

A SOWER FOR EVERY SEASON

CBX was blessed to have a number of couples come serve as part of an organization called "Sowers".

Sowers is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian couples RV work ministry that provides volunteer help to selected non-profit Christian ministries.

A number of years ago, CBX was turned on to Sowers by long time supporters John and Joyce Morten. In 2020, CBX became an official sponsored site and with Covid in our rear view mirror, in 2022 we were able to host 4 couples during parts of our summer.

With the help of these faithful servants, many projects were completed and many meals were served. Sowers would help around the ranch, in the kitchen, and other areas of need.



In 2023, it is our hope that we can double the number of Sowers that volunteer at CBX.

Thank you Sowers!



Cross Bar X Youth Ranch
2111 CR 222
Durango, CO 81303

The volunteering during the summer of 2022 didn't end with the Sowers however. Many hands contributed to an amazing summer of ministry.

Thank you's go out to the following!

- Will and Diane for their faithful work at CBX in so many areas!
- Seth and Shannon Posey for counseling (Seth) and help in the kitchen (Shannon).
- Dennis and Laura Hamilton for their continued servant leadership at CBX!
- Trevor and Ha Martenson for their during our Falcon camp.
- Riley and Kristy Alderton for their help around camp and for Riley's help leading worship.
- Chris Talleri for his help in teaching the Bible.
- For all of the work weekers that came to help back in May!
- Ray Beard for his volunteer work.
- Jon Helvoigt for his help in teaching the Bible.

RANCH REPORT

Fall 2022

Bringing the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Youth



WHO IS A TYPICAL CBX CAMPER?

By Marci Miller

We are often asked, who are the kids Cross Bar X works with? Often people call them "troubled youth", "at-risk" or ". On our website we recognize our campers by the term "disadvantaged" as that is their most identifying characteristic. They are lacking something they need to grow into healthy, educated, socially productive, and most importantly, Godly people. Poverty is clearly defined as "having inferior or insufficient resources to live." The opposite of poverty, however, is not "wealth," but "enough." Our target campers (those we reserve a spot for) are characterized by having one or more of the following circumstances in their life:

- Economic disadvantages
- Social and familial disadvantages
- Living in a foster home, kinship, or adoption
- Fatherlessness
- Unchurched or unreachd

A large portion of our campers every summer meet at least one of these "disadvantaged" qualifiers. This past summer 85% of our campers met one or more of these qualifiers. When we receive paperwork for a camper our full-time staff take care to read it and try to understand what kind of home and experiences that child has. At Cross Bar X we meet a wide range of camper needs. Everything from getting them some toothpaste or soap, to tracking down some shoes for them to wear, helping them wash their clothes that came to camp dirty, to finding rides to church or counseling and childcare for the family.



We find that there is one need nearly every camper comes with. It's such a pervasive need, we find it is nearly universal. Wealthy homes and poor homes have it, kids coming from two-parent families or those who are in foster homes face this challenge equally. It's the need that everyone has for salvation in Jesus Christ. Without that, every single one of our campers is severely and universally impoverished in their spirit. More than that, they are in a state of complete and utter ruin. In light of this, the thing we love the most to provide to them is a personal Bible to take home!

Our campers are marked by more than their disadvantages. I teach knitting every year to middle and high school campers. During this time we learn the skill of knitting and also do a short study on Psalm 139. This psalm speaks truth into places our culture and modern thought are falling short. It confirms some fundamental truths; God sees us, we can't hide or be lost from the view of God, we were made by God with intentionality and purpose, and lastly, God knows our hearts and thoughts! Our campers are brought up in a nihilistic world, a world devoid of purpose and meaning, but we stand and testify that the very fiber of their being is knit together with purpose and has hope in the Lord who sees them. As the Body of Christ we see them too and thank the Lord for the opportunity He continues to provide us in loving our neighbors in the Four Corner Region.

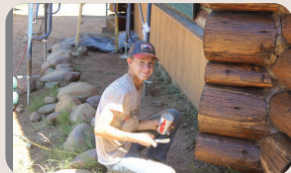


UPDATE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By Dennis Hamilton



I just love walking into the Alpine and Eagle lodges. They represent 45 years of sharing Christ to wonderful kids many who had never heard about His love and saving grace. Many fond memories, tears, laughs and friendships have been shared within these log walls. But as with any building they are/were in need of some extra loving care. This year Eagle was our focus. We had many volunteers that sanded the exterior surface of every log, filled weathered cracks and woodpecker damage, repaired chinking, and applied 2 coats of stain. Eagle now has many more years to stand out for CBX. Our special thanks go to volunteers from SOWERS Ministry, Will and Diane Koehn, Sam Quiring, CBX Ranch Hands and others who sweated in the hot sun. Eagle's log refurbishment is complete. Next spring we start on Alpine.



We also have future improvement plans for Eagle. These include kitchen upgrades and reconfiguring the current interior space. These improvements will enhance our ability to minister to our kids. Donations are needed to purchase materials and skilled labor such as electricians. Please prayerfully consider how you can help.



Wes Nitzche, signing off...

By Wes Nitzche

Hi, my name is Wes and I am just finishing up my time at Cross Bar X, but have had the pleasure of working for the camp for the last 5 summers. Through this time I have seen God work in awesome ways in both kids and staff, and have come to see that Cross Bar X is a special place. One of the things that I love most about the camp is that the ministry is very intentional and consistent over the years. The socially and economically disadvantaged kids that we minister to really need to be at camp and really need the Gospel. And Cross Bar X has always been faithful to bring this demographic of kids to camp regardless of their ability to pay for it, and also to relentlessly share the good news of Jesus with each and every camper that comes throughout the summer.



One of my most memorable experiences from this past summer was the 3 night backpacking trip that we went on with some high school boys. I have never been a counselor for a summer so I don't often get to have 1 on 1 intentional conversations with the boys with the exception of this trip. The second day after we had reached our destination I had the opportunity to go on a bonus hike with on of the guys and spend that whole time having a conversation, sharing my testimony, and sharing truth with him. There is something special about being out in the mountains, among God's creation, and being physically exhausted that breaks people down and allows you to see in someone's heart. I love the ministry of Cross Bar X and am so glad that God brought me here 5 years ago and blessed me with the relationships that I've made over that time.



IRON HORSE REPORT

This past summer at Cross Bar X was difficult and exhausting, but for all the right reasons. It began with our biggest Iron Horse Bicycle Classic fundraiser ever, with nearly 30 riders raising over \$45,000. Thank you to each of that contributed!



Want to ride next year? Contact theranch@crossbarx.org to sign up!



Summer 2022 Recap

by Jacob Posey

After a couple of years of being discombobulated by the pandemic and then trying to get our feet under us again, God provided a season filled with health, amazing staff, and good ministry. We shared the Gospel with the campers through the lens of the prodigal son, focusing on the love of the father, and how that points us to the ultimate love of our ultimate Father to send his only Son to die for us while we were dead in our sins. Many campers made professions of faith. Praise God and pray for these campers as well - that their professions are genuine and that they continue to walk with God after they have returned home. We also identified several local campers with whom we are excited to try to follow up with. We are so grateful to God for the season he provided. Thank you for your prayers and continued support.



Camp Girl Addie

By Addie Miller

If you have ever recieved an email from me, you will see that my handle is "campgirladdie". You see, I have grown up at Cross Bar X. My folks moved to CBX when I was 9 months old. Over the years I have done many different jobs and played several roles as a camp kid. However, there was always one thing I wanted to do, and that was to be a counselor. I desired to experience the joys and struggles of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with the youth that come to Cross Bar X. This summer, I finally got to do just that, and let me tell you, the joys were overflowing!



My favorite moments from the summer were the one-on-ones. During this time I got to know each girl on a personal and deep level and where they stood with God. I also loved coffee house night. We got to do crafts, paint nails, perform skits, drink (decaf) coffee, and generally laugh harder than I've ever laughed before!

Don't get me wrong, there were really hard moments this summer. There were moments when I had given everything I had to my campers and I wasn't sure if I could keep going. Despite this, God supplied strength and gave me the endurance I didn't even know I had. God uses camp to help kids from difficult backgrounds to learn and grow. It also helped me grow in my faith. In moments when I was struggling, I felt God teaching me to trust him and to follow him faithfully. I am thankful He used me this summer. Thanks to Him and the amazing community around me, it was an amazing summer full of joy, life, and friendship! I can wait until next summer!

Memorial Gifts

CBX is blessed to receive the gift of an apple orchard in loving memory of Beverly Shine. We are excited to put this orchard in the ground in 2022 and know that it will honor the life and legacy of Beverly Shine for years to come!

Memorial Gifts were given by the following friends in loving memory of Wendel Wickstrom.



- Ray Harrell
- David and Linda Webster
- L Frear
- Mr. and Mrs. Herring
- Mr. and Mrs. Holdredge
- Neal and Janice Stoffer
- Mr. and Mrs. Melikian
- Ed and Rhonda Vande Noord

Memorial Gifts were given by the following friends in loving memory of Mark Reese.

- J.R. and P.L. Copeland

Memorial Gifts were given by the following friends in loving memory of Delores Harrell.

- Marilyn Wickstrom



Memorial Gifts were given by the following friends in loving memory of Ben Komnick.

- Bobbie Freer
- Ron Van Genderen



A gift in celebration of the life of David Lunde was given to CBX by the family of David Lunde. David has been missing since early October after going on a run in the high country here in Durango. David loved the Lord and we continue to pray for him to be found.

