



OPEN GATE

Some of our children wrote this

The Open Gate Ranch
Is my home?
It is a safe place here
I am fed, sheltered,
warmed and clothed
There's always someone
to talk to
I have a future because I
am here
There is happiness and a
chance to play games
It's where I find
Forgiveness,
Respect,
Trust,
Patience,
Discipline,
And love.

The Open Gate Ranch is a place I
can come back too...

This is proudly displayed on our
entryway wall below our
children's photo.

Mile Stones

We share so much as a family, celebrating
such milestones as

- Developing self esteem
- Going to the Prom
- Healthy relationships
- A driver's license and first car
- Building trust
- High school graduations
- Weddings
- Higher education

Learning that one's past doesn't define
one's future



Graduation



Getting married



Being a Father

"To bring up a child in the way he should go,
travel that way yourself once in a while."
Josh Billings

Play Time



Mud bogging



Playing out back



Going to prom



Horse camp



Restoring cars

Our Philosophy

Open Gate Ranch for Youth is a non-profit organization founded by George and Virginia Foutz. The Foutz's felt that it was their calling to offer care and provide a home for children that had been abandoned, neglected, were physically or sexually abused, or simply had no alternative for a safe family environment. Craig and Becky Barrus now run open Gate Ranch. Becky especially knows what a difference can be made in the life of a child, since she was a foster child of the Foutz's many years ago.

A variety of services are offered at Open Gate Ranch, consistent with the child's individual needs, to help them progress to a substantially improved condition and style environment. Some of the services we offer are archery, camping, hunting, fishing, and hiking. We use these various programs to promote our three basic values: accountability, responsibility, and respect.

Coming of age in foster care doesn't mean missing out on important teenage and young adult milestones. When he is ready, we will sign up a young adult for a driver's license and put him on our insurance. A very important and unique quality of Open Gate is that children don't "age out" of our Open gate family. While every child is strongly supported and encouraged to graduate high school, we know that it takes time to acquire important academic and life skills. Whether they choose to go to college or into the military, attend a voc tech school or get a job, we want each child to come to know Open Gate as home where their family will welcome them.



Having a place
To go – is a home.
Having someone
To love –
Is a Family
[Donna Hedges]



http://www.wix.com/OGR_Montana/open-gate

When a child learns how to be a part of a healthy family, he can break the cycle.

Open gate is a Level IV group home with 24-hour awake staff. We are licensed for 8 beds serving boys age 10 to 18 years of age. Placements are only accepted through the State of Montana Social Services or Juvenile Probation Officers.

We believe in the principles outlined in the Foster Club "Permanency Pact" (a pledge by a supportive adult to provide specific supports to a young person in foster care with a goal of establishing a lifelong, kin-like relationship.)

Kids do not "age out" of Open Gate.

For more information please contact:

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**I Believe....
That our background and
circumstances
may have influenced who we are,
But, we are responsible for who we
become.**