In response to the civil unrest in the wake of George Floyd’s murder, our Diversity Equity and Inclusion Council held open check-in sessions last summer to create space for our team to grieve together and discuss how we could support one another, many of us isolated due to COVID. This led to internal dialogues about systemic racism at The Ranch and how we might dismantle and confront those pieces of our past and present in order to move forward toward healing and transformative justice.

As a first step, that following Fall we invited internationally renowned diversity expert, Todd Corley, to present four hours of mandatory diversity training for all staff, designed specifically for our team to discuss mutual accountability to one another as we build a more affirming and anti-racist culture. Corley’s work will help build the foundation to our DEI work moving forward.

Due to such a positive response to the check-in sessions, we also formalized a support group for our Black and Brown colleagues to provide a safe space to discuss their shared experiences as persons of color. These collective efforts have led to many solution-focused discussions around our path forward towards an affirming, anti-racist future at The Ranch.
Our move to Whitehall and the Crane Family Investment in the Future of Foster Care

The Buckeye Ranch is proud to join the Whitehall community with the opening of our new headquarters, the Michael & Paige Crane Center for Children and Families, at 4653 East Main Street.

This new location has been named in recognition of The Crane Family’s recent investment in the future of our Foster Care program, continuing their long-standing partnership with our mission, which spans nearly to our founding in 1961. The Crane Family, with a lead gift from Mike and Paige Crane, and Crane Group Co. will make a $1,000,000 investment over the next five years to increase foster homes, meeting the rising demand to provide safe and loving homes for our children.

We are thankful for the Crane Family’s partnership for there is no greater return on investment than that of a child’s well-being.

“The addition of The Buckeye Ranch in the city of Whitehall is a strong indicator of the exciting business climate in Whitehall. Businesses want to locate to an environment where their services are appreciated and needed. The services of The Buckeye Ranch are advantageous to our citizens and communities around us,” Whitehall Mayor Kim Maggard said.

“The Michael and Paige Crane Center for Children and Families will enable young people to get needed help and resources in a timely manner.”

Take a virtual tour of our new headquarters: www.buckeyeranch.org/crane-center
This year has given us all cause to consider our impact on those around us and it has been a reminder that, in the face of crisis, our community responds with compassion and empathy.

From local groups providing a supplemental supply of food for our families in need; to partner agencies coming together to help us open a shelter for youth affected by COVID-19; to our team members swiftly adapting to a telehealth model to ensure that there was no gap in support for our children and families; our community members broadened their circle to embrace those most vulnerable.

*Caption for the photo at right goes here.*

Bonner Academy

With schools across the country transitioning to virtual to protect physical health, our team made rapid adaptations to curb the mental health consequences for our children and youth. Last March we were able to transition to distance learning and support our Bonner Academy youth even as Ohio faced shut down orders. As families voiced a need for in-person services, our Bonner Academy youth continued summer programming on our Grove City Campus for summer camp.

While many other schools remained distance or hybrid learning, our small-focused classes allowed us to provide in person learning and therapy safely for youth who need specific therapy and treatment, which often times is not provided by an in-home learning environment.

Support from community partners allowed us to purchase new chrome books and laptops for our Bonner Academy youth for use in the building as well as to build our capacity to for synchronous learning and therapeutics should distance learning be required due to COVID-19 quarantines. From distributing porch drop-offs of learning packets and materials for learning and therapy; to distributing food, grocery gift cards, and gas cards for families struggling during COVID; to holding impromptu front-yard tech support meetings with families to support learning from home, our team has pivoted to meet the needs of our children, youth, and families as we adapted to the challenges of the pandemic.

Over the late spring and summer, our Bonner Academy Building was transformed into a minor shelter for youth facing housing instability due to their COVID exposure or status.
COVID Shelter for Minors

With the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we were called upon to meet an emerging need in our community. We were asked to mobilize with community partners to protect children diagnosed with COVID-19 or those awaiting test results who are exposed and/or symptomatic and whose care had been interrupted or terminated due to COVID-related issues. This was an urgent request as foster homes, treatment facilities and relatives were unable to offer immediate housing to these youth in attempts to prevent and reduce the spread of the virus.

In partnership with Franklin County Children’s Services, Nationwide Children’s hospital, Mid-Ohio Food Bank and Columbus based restaurant Basi Italia, we temporarily converted our Bonner Academy into a shelter for youth ages 10-21 affected by COVID-19 with no place to live, to stay, rest and heal until they could be assigned to more stable and permanent housing.

Residential Program

The combined consequences of schools closing and mental health challenges spiking quickly created an increased need for residential services. Families working through mental, emotional, or behavioral health challenges were suddenly forced to cohabitate with little to no regulating outlets, exacerbating the need for respite of children, youth, and families.

It was an especially difficult year for our children and youth in Residential as enact COVID safety protocols severely reduced visits home, from their families, and prevented field trips. Our Residential staff quickly pivoted and showed up with inspired energy to combat the isolation, from holding our very own Residential Olympics to designing their own house flags, and inviting a soft-serve ice cream truck to our campus.

Our wildly generous community bought up our entire wish list, providing thousands of dollars of support to our Residential youth in under 24 hours.
Now in its 11th year, our **Adopt-a-Family** program lends crucial support to families over the winter holidays. Family wish lists are paired with donors in the community to provide everything from food and clothing to toys and utility payments.
In 1961, after conducting considerable research and identifying a need in the community to support youth in our community, The Women’s Juvenile Service Board, now The Buckeye Ranch Service Board, opened The Buckeye Boys Ranch, now known as The Buckeye Ranch. We began as a treatment center for 10 young men and have since transitioned into one of the country’s leading providers of emotional, behavioral, and mental health services for children, youth, and families. Each day, more than 2,350 youth are in Ranch care, receiving services designed to help them become successful within their families, schools, and communities.

Over the years, they have been one of our largest investors in Adopt-a-Family, taught Ranch history to new team members in orientation, have supported our families with an annual school supply drive, and acted as fundraisers, advocates, and ambassadors of our work.

Because of the vision of these women, we’re moving into our 60th year. As our work continues to grow in complexity and reach, their current support and long-standing history help anchor us to our roots while informing our vision for the future. Our work extends throughout all corners of our city and beyond, providing hope and healing for so many families. We are thankful for all that these women have given and continue to give to The Buckeye Ranch.
family focused, serving all ages

ADMISSIONS & ENGAGEMENT
- Same Day Access
- Diagnostic Assessment & Referral
- Walk-in Hours Available

COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES
- Intensive Home Based Treatment (IHBT)
- Multi-systemic Therapy (MST)
- Intensive Family Support Program (IFSP)
- Outpatient Counseling
- Medication Management

PERMANENT FAMILY SOLUTIONS NETWORK
- Child Welfare
- Nurturing Parent
- Kinship
- Family Support Services (FSS)

COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMS
- Nurturing Father
- Somali Outreach Program
- Common Ground (Supervised visitation)

DAY TREATMENT
- The Bonner Academy at Rosemont (Grades 3-6)
  - Serves youth ages 9-17
  - Secure Campus

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT
- The Bonner Academy at Cross Creek (Grades 6-12)
  - Transitional Age Programming
    - My Place Bridges
      - Housing and supportive services for eligible young adults.
      - Transitional housing with 24/7 staff.
  - Foster Care
    - Respite
    - Treatment homes
    - Family homes
    - Foster to adopt
      - Over 220 homes in over 20 counties across Ohio!

each family on their own path
My Place (Ages 16-21)
Transitional housing with 24/7 staff.

TRANSMISSIONAL AGE PROGRAMMING

Bridges (Ages 18-21)
Housing and supportive services for eligible young adults.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMS
- Nurturing Father
- Somali Outreach Program
- Common Ground (Supervised visitation)

FOSTER CARE
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