



Submitted Monday, October 4, 2021

**Overview of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch services to youth and families in North Dakota.  
Submitted to North Dakota Judiciary Committee for October 5, 2021, Hearing.**

*Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch was founded in 1952 by a small rural North Dakota Lutheran Church congregation concerned about the young boys, post-World War II, who were forced by circumstances to make it on their own. They recruited host families from across the state. One remarkable family created the first true Ranch location with six boys on a small farm in Tolley, ND. Since then, the Ranch has grown to have campuses in Minot, Bismarck, and Fargo, as well as thrift stores and warehouses that provide income to support our programs. Today, the Ranch is a Christ-centered residential treatment center that helps the most troubled, complex, and amazing kids through psychiatric and educational services. Our professional staff serve boys and girls with challenging mental, emotional, and behavioral issues resulting from significant trauma, abuse, and neglect. Each day, we serve up to 140 youth on our Minot, Bismarck, and Fargo, ND, campuses. In addition, the Ranch has expanded to meet community needs for at-risk kids and their families.*

**Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, a community partner so our youth can become their best selves.**

**How we partner with the community:**

- 1. Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch**
  - A. Diversion and Referral
  - B. Aftercare Services
  - C. Clinical Admissions Coordinator
- 2. Dakota Memorial School**
  - A. Day Student Program
  - B. Transition Planning for School Success
  - C. Stability Academy Transitioning Students (SATS)
- 3. Dakota Family Services**
  - A. Multi-Disciplinary Behavioral Health Services
- 4. Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Thrift Stores**
  - A. Employment and Community Service Programs (20+)
  - B. "Living Support" for those in need (Voucher Program – Approx. 25,000 items per year)
- 5. Spiritual Life Services**
  - A. Congregational Support / Pulpit Supply

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch welcomes invitations to participate in hearings or serve on committees for these very important issues impacting the children of North Dakota. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact us.

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*The mission of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch is to help at-risk children and their families succeed in the name of Christ.  
Our vision is that all children and families achieve greater success in life.*