



WESTONWOOD RANCH  
GRATITUDE REPORT  
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2021





EMBRACING

UNIQUE

ABILITIES

***Despite the challenges of 2020, with your support and partnership, we were able to continue providing transitional services and resources to teens and young adults with developmental differences in our community.***

# *A Word from our Leadership*

As we rapidly approach the end of the year, we are all excited and eager to welcome 2022 with bright eyes focused on the future of Westonwood Ranch. But first, we would love to look back on what Westonwood Ranch has done as an organization dedicated to serving the needs of adolescents and young adults who have the desire to learn and thrive in the face of a disability.



The accomplishments highlighted within this Gratitude report are as much yours as they are Westonwood's --- your gifts allow our mission to come to life and help create a space where individuals with developmental differences feel welcomed, loved and heard.

You have seen their sweet faces and you've watched some of their stories over this past year. Our program participants are remarkable and their strength is inspiring. They are teens who are learning, growing and having hope in the face of challenges. We have the incredible privilege of coming into their lives at a challenging time and walking beside them as they grow their confidence, self-worth and independence through our programs..

Thank you for your continued support and love.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lindy Wood'.

*Lindy Wood, MSN  
Founder & Board President*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelly Cash'.

*Kelly Cash  
Executive Director*

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## **Westonwood Ranch Board of Directors**

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**Lindy Wood**

*Founder & Board President*

**Gabrielle Testa**

*Vice President*

**Ashley Edmonds**

*Treasurer*

**Nathan Cordle**

*Secretary*

**Jason Wood**

*Founding Board Member*

**Mary Brandman**

*Board Member*

**Janet Murphy**

*Board Member*

**Bill Blanken**

*Board Member*



# WHO WE ARE

*OUR MISSION:* To *bridge* the gap for individuals with developmental differences to *discover* their potential.

*OUR VISION:* To *inspire* the world to see the *greatness* within every person

## DID YOU KNOW?

*1 in 44*

children are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The diagnosis is 4x more likely in boys than girls.

Age *22*

Individuals with developmental differences must graduate public school & lose most, if not all, of their services, funding, and resources under IDEA.

*2/3*

of young adults with Autism had neither a job nor educational plans during the first 2 years after high school.

*90%*

It is estimated that 90% of adults with Developmental Differences remain chronically unemployed throughout their life.



# 2021 OUR IMPACT



*Your support this past year has brought us one step closer to reaching our vision.*





*Donor Spotlight:*

# Meet Chip & Martha Carroll

*Chip & Martha have been long time supporters of our mission. Check out how they got involved and why our mission is near to their hearts.*

Chip and Martha Carroll were married and raised their 3 children in Atlanta, GA before relocating to Walton County, FL five years ago. They first got involved with the Westonwood Ranch mission through a friend, Mark Johnston. Mark shared with them the initial plans to build the campus out in Freeport, FL with a focus on enriching the lives of individuals with Autism and connected them with Lindy Wood, our founder. After meeting Lindy & Jason Wood, they were struck by her commitment and drive to make the ranch a success. Knowing friends with Autistic children and understanding the impact it can have, Chip & Martha knew what a great resource Westonwood Ranch would be for the Walton County community and wanted to get involved. Not only do they financially support our mission but during COVID in 2020, Martha helped to sell our Aquaponic lettuce to the Seaside community. Each week she would coordinate orders with us and then use Seaside Chapel as a pickup location for the orders. We would not have had as much success with lettuce sales without Martha's help. Chip & Martha continue to stay involved with our mission through various ways. They also support other organizations including Seaside Chapel, Help the Persecuted, Leading the Way with Michael Youssef, and Young Life of South Walton.

*Thank you Chip & Martha for your support!*



# Save the Date...

## 3RD ANNUAL WESTONWOOD RANCH PRO RODEO

March 25 & 26, 2022  
Freeport Sports Complex

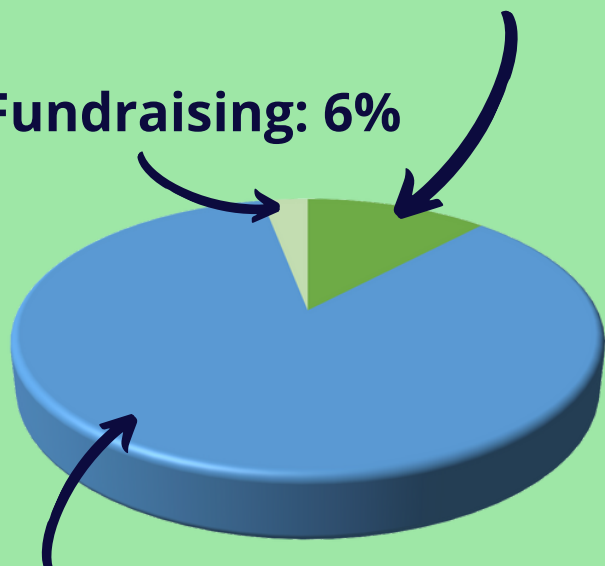
### 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### EXPENSE ALLOCATION

*Derived from 2021 Calendar Yr P&L*

**Administration: 14%**

**Fundraising: 6%**



**Programs: 80%**

#### REVENUE

Grants & Foundations:	\$343,889.33
Program Income:	\$267,506.97
Individual & Corporate Donations:	\$133,069.33
Fundraising & Events:	\$245,976.07

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<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$990,441.70</b>
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#### EXPENSES

Program Expenses:	\$417,587.91
Administrative Expenses:	\$70,644.33
Fundraising Expenses:	\$30,504.17

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<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$518,736.41</b>
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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## **BUSINESSES/CORPORATIONS:**

- Air Pro Services LLC
- Azland Mining, LLC
- Barker Williams PLLC
- Beach Community Bank
- Beau Interiors, LLC
- Blue Giraffe
- Boogie Holding Inc.
- Cardella Construction Company
- Chapter IX Alabama Counseling Association
- Chelco
- Coastal Accounting of NWFL
- Construction Services, Inc.
- Davis Properties of Northwest Florida
- Disco 30A
- Duckies Shop of Fun
- Eastern Shore Hospitality
- FamilyVest Financial Planning
- John Paul Somers & Company
- Kiwanis Club of Freeport/South Walton
- Mercantile
- Mulligans Bar & Grill
- Niceville Insurance
- Pizza By the Sea
- Provident Title
- Rosemary Beach Retail Company
- Royal Destinations
- RV Resort of Santa Rosa LLC
- Scenic Sotheby's International Realty
- Shoreline Title, LLC
- Silver Sands Outlet
- Special Forces Brotherhood Motorcycle Club
- St. Joe Clubs & Resorts
- System Service Engineering
- The Salon Trinity
- Waste Management
- Willow Boutique

## **CHURCHES & FOUNDATIONS:**

- The Alys Foundation
- Charles Carroll Family Foundation
- Colleen Kuebel Lewis Family Fund
- Community Foundation of Greater Memphis
- The Dugas Family Foundation
- Good News United Methodist Church
- Impact100 of Northwest Florida
- La Lumiere Foundation
- Lawson Charitable Foundation
- Louise Hause Miller Foundation
- Mary K Alexander Foundation
- Rosemary Beach Foundation
- Seaside Interfaith Chapel
- St. James Episcopal Church
- St. Joe Community Foundation
- Stephen Drake Martin Family Foundation
- William B Orkin Foundation
- Will Kinzer Foundation



*Special thanks to Destin Charity Wine Auction Foundation for their continued support!*

## **INDIVIDUALS:** *(Donations of \$500 or greater)*

- Alison Rich
- Allie Page
- Beth & Randy Carroll
- Beth Hiers
- Bill Hodges
- Bill & Cheryl Stegbauer
- Bryan & Stacy Pritchett
- Carolyn Samelson
- Charles Morgan III
- Chip & Martha Carroll
- Chuck & Mary Krutz
- Cindy Krutz
- Dana Seago
- Dara Warner
- David Wilson
- Debra Peterson
- Dorothea Kinney
- Dr WM & Hilda Thomas
- Elaine Trehwella
- Eric Lopez
- Erstad Family Trust
- Frank Burge
- Fran Larkin Hyatt
- Greg & LeAnne Shumate
- Hill Family Properties LLC
- Jane Solomon
- Janet & Kevin Murphy
- Jason & Lindy Wood
- Jeff & Cindy Garrard
- Jeff & Shellie Dennis
- Jennifer MacBride
- Joyce Chambless
- Kate & JD Johnson
- Kenny & Pat Larkin
- Kevin & Susan Logan
- Kimberly Ward
- Larry Davis
- Larry & Debra Taylor
- Laura Varga
- Lindy & Jason Wood
- Lisa Pitell
- Marieanne Khoury-Vogt
- Matt & Mary Brandman
- Maureen Gamble
- Melanna Wray
- Meredith Flanagan
- Mike Lawell
- Mike & Barb Thompson
- Mike & Julie Roetzel
- Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Herndon
- Randy Geoghagan
- Renee Plumb
- Richard D. Rogers
- Robbie & Shelli Roberts
- Russ & Laura Porter
- Scott Hudson
- Scott & Casey Kearney
- Steven Asbell
- Sheryl Davidson
- The Crye Family
- Tina & Ray Watson
- Todd & Crissie Sensing
- Tom Dodson
- Troy & Georgi Sensing



**COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT**  
STJOE® HOSPITALITY

*Thank you to  
St. Joe Hospitality & the  
Community Involvement  
Committee for continuing to  
support our mission through  
volunteer work days!*





# The "Chief" of the Ranch

*Peyton Ward was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome in kindergarten. He grew up in Defuniak Springs with his mom, Stacy Ward. He was our very first participant to enroll when we opened programming in August 2019. With his cowboy hat, large belt buckle, Justin boots and charismatic personality, he has become a part of the Westonwood family. We asked Stacy to tell us about her son from her eyes.*

## **What do you love most about Peyton?**

I love that my son is funny without even knowing he is funny. I love that he loves unconditionally and that he sees people for who they are. He has taught me a lot about life through his eyes. I love asking him questions and learning what his perspective on things are, compared to my own. I love he loves me unconditionally and sees through my own flaws, faults and insecurities.

## **Tell us the most challenging part of his Autism Diagnosis?**

It is very hard to watch him befriend a neurotypical person and the bullying that he has had to endure most of his life because of his diagnosis. It is heartbreaking at times because the bullying was done by adults and not peers his own age.

## **As a parent, what is the hardest part about having a child with Autism? What is the best part?**

The hardest part of having a child on the Spectrum is losing a part of who you once were. Losing friends and learning to adapt to being alone most of the time. Missing friends and family functions because of the sensory issues involved and the "crowds". The best part is I have a little man child that loves me more than anyone in the world. I am thankful that God entrusted me to be his momma.

## **What are Peyton's future dreams & goals? How has Westonwood Ranch helped him to reach those dreams?**

Peyton's dream is to become a ranch hand at Westonwood Ranch. He also has a goal to live on the ranch in semi-independent housing with a little help from me, his friends, and coworkers. This program has allowed my son a place to continue to learn and grow. Because of the bullying and abuse he experienced in high school, it caused him to regress backwards. Westonwood Ranch helped bring out my son's personality again. He is in his element at the ranch & is truly happy. I am eternally grateful for this program coming into our lives when it did.







***In April 2021, we launched our job training program...***

# PROGRAM LIFTOFF

***Launching Individuals Forward To Obtain employment & Fulfill their Futures***

Our mission is to bridge the gap for individuals with developmental differences to discover their potential. Program LIFTOFF is the another piece of that bridge that will allow Westonwood Ranch to propel youth with developmental differences to a life of self reliance and independence. This IMPACT will last a lifetime. Humanity's definition of success is often tied to productivity and ability to contribute to society in some way. Individuals with developmental differences WANT and DESERVE the same employment opportunities.

***COMING IN 2022...***

## LIFTOFF EXPANSION PROJECT

*We are adding a 2 bedroom cottage to serve as additional space for the job training program.*



***Thank you to Impact100 of Northwest Florida for supporting the start up of this program with a \$112,000 grant awarded in 2020.***





# Volunteer Spotlight:

## **Caroline & Patrick Ambrose + Maggie & Mat McCown**

*Caroline, Patrick, Maggie and Mat began volunteering back in December 2020 after finding out about the organization from the Scenic Sotheby's International Realty Christmas Part hosted at the ranch. Since then, they have rarely missed a Sunday volunteering to come feed the animals, clean up the equine center, and the Aquaponics Farm. We asked them a few questions about their experience volunteering at the ranch.*

### **What attracted you to the cause?**

Maggie & Mat: "I volunteered at a therapeutic riding center when i was in high school and it was such an impactful experience. See the way kids with developmental disabilities thrived around horses was really inspiring.. When we were introduced to the ranch and heard Lindy speak about the mission and how much passion there was behind it, we couldn't help but want to be a part of it!"

### **What motivates you to stay involved/continue to volunteer at the ranch?**

Caroline & Patrick: "Everything!! I am giddy every Sunday morning to go see all of the animals. It also makes my heart happy that Lindy & Jason are able to go to church as a family versus one of them having to stay home and care for the ranch."

### **What is your favorite part about volunteering?**

Maggie & Mat: "Westonwood Ranch has almost become a little escape for the four of us! We just love getting away from our usual busy routine & spending time outside with the animals."

Caroline & Patrick: "The animals! I love them all. If you've ever had a conversation with me, then I've probably told you about my love for Pearl the cat!"

### **Tell us one funny story that happened while volunteering.**

Caroline & Patrick: "Patrick has lived 29 years despising cats and now Pearl & Oyster are slowly making him a cat person... well maybe"

Maggie & Mat: "We showed up one morning and Pearl was stuck on the roof of the barn! We spent way too long trying to figure out how to get back to safety. We ended up finding a couple 2x4's and making a cat walk for Pearl!"

### **What would you share with other people interested in volunteering at the ranch?**

Maggie & Mat: "Just do it! There are so many different ways to get involved. Not only will your involvement have an impact on the organization and the community, but it will have a lasting impact on you!"

Caroline & Patrick: "Your cup will runneth over as soon as you pull trough the gates! The love and dedication that goes into every participant and animal is palpable!"







[www.westonwood.org](http://www.westonwood.org)