VOLUNTEER VIEW: RONA TRACY

*Rona has been a special part of the Down Home Ranch family for many years. She visits DHR once a year with the Sunnybrook Church from Stillwater, OK on their annual mission trip. We feel so blessed that Rona found Down Home Ranch many years ago and never turned back. Here's a little more about her story:*

## **What motivated you to volunteer with Down Home Ranch?**

The year was 2007, and I was sitting on the couch holding our infant daughter Willa. While channel flipping I happened to catch a segment on the national news about Down Home Ranch. I was so intrigued that I immediately went to my computer to look up more information.

We had been very surprised when Willa was diagnosed with Down syndrome about eight days after her birth. While working through the shock and concern, my thoughts immediately turned to what her future would look like. When I saw the news clip about Down Home Ranch, I latched onto the picture of hope and possibility that the Ranch presented. My husband Dan and I made plans to visit the Ranch on a future trip to Texas. During our first brief visit, we found out that volunteers had built the barn at the Ranch. We looked at each other and decided on the spot that we would try to gather a group from our church to return and do some volunteer work. That was almost ten years ago. We've made nine trips in the past ten years. God has been our guide all the way. It was somewhat unlike us to initiate a mission trip. Our hearts were just so drawn to the Ranch. Many great volunteers have joined us over the years – over 250 total, primarily from Stillwater, OK.



## **What makes volunteering at Down Home Ranch a meaningful use of your time?**

The joy our family has found in spending time at the Ranch cannot be described. Initially, our motivation was all about our own child, and seeing the possibilities for Willa's future. Over time, we have been motivated more by the relationships we have built with the Ranchers and staff and the beautiful community we now feel a part of. In addition to Willa, we have two teenagers. They enjoy going to the Ranch as much as we do. They feel a sense of acceptance there – a sense of community not always found in the world at large.

## **What is the biggest personal benefit that you've received as a volunteer?**

Personally, the very existence of the Ranch gives me so much hope for Willa's future. I'm not sure it will be the perfect fit for her, but just knowing a place like this is possible fills me with peace. Also, I'm so thankful that our time spent at the Ranch seems to be making the world just a bit better for Willa and her peers that live with special needs. Simply put, the Ranch is an incubator for advocates. I have learned so much from everyone at the Ranch. Many of our Oklahoma volunteers return home to become powerful advocates in their own corner of the world, due to their experience volunteering at DHR.

## **What do you wish other people knew about working with individuals with disabilities?**

That there is nothing to fear. And that the level of need does not define a person's worth or limit their contribution to this world. Sometimes those that have the highest level of need are the ones that offer the most blessing to others. After all, every human needs some level of help to make it in this world.

## **What would you tell someone who is thinking about volunteering at the Ranch?**

Just give it a try. You will be amazed at what you learn. You may go into the experience trying to "help" and then realize later that you are the one that received the blessing. You won't find a more welcoming place to use your skills and make a difference.



# DHR PRODUCE AND WHERE TO FIND IT

As part of our sustainability plan, we strive to think out-of-the-box in creating new avenues for enterprise. We grow and create many products here at Down Home Ranch that we in turn offer for sale to the public. Some of the DHR Goods we have available for purchase in our Gift Shop are hydroponic tomatoes and lettuce, farm-fresh chicken eggs, our famously-delicious brand of DHR Blackberry Jelly made from home-grown blackberries and naturally raised Wagyu-Angus beef! Recently, we have expanded our reach into the local communities of Elgin, Taylor and Bastrop so that our customers can have access to DHR no matter where they live. If you're looking for wholesale options for your business needs, email [glenda@downhomeranch.org](mailto:glenda@downhomeranch.org) for a complete wholesale price list.

## *Purchase our Products Locally!*

- 2nd St. Farm 2 Market Deli in Taylor, TX
- ATX Artisan Market (also known as ATX Homemade Jerky) in Elgin, TX
- LBA Market in Bastrop, TX
- Every second Thursday during Elgin's Sip, Shop and Stroll event from 5-8pm, you can find us in front of the Tattered Shutter
- Every second Saturday at the Bastrop 1832 Farmer's Market from 10am-2pm

## *Eat Our Produce at Local Restaurants!*

2nd St. Farm 2 Market Deli in Taylor, TX – Hydroponic Tomatoes

Consilina Pizzeria in Bastrop, TX – Hydroponic Tomatoes

Kay's Cafe in Bastrop, TX – Hydroponic Tomatoes

The 602 on Main in Bastrop, TX – Hydroponic Tomatoes

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In May we hosted our first annual *Full Circle – Empowering Farm to Table Event* here at the Ranch. We featured all of the DHR products, as well as products from five other local farms! We had around 70 people attend the six course, chef prepared meal. We plan to host more Farm to Table events in the future, so be on the lookout for more to come!



(left to right) Travis happily brings in the farm fresh eggs he collected early one morning. Head Grower, Brian, and Ranchers Rebekah and Kyle show off their freshly harvested hydroponic tomatoes. Guests from the Full Circle event are saying "cheers" with their fresh DHR Blackberry and lime "margarita" course.



# RANCH CAMP RETURNS! *By Ranch Camp Co-Directors, Ashley and Tom Oliver*

When we heard that there was the possibility of Ranch Camp returning to Down Home Ranch, both of us immediately knew that we wanted to be part of making this happen. For both of us, Ranch Camp has meant opportunity. We believe that this is a time that individuals look forward to all year and to make this happen for them is an honor. Not only is Ranch Camp a time to give and teach, it is a time for us to learn and grow, as well as be part of something that is bigger than ourselves. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to bring the smiles, laughter and excitement of Ranch Camp back.



*Our vision for the summer is that for one week each camper is provided opportunities that other camps provide, but in a way that meets each individual's unique needs and abilities.*

We are gearing up to bring some new life as well as keeping those old tried and true Ranch Camp classic activities alive. We will swim at the pool and fish and kayak at the pond, as well as hone our archery skills at the new and improved archery range. We will have live talent shows with some of the best acts in all the lands and hold competitions that include the best of relay races, soaking our counselors with thousands of water balloons and learning about our ranch animals. We will use our creative abilities to make breathtaking crafts from ranch materials that are found on nature walks and will paint masterpieces. We hope that at the end of the week, campers leave with the feeling of self-pride, new friendships and the best kind of exhaustion.

If you would like to be on the interest list for Summer 2019, or know someone that would, please email us at [camp@downhomeranch.org](mailto:camp@downhomeranch.org)



*(left to right) A camper is having fun catching fish at the DHR catch & release fishing pond. A camp counselor shows a camper how to use a bow and arrow at the DHR archery range. A camper and camp counselor smile for the camera after they finished their kayaking adventures for the day.*



# Looking for a Fall Fundraiser?

## Fundraise with Down Home Ranch Poinsettias and Double Your Impact

### Why Fundraise with DHR Poinsettias?

- » While raising money for your program, you are directly supporting vocational skills training and paid employment for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- » By taking advantage of quantity discounts, you can boost your profit margin up to 50%
- » We provide flexible delivery dates Monday - Saturday, between Thanksgiving & Christmas
- » We provide personalized user-friendly order forms that you can edit to fit your needs
- » Many schools and organizations in Austin and surrounding areas such as *Veritas Academy* and *University United Methodist Church* of Austin have had proven success selling DHR Poinsettias as their Fall fundraiser year after year

Contact Laura at  
[LauraZ@downhomeranch.org](mailto:LauraZ@downhomeranch.org)  
or check out [downhomeranch.org/poinsettias](http://downhomeranch.org/poinsettias) for details!



### Engraving Possibilities with DHR

When we began the Memorial Garden project, DHR invested in a commercial grade engraving machine to engrave the bricks and stones that would make up the path. However, we quickly realized the possibilities the engraving machine offers. Our skilled staff members have successfully engraved cups, wine glasses, name tags, wooden plaques, cutting boards and more!

Now, we not only have fancy new items with the DHR logo to offer in our gift shop, but we can also offer our services to YOU! If you or your business would like customized products to sell or give away to your customers, we would love to help!

Contact [info@downhomeranch.org](mailto:info@downhomeranch.org) for more information.



### MEMORIAL GARDEN IS UNDERWAY!

We officially broke ground for the DHR Memorial Garden back in January of 2018. Ranchers, staff, local press and Cornerstone members all joined together to celebrate the beginning of this monumental project.

Since then, construction of the path has continued. Landscape Architect, Braxton Tanner, and his team have successfully completed the concrete path. Now, we are looking forward to starting Phase II of construction, which will be mortaring the edging for the path. Phase III will be started later this year, filling the path with bricks! This long-term project has the potential to raise over \$1million for the future of Down Home Ranch and we are very excited to continue on this journey!

If you are interested in becoming a Cornerstone member, visit [downhomeranch.org/memorial-garden](http://downhomeranch.org/memorial-garden)



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPOTLIGHT



**GARY HOLLIDAY**  
*Chairman of the Board*

**G**ary has lived his entire life in the Austin area. He graduated from UT Austin with BBA degrees in Marketing and Accounting. Shortly after earning his second BBA degree, he spent three years in the tax and audit departments of an international accounting firm where he earned a C.P.A. designation. After that, he worked 27 years with Service Insurance Group as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer before retiring in 2012. While working for only three employers his entire adult life, he has had management responsibilities in every facet of business operations.

Currently living in Georgetown, TX, Gary spends his spare time golfing, hiking, bicycling and traveling! He has committed himself to learning Spanish and will spend some time in Cuernavaca, Mexico this summer to attend language school. Gary has been married to his wife Heidi for 40 years and they share two sons, Christopher and Andy. Chris has lived happily and productively at DHR since 2005. Their commitment and love for DHR goes back many years to when it all began.

Gary feels honored to serve as the Board Chairman for Down Home Ranch and is excited to see what the future holds for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities!



**GENA CARTER**  
*Member*

**G**ena Carter has been the President of the Elgin Chamber of Commerce since 2002. Gena will tell anyone that will listen to her that she has the “Best Job In Elgin!”

She worked as an intern at the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau during her college years. After graduation, she became very involved in her church and community organizations. Her volunteer contributions included serving as a board member of the Elgin Main Street Board, Elgin Chamber of Commerce, Elgin ISD Education Foundation, Friends of Elgin Parks, Bastrop County Children’s Advocacy Center and Texas Brazos Trail.

In 1994, Gena and her husband started Carter Foods, Inc., which is a food manufacturing business that made food products for over 500 convenience stores. The Carter’s sold the business in 2002 and Gena was “retired” until she began work as President of the

Gena has been married to Jeff Carter, a 6th generation Elginite, for 32 years. Jeff is the Central Texas President of Prosperity Bank. This power couple shares three children. When not working, Gena enjoys reading and traveling, but her true passion is being Grandma to her grandson Kayden.



**JASON FREE**  
*Member*

**A**s a young child, Jason first came to Down Home Ranch for a yam bake in the 1990’s with his parents and sister. At that time, Jerry and Judy Horton had a piece of land and some big dreams. A number of years later, his sister Julia Burns, became a resident of DHR. Now Julia never misses an opportunity to tell everyone how great life is at DHR!

Jason has worked in customer success and marketing for the Austin tech industry since 2009 and has run a business specializing in furniture, art and collectibles since 2001. During college, he interned for a Texas state legislator during the 81st Legislative Session. Jason is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin with a degree in communication. He is also a proud Eagle Scout.

“Down Home Ranch has been a blessing for my sister and for our family. I feel honored to serve such a caring organization as a new board member, and I look forward to the continued great work and long-term success of the Down Home Ranch.” - Jason

***We are currently looking for new passionate and driven DHR Board Members! The ideal candidates would have a background in development, public relations, communications or Texas law. If you have a different skill set that you feel would be a good asset to our board, don't hesitate to apply! Please send your resume to [craig@downhomeranch.org](mailto:craig@downhomeranch.org) to be considered.***



# TRUECar<sup>®</sup> TRULY CARES...

Over the past two years, a beautiful friendship has formed between Down Home Ranch and TrueCar. TrueCar's Austin employees first came out to the Ranch for their 2016 IMPACT Day, bringing 60 volunteers! After spending the day in the sun, they provided a catered lunch to all of the Ranchers and staff, as well as a donation of \$2,500!

Since then, we have continued to be blessed by their compassion. TrueCar volunteered at the Ranch again for their 2017 IMPACT Day spending hours digging up fiber lines, building retaining walls in the Village and much more! However, their generosity doesn't stop there.

Shortly after their last visit, they gifted the Ranch with over \$10,000 worth of gently used computers and iPads! This company continues to amaze us!

Thank you, TrueCar, for believing in our mission! You are truly making a difference in the lives of the Ranchers!



## SWIM FEST & FIELD DAY 2018

At Down Home Ranch we are always looking for new opportunities that will empower those we serve, as well as the greater community of people with IDD. It is with this in mind, that we decided to revamp our annual Swim Fest event.

On June 9th, we proudly presented Swim Fest & Field Day 2018! The event included five teams of DHR Ranchers, along with one additional team from Down Syndrome Association of Central Texas (DSACT). Apart from swimming, teams competed in football, golf, basketball and track. No matter their age or ability, every athlete crossed a finish line that day!



### Hall of Fame 2018

- 1st place - DHR Day Program Pirahnas
- 2nd place - Riptides
- 3rd place - Silver Fins

- Best Teamwork - DSACT Dynamos
- Most Spirited - Tiger Sharks
- Best Sportsmanship - Tidal Waves





# Rockin' for the Ranch

## 15th Annual DHR Gala

### Sponsorship Opportunities

#### Golden Oldies Sponsor: \$2,500

- One premium reserved table (8 tickets) with personalized signage
- VIP reserved parking for 2 vehicles
- 2 drink coupons per ticket
- 16 complimentary raffle tickets

#### During Event Recognition

- 1/2 page ad in event program
- 1/2 slide on main screen in ballroom
- 1/2 slide on rotating screens in foyer

#### Rock & Roll Sponsor: \$1,000

- Reserved seating for 4 with personalized signage at table
- VIP reserved parking for 1 vehicle
- 2 drink coupons per ticket

#### During Event Recognition

- 1/4 page ad in event program
- 1/4 slide on main screen in ballroom
- 1/4 slide on rotating screens in foyer

#### Jitterbug Sponsor: \$500

- 2 Gala tickets
- 2 drink coupons per ticket

#### During Event Recognition

- 1/6 page ad in event program
- 1/6 slide on main screen in ballroom
- 1/6 slide on rotating screens in foyer

#### Twist & Shout Sponsor: \$250

#### During Event Recognition

- Mention in event program
- Mention on main screen in ballroom
- Mention on rotating screens in foyer

#### Underwrite a Rancher's Ticket: \$100

#### During Event Recognition

- Name or Logo on place card at Rancher's seat
- Mention on main screen in ballroom
- Mention on rotating screens in foyer

#### Marketing Recognition

- Event flyers (200+ posted in nearby communities)
- Event website (Until June '19)
- 2 Facebook posts to 6,100 followers
- 2 Twitter posts to 120 followers
- Local newsprint and all event emails before and after the event
- Option to place marketing materials at DHR's monthly Elgin Sip, Shop and Stroll booth for 6 months

#### Marketing Recognition

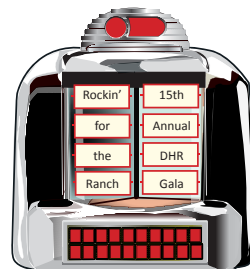
- Event website (Until June '19)
- 1 Facebook post to 6,100 followers
- 1 Twitter post to 120 followers
- Name or logo included in thank you email to event attendees

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- Name or logo included in thank you email to event attendees

#### Marketing Recognition

- Event website (Until June '19)
- 1 Facebook post to 6,100 followers
- 1 Twitter post to 120 followers
- Thank you email



### Event Details

September 22, 2018

5:00pm - 10:00pm

Bastrop Convention & Exhibit Center  
1408 Chestnut St. Bastrop, TX

### Ticket Prices

\$100 per ticket

\$190 per couples ticket

\$50 per child ticket (12 & under)

\$700 reserved table for eight

### Contact Information

Ready to sponsor? Email  
[development@downhomeranch.org](mailto:development@downhomeranch.org)  
or call 512-856-0128  
[www.downhomeranch.org/gala](http://www.downhomeranch.org/gala)



The Mission of  
Down Home Ranch is  
to empower the lives of  
people with intellectual and  
developmental disabilities  
through social, educational,  
residential and  
vocational opportunities



To: Our Closest Friend



**Through the online fundraising event, Amplify Austin 2018, \$42,705.45 was raised through the generosity of 238 friends of Down Home Ranch! Thank you to all who helped!**




## DOWN HOME RANCH, INC.


20250 FM 619, Elgin, TX 78621

888-926-2253 or 512-856-0128

Website: [www.DownHomeRanch.org](http://www.DownHomeRanch.org)

Email: [info@DownHomeRanch.org](mailto:info@DownHomeRanch.org)

 [downhomeranch.org](https://www.facebook.com/downhomeranch.org)

 [@down\\_home\\_ranch](https://twitter.com/down_home_ranch)

*Check out our 2017 Annual Report on the DHR Website underneath the "Who We Are" tab!*

*If you would like to change your mailing preferences, please email [development@downhomeranch.org](mailto:development@downhomeranch.org)*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gary Holliday.....	Chairman of the Board
Martha Adams.....	Board Member
Gena Carter.....	Board Member
Jason Free.....	Board Member
Craig Russell.....	Board Member
Mat Rybicki.....	Board Member

### ADMINISTRATION & FULLTIME STAFF

Craig Russell .....	Executive Director
Barry Hamilton .....	Chief Operating Officer
Casey Dickerson .....	Director of Residential Services, QIDP
Courtney Ferris .....	Development Director
Stephanie Figueroa.....	Registered Nurse
Annette Ragan.....	Director of Administration
Scott Ragan .....	Director of Operations
Harriett Arnold .....	Licensed Vocational Nurse
Kelly Clarke .....	Development Associate
Sara Dare .....	Kitchen Assistant
Cami Erickson .....	Kitchen Manager
Ashley Fleming .....	DSP Wilderness House
Katie Fontenot .....	Vocational Team Lead
Jacquie Gallagher .....	Bookkeeper
Matthew Hall .....	Maintenance Apprentice
Leslie Johnson .....	Enterprise Team Lead
Carol Johnston .....	DSP Independent Living
Calvin Keeney .....	DSP Isaiah House
Blaze Kunkel.....	DSP Anderson House
Brian Loer .....	Head Grower
Danny Marin.....	Peer Program Specialist
Kirsten Nadeau.....	Community Engagement Program Specialist
Shawn Rapoza .....	Maintenance Manager
Glenda (Gigi) Ross .....	Development Associate
Naomi Russell .....	Animal Care Specialist
John Sanderson .....	Program Manager
Robert Schier III .....	Education Program Specialist
Barbara Sloan .....	Program Manager
Angie Torres.....	Programs & Vocational Services Supervisor
Rafael Perez .....	DSP Barnabus House
Dihandra Williams .....	DSP Martha House
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