

2023–2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 2

A HEALING SPACE FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN

DAKOTA BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH, NORTH DAKOTA | \$100,000



A Special Chapel — Offering Hope and Healing for At-Risk Children

The Christ-centered, healing ministry of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch creates an eternal, life-giving impact in the lives of children ages 10 to 18, who have faced heartbreaking abuse, neglect, and trauma. Established in 1952, the Ranch touches the lives of more than 2,000 children and families each year, from all corners of the United States. The childhood trauma these children faced leaves them with debilitating emptiness and loneliness. Most children who come to the Ranch have little or no faith background and the Ranch is often the first place they learn about Jesus. The discovery of our Savior’s mercy is often the most vital part of a child’s healing.

The Ranch’s Bismarck, North Dakota, campus was built in 2003. Since then, programming for the campus’ children has evolved to be a psychiatric residential treatment facility. The children who now come into care at this campus are survivors of significant trauma. The campus currently includes a gym to care for physical needs, a school to supply educational needs, and therapy rooms to care for psychiatric and sensory needs. To fill a gap in spiritual care, a specialized chapel facility has been designed to be a space where these at-risk children can find hope in the unfailing promises of God. The new chapel will provide a healing space to minister to each child’s spiritual needs, where they can find the hope and healing that comes only from Christ. The Ranch’s Board of Directors has worked with architects who specialize in design for traumatized children, as well as liturgical experts, specializing in facilities that embody the Gospel. The resulting chapel will be a 3,175 square foot addition to the campus’ main building, providing a space for the spiritual needs of Ranch children and staff.

This mission grant will help with building costs of the new chapel, where the hearts of these precious children can know and experience the mercy of Christ and His healing power.



But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God” (Luke 18:16).

The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; (Psalm 28:7a).