



*Flying H Youth Ranch 370 Flying H Loop Naches, WA 98937*



(SK when he first got here)

Dear Friends of the Flying H,

We recently had the joy of seeing three boys complete the program here. On June 7<sup>th</sup> we had SK leave after 31 months of being here. As each boy leaves, we ask them to write a biography of their life, here is his story.

“When I was little(er) I was “diagnosed” with ADD and ADHD. I am sure that those disorders are just excuses for being crazy and hard to control. My mom would try many different types of discipline to try to get me to obey her. She started to take away my material possessions and give them to Goodwill. I would sometimes miss out on fun activities with peers just because I would not do a small task for my mom. I would fight her or just not do anything when asked to do something. I would be stubborn and uncooperative just because I did

not want to obey. I would also hit my sister when I got mad at her, and one of the last times I did that I had her iPod in my hand, and left an impression of the bottom on her forehead. I think I was 12 or 13. My mom threatened to call the police because of how I hurt my sister. I also pushed my mom down the stairs once when she was trying to get to my room to give more of my stuff away. I got progressively worse and I could sometimes hear my mom crying in her room after I had a freakout session.

When I had just turned 14, my mom told me in November that I would be going to the Flying H. She let me know a few days before my entry date of November 11<sup>th</sup> 2011. I was not even mad, I think I was actually glad to get away from my mom and sister because I thought they were “annoying” to me. I think that one of the biggest changes I have gone through at the ranch is growing up. I have realized that obeying, and doing what I am told is actually easier than not doing anything, and not having privileges.

While I was at the ranch, I was able to see what my sister was doing with her life. It gave me a thought: “Do I want to do the same thing and end up like her? Or do I want to do the right thing and obey?” My sister got to do whatever she wanted, go wherever she wanted, and see whomever she wanted. That was the exact opposite of what my mom wanted for us. I saw that she was having her “Fun” away from my mom, but it did not last. Now I see the predicament she is in- married to a guy that does not want to work, doesn't have a job

herself, and has a baby. I have decided that I would rather live with my mom and obey her than move from house to house, living with random people all the time, as my sister does.

After I leave the ranch, I will attend South Puget Sound Community College in the fall to get my High school diploma and AA in General Education by the end of 2016. I also plan to find a job that I can work at close to home as a small start. I do not yet know what college I want to attend after SPSCC, but I plan to know by the time I leave the community college.

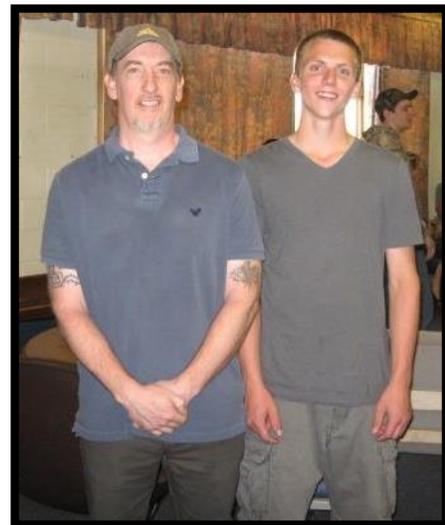
I have said this multiple times in the past, even before I knew my graduation date. I have never really hated the ranch (except for a few certain days when I was on White card). I thought that the ranch was a fun place to be at first, and then realized that it was also a safe place- out of the sphere of influence of pretty much most bad influences. I did not have to plan anything, and every necessity was provided for me. It is easy almost to live at the ranch, and I loved it. It did not require much thought, but then again my rank almost never passed 65 –something during my first half stay. I did get “Lucky” a few months, though, and got a higher rank than normal, but it would just drop again. Overall, I have enjoyed most of my time at the ranch. I am almost sad that I have to leave. Almost.



(He did it!)



(SK, his family and the Johnson Family)



(SK and mentor Brent Johnson)