

HEARTBEAT OF HOPE

Winter 2020 Newsletter



ONE-OF-A-KIND VEHICLE DONATION

We received our largest vehicle donation to date valued over \$150,000, thanks to the generous Kardish family, who entrusted us with their beautiful 1965 Stone Soup Pontiac GTO! After many Sunday drives as a family in this custom built, one-of-a-kind vehicle, Paul, his wife Lisa, and son Hudson decided to share their experiences while giving back to the community.

"These are kids who need a break, need help, and need guidance and support, and Rawhide does such a phenomenal job with that. If we can better help Rawhide serve its mission, we're going to try to do it."

To show our gratitude, we held a donor appreciation event Sept. 15 at The Automobile Gallery in Green Bay, where we welcomed the public to witness the first reveal of the car. Next year, the vehicle will go through a leading national auction to raise funds for Rawhide.

Our Vehicle Program receives about 8,000 donated vehicles each year that help raise funds for our residential and community-based services and programs that help transform the lives of our at-risk youth.



"Our family has been so blessed and we are big believers in paying the 'good' forward, and would like for this to be an example of that."

- Paul Kardish

DEAR FRIENDS OF RAWHIDE,

This year, Rawhide experienced a financially challenging situation due to the pandemic and state shutdown. Each of our locations needed different changes to properly function in the new world we found ourselves in. Luckily, Rawhide is blessed with dedicated staff and generous donors who helped make it possible for us to continue fulfilling our mission during this unprecedented time.

From Starr Academy and Café 15 closing to restricting at-home family visits, Rawhide took 48 hours to examine and update all our practices and equipment necessary to function during quarantine. Our academic instructors began teaching the residential youth in the homes instead of at the school to reduce the possible spread or exposure of the virus. We also began offering telehealth for our therapy sessions.

All of these changes caused many different emotions as we quickly learned what it meant to not be able to do the things we wanted or hoped to do in 2020. But we knew we couldn't falter, because what didn't change in all the chaos was the trauma and 24/7 care our youth needed.

God bless,



Alan B. Loux

President and CEO, Rawhide Youth Services



"There is no doubt that our staff's love and support as well as our donors generosity have tremendously helped Rawhide survive this difficult time.

We are forever grateful to each of you."

- Alan B. Loux

THANK YOU!

Without your support, we could not transform the lives of Wisconsin's at-risk youth.

For more facts on how Rawhide is helping youth through the darkness, visit our website **Rawhide.org** for our 2019 Annual Report.

TO DONATE TODAY, VISIT RAWHIDE.ORG OR CALL 1-800-RAWHIDE.

Rawhide Youth Services | E7475 Rawhide Rd., New London, WI 54961-9025



WE'RE HIRING!

If you feel a calling to help others, we want to meet you! We are hiring caring, hardworking individuals, who have a passion for transforming our youths' lives by guiding them toward success! Opportunities range from therapists to academic instructors to direct care staff.

LEARN MORE AT RAWHIDE.ORG/CAREERS.



YOUNG LIFE PROGRAM

In June, Rawhide partnered with Young Life, a Christian nonprofit organization that offers spiritual programs and activities for youth, to help us launch a spiritual wellness program on our New London campus!

Through this partnership, we hired Young Life's Program Manager Jared Stanley, who has begun implementing the program. After first embedding himself into the Rawhide community, he started implementing Young Life Community groups, where staff and youth talk about life and learn about Jesus, Christian beliefs and values. Jared often spends one-on-one time with the boys, playing basketball, eating meals, going fishing, taking walks, and meeting with them. Jared has noticed the boys are open to talking and sharing questions about their faith.

He shared this powerful, personal moment with one of our youth:

"One of our 12-year-old residential youth asked me, 'Do you think God still loves people even when He looks down here and sees people treating each other so badly?' The question stopped me in my tracks, and led to a conversation about how awesome God's love is for us."



GOD IS CERTAINLY WORKING HARD AT RAWHIDE!

Jared Stanley - Young Life's Program Manager



RAWHIDE GALA DINNER

THE
MAIN
EVENT

COMING
SPRING 2021



RAWHIDE YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY

Last month, a group of Rawhide youth participated in several community service projects. They visited a family in need in Pine River, helping chop and stock firewood to heat their home during the winter. Youth also chopped down trees at Rawhide and loaded a pickup truck to donate to families in need throughout the state.

Rawhide staff who lead these projects teach our residential boys about the importance of giving back, which helps them build character and learn what Christ taught each of us:

Compassion, Honesty, Respect, Integrity, Safety, and Teamwork.



EQUINE THERAPY

Each year we work with about 500 at-risk youth struggling with behavioral and mental health issues, including suicidal thoughts, depression, anxiety, ADHD and more.

Our CHAPS Equine-Assisted Therapy is an effective option for youth ready to overcome their severe abuse, trauma or neglect from childhood. Equine therapy sessions are conducted under the guidance of a specialized therapist and a trained horse. Once a youth and horse connect, they begin to feel more comfortable opening up, which allows them to start the healing process.

We offer equine-assisted therapy in Fond du Lac, New London and Shiocton.

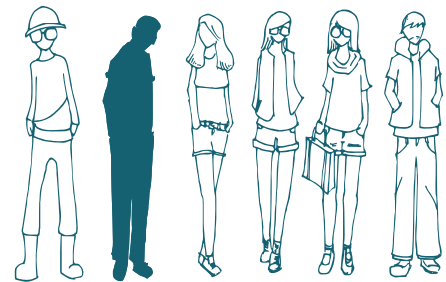


YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH BY THE NUMBERS

According to Prevent Suicide Wisconsin®:

SUICIDE was the **SECOND LEADING** **#2** **CAUSE OF DEATH** for **10-19 YEAR OLDS** between 2013-2017.

According to the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, about **1 IN 6 WISCONSIN** public high school **STUDENTS** said they considered **ENDING THEIR LIFE**.



271 **YOUTH AGES 10-19** years old died by **SUICIDE** between 2013-2017.




ADOLESCENTS WHO DIED BY SUICIDE WERE MORE LIKELY TO DISCLOSE SUICIDE INTENT TO A FRIEND OR PEER
when compared with adults from 2013-2017.


From 2016-2017, **FEMALES BETWEEN 15-17 YEARS OLD HAD THE HIGHEST RATES OF EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS AND HOSPITALIZATION STAYS** from self-harm injuries.

Between 2013-2017, **ADOLESCENTS WHO DIED BY SUICIDE WERE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE REPORTED A FAMILY PROBLEM, SCHOOL PROBLEM OR BOTH** when compared with adults.

CONGRATS TO THE GRADUATES

We were so fortunate to have five youth graduate from Starr Academy so far this year. At our last ceremony, we had three graduates at once, which was a first for us!

Some of these boys have expressed fear that they would not live to see their senior year of high school, and now they have graduated.

Rawhide wishes them a bright future ahead and wants to give them a huge shout-out and congratulations on all their hard work to get here.



"One thing I learned about Rawhide is that we are not just a placement when we're here; they set us up for our future."

– Sebastian, a Starr Academy graduate



"It is one of the best feelings in the world to visit Rawhide and see how those boys' lives have changed and the good they're going to do when they leave Rawhide."

It transforms them, gives them hope and ambition, and they know they're going to be safe."

– Cherry Starr

