

# Montana State Legislature

**Exhibit Number:** 1

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### THE LIFEHOUSE

Children are obviously important to us; the fact that a child may not be born yet in no way lessens his or her importance to us or to God. In view of the great need for ministry to young (usually teen age), un-wed mothers-to-be, we have a program we call the "Life-House". This mothers' and babies' home is capable of handling at least eight girls and their babies at a time.

In this area of service, we have four main objectives:

1. To give pregnant girls an alternative to abortion, by providing loving prenatal care in a Christian residential setting, and supporting them through the delivery of their babies.
2. To give Christian counseling on parenting or adopting, and providing an avenue for those choosing adoption to find Christian adoptive parents.
3. To provide a continuing living situation for both mother and baby when parenting is their choice, and they still need a place to live and finish their high school or GED education requirements.
4. To lead those in our care to a closer walk with God.

Several babies have been born through this ministry to girls who would otherwise have had abortions. Some babies have been placed into Christian homes through adoption.

We're excited as we see this facility serving young girls who need help. Thanks to all the people who have reached out to help make this possible!

# PINEHAVEN

## CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S RANCH AND SCHOOL



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### BUSINESS & LABOR

EXHIBIT NO. 2  
DATE 3/30/05

HB

# Hi there! Let us tell you about

## WHO ARE WE?

**PINEHAVEN** is an 1100 acre "kid 'n cattle" ranch and school in Western Montana, about 100 miles south of Glacier National Park. Since 1976, we have been successfully caring for children who need an alternative living situation.

Those we care for are any age through high school and come from all parts of the country. Maximum age for acceptance into the program is 16 1/2 years old. Usually he or she is from a broken home, defiant, under-motivated in school, and running with the wrong crowd. Many are involved in minor crimes and misdemeanors. Those of teen age are often into drugs, sex, and alcohol. Many times they are the victims of neglect and abuse. Few have any spiritual values.

## PINEHAVEN SCHOOL

One of the problems common to many of our kids is difficulty in school. This difficulty can be academic, social (running with the wrong crowd), behavioral, or (typically) all of these in combination. Furthermore, many of the specific "trouble" items like alcohol, tobacco, and drugs are readily available in the public school system. In response to these problems, in 1984 we began our own school. Our school had grown from a single classroom in a small basement to a three-level building with a capacity of up to seven classrooms and 100 students. The classes range from the basic core subjects right up through Accounting and Computer Science. Of course, Bible classes are strongly emphasized. P.E. is held in the gymnasium and pool and shop classes are taught in our wood and metal shops. The most important fact about the school is that it provides consistency for the kids. What is taught in the home is reinforced at school. Without the conflicting signals that often exist between home and the school, young people can respond more quickly to God's leading in their lives.

## WHY DOES PINEHAVEN SUCCEED?

Our program is based on five fundamental principles:

1. It is established on a foundation of Scriptural faith. "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." (Psalm 127:1) In the serenity and warmth of a true family environment, young people go to church, worship God, participate in family devotions, and much more.
2. The program builds self-esteem. This is accomplished through the learning of skills and seeing tangible results of hard work. As they learn, the kids in our program develop self-confidence because the emphasis is on "What I can do" rather than on "What I have".
3. Sound, old-fashioned values provide the necessary atmosphere for success. Our kids learn to help each other and focus on each other's needs. Honesty and integrity are stressed as they learn how to meet their own needs. They learn skills which can help them obtain future employment. We teach them to appreciate the simple pleasures of life in a breath-taking setting provided by our Heavenly Father.
4. Personal responsibility. We don't subscribe to society's notion that anything wrong with your life is someone else's fault. Young people need to learn to take responsibility for their own actions and choices.
5. A firm hand, a fair mind, and a warm heart. When discipline is necessary we deliver it, as fairly as possible, but always with love. The kids learn that we don't correct them because we are angry, but because we care for them.



## HOW CAN WE

If you know of a child in need, call 406-745-3081 and describe the situation. If we feel that we can help, we will talk to you and the child involved to determine if they will profit by coming to Pinehaven. If the arrangement is satisfactory, we will make the necessary arrangements for the child to come to Pinehaven. If the child is full, the child will be placed in a foster home for later placement.

## WHAT DOES IT

We never put a price on a child. We will accept what a family can pay on a monthly basis. We are responsible for all transportation expenses.

## HOW CAN

We are dependent on your contributions to fund the operation. We have no government funding. We include caring for the child in our look to God's people through our outreach.

A video tape is available to present the work as well as also available for presentations at rallies, etc. Call!

Pray for our staff and the Lord's Work.

Support financially: CHILDREN'S HOME FEDERALY FUNDED.

