

2023 Annual Report



The Bishop's Ranch

A Note From Aaron



Dear Ranch Friends,

Looking back over the last year, I feel an tremendous sense of gratitude and appreciation for The Ranch Community. I'm reflecting on all the ways we have connected and how so many of you stepped up in ways both seen and unseen to contribute to The Ranch. 2023 was bright because of you, our dedicated Ranch Community. Our connection to each other and to this place makes so much possible. Together, we get to experience the impact of The Ranch for ourselves and the joy of sharing it with others.

While we celebrated the return of many familiar groups and parishes, we also welcomed dozens of new groups discovering the magic of The Ranch for the first time. Witnessing their initial encounters with The Ranch is always a highlight. It's common for first-time guests to stop and express their awe with remarks like, "There's something special about this place," or "This place is sacred," or just a simple yet profound "Wow!"

In 2023, The Ranch truly came to life with joyful visitors, and we closed out the year in a remarkably better financial position than the past several years and in excess of our own projections — a testament to the vibrant energy and support of The Ranch Community.

As we step into 2024, The Ranch is poised to shift from surviving to thriving. We're focusing on strategies to welcome more people and amplify our unique hospitality that changes lives. Key priorities include conducting a reserve study for long-term maintenance of our buildings and grounds, hiring a full-time Director of Philanthropy, and expanding our community

"The Ranch truly came to life with joyful visitors."

— Aaron Wright

Income Statement

2023 Income Statement*

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Earned Revenue | \$1,770,805 |
| Other Income | \$103,774 |
| Contributed Revenue | \$422,000 |
| Total Revenue | \$2,296,579 |
| Expenses | \$2,374,644 |
| Net Loss | (\$78,065) |

*Excludes Capital Campaign Revenue & Expenses.

of guests, volunteers, and supporters. The future of The Ranch — fueled by these initiatives and your ongoing partnership — promises exciting growth and sustainability.

firmly believe that hospitality is more than just a service; it's a gateway to community, healing, transformation, and deeper connections. In a world craving more genuine connection, The Ranch stands as a beacon. It's a precious gift we cherish and are excited to share with others for many, many to come.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to the mission of The Ranch.



Aaron Wright, Executive Director



Aaron Wright with 1st Responders Resiliency founder Sue Farren



Aaron gives a Ranch tour during Volunteer Host training

Hospitality

Life-changing hospitality is at the very core of The Ranch's mission. Parish retreats, organizational gatherings, summer camps, and Ranch-sponsored programs are the heartbeat of The Ranch, each fostering a profound sense of community and belonging. This sense of togetherness defines The Ranch Community.

2023 Hospitality By The Numbers

- 5,346 Total Ranch Guests
- 4,480 Overnight Guests
- 337 Days of Hosted Guests
- 866 Day Use Guests
- 170 Summer Camp Participants
- 310 Ranch Program and Retreat Participants
- 46 Hosted Episcopal and Other Faith-Based Groups
- 62 Hosted Non-profit and Organizational Groups
- 36 Ranch-Sponsored Camps, Programs, Retreats, & Events
- 48,000+ Cookies Baked by the Ranch Kitchen
- 1,187 lbs of Dinner Vegetables Prepared by the Ranch Kitchen
- 22 Volunteer Hosts Trained



Kitchen Assistant Mac Wright makes rice for dinner



Business Manager, Cara Anderson and Reservations Coordinator, Rachel Spessard with Sufi group leader Waduda Welsh

Facilities & Land

Maintaining and improving Ranch facilities and land is vital to operations, ensuring it remains a sacred place of respite and renewal for all who visit. Each year, our dedicated team — staff, volunteers, and business partners — join together to protect, repair, and restore The Ranch. In 2023, we successfully completed a range of essential repair and improvement projects, including:

Projects Completed In 2023

- Successfully installed a new generator for the refectory, enhancing our operational capabilities and food protection during power outages.
- Removed a split major oak tree and a dying maple from the cedar grove and hilltop, respectively, ensuring safety and preserving the natural beauty of our surroundings.
- Upgraded and modernized our wifi access points, significantly improving our digital infrastructure for guests and staff.
- Added essential electrical infrastructure to accommodate a generously donated kiln in the Casita, expanding our creative offerings.
- Enhanced the arbor by laying down 6 tons of gravel, weeding the labyrinth, and adding wood chips to the path leading to the AIDS memorial, a project made possible with the invaluable assistance of The Men of Grace.
- Collaborated with a specialized team of fire-prevention goats to reduce poison oak and fire fuels on the lower campus and the north side of Keepo Canyon, prioritizing environmental stewardship and safety.
- Replaced the Pavilion furnace, ensuring a warm and welcoming environment for guests.
- Upgraded the comfort of The Ranch House & Webb Lodge with twenty-five new mattresses, reaffirming our commitment to guest comfort.
- Reupholstered ten chairs in the Ranch House, revitalizing the space with a refreshed look.
- Replaced lamps across the campus, brightening up our facilities with improved lighting.
- Replenished our stock with new towels, ensuring the highest standards of hospitality and care.
- Renamed and marked the Bishop Marc and Sheila Andrus lookout loop to honor their tireless work looking out for creation.

Summer Camp

In 2023, the Ranch offered five weeks of summer camp to more than 170 campers of all ages.

Intergenerational Camp, a sold-out success for the second consecutive year, offered a delightful camp experience to families of all shapes and sizes. This year, more than 20 campers under the age of 10 joined our community, enriching the camp experience with their enthusiasm and energy. There was fun for all in games of kickball, pool time, family art projects, and camp Olympics.

BREAD Camp offered three enriching overnight experiences – a week of Explorers and two weeks of combined Adventurers and Discoverers. This blend of middle and elementary-aged campers was an unprecedented success, fostering mentorship and cross-age friendships. Campers were immersed in daily spiritual activities and engaged in a myriad of other activities, from large group games to tie-dyeing shirts and, of course pool time. Evenings were filled with songs by the fire, the joy of hundreds of cookies, and laughter echoing across the campus.

READ Camp, our cherished day camp for local Healdsburg 4th through 6th graders fosters a love for literacy with engaging morning activities focused on reading. From poetry writing and nature walks to enacting plays, these workshops are designed to enhance reading skills in a fun and interactive way. The afternoons were dedicated to traditional camp enjoyment — pool time featured heavily — and the week culminated in a festive all-camp pool party! Thanks to The Ranch’s generous donors — including the Josephine S. Leiser Foundation, The Episcopal Diocese of California, and The Guardsmen — READ Camp was once again provided at no cost to campers.

Twenty outstanding seasonal staff, including counselors, chaplains, nurses, teachers, and musicians, joined The Ranch team to create a summer camp season to remember.



Intergenerational campers enjoy crafts in the Casita Arts Center



A READ camper enjoys a creative writing session

Programs & Events

Programs and events at The Ranch bring to life the portion of our mission statement that reads, “where renewal of spirit, mind, and body is nourished.” In 2023, we enriched our community with 19 diverse Ranch-sponsored experiences, ranging from new, innovative offerings to cherished favorites, each uniquely contributing to personal growth, learning, and well-being.

Westside Elementary School brought their 4th and 5th graders for Gina’s Orchard Watershed Education Program where students rotated through stations and explored the property.

A new program called Soulful Aging, lead by Chaplain Emerita, Rev. Pat Moore and Jennifer Jeffries, was offered for seniors who came together to explore the gifts of aging.

We also had our yearly program favorites like the Ranch Quilt Retreat in February, which is always sold out a year in advance, and our advent retreats — Quiet Days in Advent and Wisdom of the Heart.

The Annual Acorn Society Forum, held in early June, included a special celebration dinner in honor of Bishop Marc, who attended his final Acorn Weekend as Presiding Bishop of the Diocese of California.



A quilter shares her work with a young guest



A member of the Tamalpais Textile Arts Guild sketches out a design in the sun.



Fall Hike participants bird watch in Gina's Orchard

Hosted Groups

For 75 years, Hosted Groups have relied on The Ranch to provide a welcoming, peaceful, and beautiful space for their retreats, conferences, and social gatherings. In recent years, The Ranch has also been discovered by hundreds of secular non-profits and social organizations. These groups find a supportive space for meetings and events in The Ranch that further their transformative work in the community. This arrival of new, diverse organizations has enriched the connectedness of The Ranch Community.

A sincere thank you to the groups that chose the Ranch in 2023:

All Saints' Episcopal Church
All Souls Episcopal Church
American Leadership Forum
Bay Area Circle Dancers
Bay Area Country Dance Society
Be the Change in Mental Health
Bridge to Nowhere
Burnett's Quilters
C.G. Jung Institute of SF
Cathedral School for Boys
Center for Church Innovation
Ceres Project
Christ Episcopal Church - Alameda
Church of Our Saviour
Church of the Incarnation - Santa Rosa
Church of the Resurrection
Church Pension Group Services Corporation
CIIS-ICP
College of San Mateo
Community Alliance Church
Companions on The Journey
Dee Dee Dickey Women's Retreat
Diocese of California
Diocese of Northern California
East Bay Quilters
Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Episcopal Day School of St. Matthew
Executive Council Retreat
Fall Sing Thing
First Responders Resiliency
Genesis Church
GirlFriends at the Ranch
Grace Cathedral Boys Choir Alumni
Grace Cathedral Boys Choir
Grace Cathedral M. F. C. & Y.
Guilded Lilies
Holy Cross Episcopal Church
Holy Innocents Episcopal Church

Hustle Fund
Hyun-Pummill Family
Interfaith Shelter Network, Inc.
Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative
International Women Forum of NorCal
Jan & Cass Grimes Fam
Kaiser Permanente - Health Education
Department
Lafayette Christian Church
Lilly Ann Popken
Marin School Moms
Mary Ann Allen Quilters
McQueen's Body Shop
Men of Grace Work Weekend
Monday Moms
Morrissey Family
Nadine Kenney Johnstone Writers
NLP Marin
North Bay Quilters (Formally Kathy Grant
Quilters)
Oceana High School
Pacific Boychoir Academy
Pens & Needles
Philosophy Conference
Pointless Sisters
Poly Reunion
PQ Quilters
Prime Coalition
Pummill Family
Ranch Hands
Redwood Gospel Mission
River to Coast Children Services
Sacred Feminine
San Francisco Book Club
Santa Cruz Cycling Club
Santiago St. James Episcopal Church
School for Deacons
Seniors with Grace

Hosted Groups

Sonoma Ag + Open Space
Sonoma County 4C's
Sonoma County Department of Human Services
Sonoma County Office of Education
Sonoma County Writers Camp
Source Point Training
St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
St. Anne's Episcopal Church
St. Clare's Episcopal Church
St. Gregory of Nyssa
St. James' Episcopal Church
St. John The Evangelist
St. John's Episcopal Church - Oakland
St. John's Episcopal Church - Ross
St. Mark's Episcopal Church - Berkeley
St. Mark's Episcopal Church - Palo Alto
St. Mary the Virgin
St. Paul's Episcopal Church - Burlingame
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church - Orinda
Sufi Ruhaniat International
Susan Hagen's Writing Circles for Women

Susan Taylor and Friends
Tai Chi Berkeley
Tamalpais Textile Arts Guild
Thanksgiving Lutheran Church
The Art of the Psychotherapist
The College Preparatory School
The Communion of the Mystic Rose
The Scottish Dancers - Santa Rosa
The Scottish Fiddlers
The Urban School of San Francisco
Thin Place
Tim Griffith Foundation
Transfiguration
Trinity Episcopal Church - Menlo Park
Trinity School
Viniyoga
Windsor High School
Women Making Music
Women Who Wonder
Women's Quest
Young Women's Choral Projects of SF



A group of quilters enjoys morning coffee in the sun on the Pavilion Porch



Genesis Church hosts their first women's retreat at The Ranch



First Responders enjoy Puppy Therapy as part of trauma informed training.

Volunteers

The Ranch is supported by an active and dedicated community of hands-on volunteers. We are thankful for their enduring support.

Hosts

- Craig Palmer
- Cass “Jack” Grimes
- Nat McGregor
- Nydia McGregor Lewis
- Mallory & H.D. Stevens
- Anne Meyer
- Veronic Hill
- Bridget Gleason
- Claire Dodds
- Lauren McCombs

Prayer Residents

- Íte Zaharias, CMR
- Laurie Smith
- Laurie Glover
- Chris Rankin-Williams
- Susan Pierpoint
- Ken Fuller
- Alta Whitt
- Lisa Thompson
- Anne Meyer
- Craig Palmer
- Dale Webb

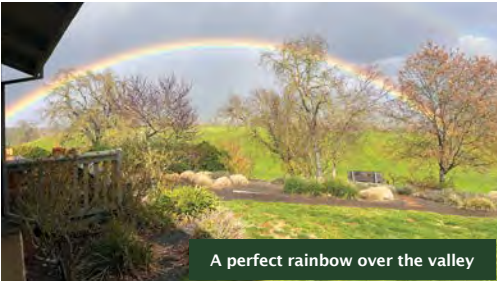
Churches and Groups

- Men of Grace
- St John’s, Oakland
- Trinity Church, Menlo Park
- Ranch Board of Directors & Committee Members

Individuals

- Alan Beber
- Pedro Conceicao
- Michael Defty
- Wendy Dwyer
- David Erikson
- Susanne Devore
- Marc Fredson
- Laurie Glover
- Cass “Jack” Grimes
- Jan Grimes
- Stan Gwyn
- Rick Kaye
- Stephanie Keeble
- Aaron Klinefelter
- Nat Lewis
- James Martin
- Lauren McCombs
- Nydia MacGregor
- Greta Mesics
- Lynn McLaughlin
- John Mihalik
- Rev. Pat Moore, Chaplain Emerita
- David Murphy
- Kendace O’Donnel
- Craig Palmer
- Susan Pierpoint
- Caroline Putnam
- Gabriella Strand
- Brian Wallace
- Donna White
- Alta Whitt
- Nikki Wood
- Fr. Brendan E. Williams, CMR
- Darrell Wright
- Sheila Wright

Ranch Life



A perfect rainbow over the valley



Rosie Aguirre and Pat Burke have some fun in the kitchen



Fr. Brendan baptises baby Joan Freya in a ceremony at The Chapel of St. George.



Facilities and Land associate, Mayko Gutierrez readies the garden for a summer of Ranch tomatoes



Summer campers prepare to make a splash



Young campers giggle during Intergenerational Camp



A drum circle on the Casita lawn

Philanthropy

Guest fees cover less than 75% of The Ranch’s operational and maintenance costs, underscoring the vital importance of financial support from The Ranch Community. Contributions to the Annual Fund and other operational designations are key to ensuring Ranch Hospitality remains accessible to everyone and this place of rare beauty remains financially sustainable. In 2023, we noted a decline in Annual Fund contributions despite an overall rise in support, reflecting a diversification in donors’ philanthropic priorities.

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Annual Fund Donations | \$324,643 |
| Average Annual Fund Contribution Per Donor | \$906 |
| Number of Individual Annual Fund Donors | 358 |
| Number of First Time Annual Fund Donors | 64 |
| Partnership Fund Donations | \$98,924 |
| Chapel Operations Fund Donations | \$11,925 |
| Treehouse Project Fund Donations | \$1,800 |
| Gina’s Orchard Fund Donations | \$1,450 |
| Capital Campaign Donations | \$215,315 |
| The Bishop Andrus Environmental Stewardship Fund ... | \$2,127 |



Ranch Ambassador, Lauren McCombs hosts a Regional Ranch Reception at her home in San Carlos

Special Donors

Great Vision Great Hope Capital Campaign Donors

Anonymous
The Rev. Jacqueline Cherry and
Leigh Burrillrill
Laurie Glover
Walter Lynn McLaughlin and David L. Webb
The Episcopal Diocese of California

Partnership Fund Donors

Gail Grant
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Treehouse Project Fund Donors

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Gina's Orchard Watershed Environmental Education Program Fund Donors

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Karen Isberg
Beryl Kay
Susan Lobedan
Scott Miller

Other Designated Funds Donors

The Rev. Bente & Jim Carter
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Jodi Klein and Michael Darnaud
The Rev. Lauren P. McCombs
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Annual Fund Donors

Redwood Grove **\$15,000 +**

The Very Rev. Mary Case and Dave Claugus
David G. Cockerton

Order of the Oaks **\$10,000 to \$14,999**

James H. Forsyth
Robert E. Gilchrist
Susan Pierpoint
Joy Robinson

Trailblazers' Guild **\$7,500 to \$9,999**

Walter Lynn McLaughlin and David L. Webb

Wildlife Alliance **\$5,000 to \$7,499**

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Lisa M. and John P. Grotts
Judith A. Harris
Michael and Martha Helms
Marina and Andrew Martin
The Rev. Richard L. Schaper and
The Rev. Anita R. Ostrom
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ross
The Rev. Janet H. West

Watershed Society **\$2,500 to \$4,999**

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Valley Association **\$1,000 to \$2,499**

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\$1 to \$99

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The Legacy Circle

Founded in 2011, The Legacy Circle ensures that The Ranch provides loving hospitality for future generations. Members include The Bishop's Ranch in their estate plan in order to secure long-term financial viability of the Ranch. At the close of 2022, there were a total of 122 Legacy Circle members. More info at: www.bishopsranch.org/legacy

Anonymous (3)
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Gloria Bayne *
Laurie Bennet
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Joy Robinson *, in memory of Morton & Emilie Robinson
Matt Santos & Joanie Numssen Santos
The Rev. Richard L. Schaper * and The Rev. Anita R. Ostrom *
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2023 Full-Time Staff

Aaron Wright, Executive Director

Kaitlin Horvath,
Director of Hospitality Operations

Aspen Santillan, Accounting Manager

Rachel Spessard, Reservations Manager

Cara Anderson, Business Manager

Brooke Wright,
Marketing & Communications Manager

Matt Kissmann, Facilities & Land Manager

Mayko Gutierrez,
Facilities & Land / Kitchen

Mari Gonzalez, Housekeeping Manager

Kandie Faurot, Executive Chef

Pedro Morales, Sous Chef

Rosie Aguirre, Lead Cook

Whitney Cox, Lead Cook

Dominic Marsden, Lead Cook

Julie Miller, Guest Services-Host

Ellie MacLean, Guest Services-Host &
Summer Camp Director

2023 Part-Time Staff

The Rev. Father Brendan E. Williams,
Chaplain

P Tyrone Smith,
Interim Advancement Director

Allison Stelly, Interim Database Specialist

Adriana Villafuerte,
Assistant Housekeeping Manager

Leticia Gonzalez-Padilla, Housekeeping

Irais Valerio Eufrazio, Housekeeping

Areli Valerio, Housekeeping

Patricia Burke, Kitchen Assistant

Sarah Williams, Kitchen Assistant

Mac Wrgith, Kitchen Assistant

Mateo Wright, Kitchen Assistant

Shelby Johnson, Kitchen Assistant

Our Mission

In 2023, guided by the generously donated services of non-profit consultant Kendace O'Donnell, a special task force set out to update our mission statement. Informed by feedback from The Ranch Community over the last several years, the task force affirmed that our core mission remained the same. They also concluded that the existing 55-word statement needed trimming for clarity. We are excited to share with you the updated and refined mission statement, which we believe beautifully and succinctly captures our enduring purpose:

To share a place of rare beauty through hospitality that nourishes spirit, body, and mind.



Weekend Retreatants have fun despite the rain



Conversations around the fire are always welcome



The Ranch House dressed in fall colors



The Bishop's Ranch - a place of rare beauty



2023 Summer Camp Staff