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Diplomas, Jobs, Health, and Happiness.

That’s the business Rancho Cielo is in.

We serve young people aged 16-24 who have been marginalized, who have had the fewest opportunities.

It’s important to note that our students must do the hard work to reach the finish line. We are not doing it “to” them or “for” them. We are making an offering, a rich offering that includes diploma education, job training from industry professionals, mental health counseling and cultural affirmation, and enrichment activities they deserve to experience. Their success is remarkable – when they get what they need, they thrive as they should. Rancho’s programs marry the need of our community for well-paid employment for our youth with the need of our industries for a workforce with specific skills. Industry Advisory Councils and Community Groups inform curriculum development.

And we’re GROWING. In August, we opened the $7M Ted Taylor Ag Vocational Center to train our young people for highly-skilled, living-wage jobs in our largest industry. New students in the Taylor Farms Wing are learning refrigeration and ag mechanics/electrical. Next year we open a tractor/auto repair program in the MY Automotive Group Wing; 2021 will see Ag Futures/Robotics/Entrepreneurism in the D’Arrigo Family Wing.

Clearly, your investment is more important than ever. 80% of our funding comes from private contributions. Rancho Cielo students and the economy of the Monterey Bay Region depend on you.

Thank you,

Susie Brusa, CEO
Notes of Interest
While our fundraising expense was higher than it normally is, we also raised capital and endowment funds in addition to our operating revenues shown here. We’ve had to increase our staffing capacity as we grow, both to raise additional funding, but also to handle the complexities of the public funding we manage.

Approximately 18% of our revenue is from public funding, mostly in the form of competitive grants.

These are the youth who have benefited from your support

143 students attend daily on average
65% male
35% female

Our students come from all over Monterey County
75% Salinas
15% South County
5% North County
5% Peninsula

We serve low income youth
31% low income
69% very low income

25% are parents themselves
59% are ages 15-17
41% are ages 18-25
2019 Program Highlights

Ted Taylor Ag Vocational Center

The Ted Taylor Ag Vocational Center provides training for highly-skilled, living-wage agricultural jobs related to ag processing, mechanics, and electrical.

**Number of youth served:** 20

**Did you know...** This past August, the first group of 20 students began taking classes in the new 30,000-square-foot Vocational Center.

Transitional Housing

The Transitional Housing Village is safe, on-campus housing for students. All residents are either in a Rancho Cielo Program or have graduated and are working/attending college.

**Number of youth served:** 30

**Did you know...** The Transitional Housing Village provides 8,030 nights rest each year.

Drummond Culinary Academy

The Drummond Culinary Academy is a ten-month program resulting in a culinary certificate and a high school diploma.

**Number of youth served:** 90

**Did you know...** Culinary students completed over 4,900 hours of externships. Students participated in 72 events including the Panetta Institute Jefferson-Lincoln Awards, Culinary Classique, The Quail: A Motorsports Gathering, our own Culinary Round Up and Castroville Community Center Turkey Feed for the Homeless.

Youth Corps

Youth Corps is a crew-based employment program, focused on job readiness and skill building, that helps maintain the Rancho Cielo Campus.

**Number of youth served:** 33

Construction Academy

Construction Academy students work towards a diploma and certificates in construction while building Tiny Homes and installing solar panels.

**Number of youth served:** 55

**Did you know...** Construction Academy students plan to build two more Tiny Homes this school year.

Silver Star Youth Program

Silver Star is a Community Day School for youth on probation.

**Number of youth served:** 77

**Did you know...** Four students from the Silver Star Youth Program were the proud winners of the Monterey County Poetry Contest. They were chosen out of 900 entries.

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