

“STRENGTHENING OUR HOMETOWNS”

Hometown Strong is a way for GTS as therapists and members of the community to give back to the communities that we love and live in. Each month employees of GTS donate a portion of their paycheck and GTS rounds that amount up to make a donation to a local charity. Each staff member that donates to this fund is entered into a drawing and once per month we draw a staff member's name. Jill Hedden, PT chose Southside 4-H Food Pantry and Arkansas Sherriffs' Youth Ranch to receive the \$1000.00 donation.



Pictured Left to Right: Lance Gross, PT Owner/President of GTS Physical Therapy, Jana Mead, Southside 4-H Club Leader, and Jill Hedden, PT

The Southside 4-H Food Pantry was started in 2009 by the Southside 4-H Club. This club continues to care for its community each Thursday afternoon, from 2:00 to 4:00pm. Anyone can utilize the food pantry, but must bring identification for each member of their household. Families may come one time per month and pick up food for their family. The food pantry is run completely by volunteers: the 4-Hers and their families!

In addition to food, the food pantry offers personal care items and cleaning supplies when they have them available.

Outside the Food Pantry, there is a Blessing Box that anyone can access any day or time when they have an immediate need for something to eat.

Jana says “We cherish our community, families, and friends who all help us keep it filled with easy to open and eat items! Donations are always welcome and we certainly appreciate GTS and their very generous donation that will be put to good use buying canned vegetables and other items to help meet the needs of our community!”



Pictured Left to Right: Lance Gross, PT Owner/President of GTS Physical Therapy, Kirsten Harvey, Secretary of Arkansas Sheriffs' Youth Ranch, and Jill Hedden, PT

Since its inception in 1976, the Arkansas Sheriffs' Youth Ranch has provided children a place to call home. Children who come to the Ranch often come with a history of child maltreatment. They typically lack nurturing family relationships. The Ranch is a transformative family-style foster care program. It provides a healthy, emotionally-supportive home environment. At the ASYR, we help children learn to trust others. Children learn to cope with their emotions while learning responsibility, building healthy boundaries, and improving self-confidence.

The Ranch's mission is to address, remedy, and prevent child abuse and neglect by creating safe, healthy, and permanent homes for children.

At the Ranch, caring staff surround children who need support and stability. The Ranch commits to help children believe in themselves and teach them to live healthy, fulfilling lives. This commitment extends from its board of trustees to its dedicated houseparents.

There is no "up and out" policy at the Ranch. Residents may stay at the Ranch for as long as they need a home, up to age 21. Ranchers can stay through post-secondary education until they feel socially and financially prepared for independence and/or obtain stable employment. More than 2,100 boys and girls have experienced life at the Ranch. For children in need, the Ranch will always be a place to call home.

For more information about the Arkansas Sheriffs' Youth Ranch or to donate call (870) 793-6841 or go to their website: youthranches.com