



Extended Family Program Application

Mission of Soaring Wings Ranch

Soaring Wings Ranch is a Christ-centered ministry that serves children who are abused, abandoned, neglected, or in need of a strong family support structure. The Ranch provides a loving and stable home where residents can grow up spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, and socially. The residents of the Ranch receive hope and healing through educational development, counseling, a loving family environment, and the life changing gospel of Jesus Christ.

Statement of Faith

We believe the Bible to be the inspired, inerrant, authoritative Word of God.
We believe there is one God, eternally existent in 3 Persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
We believe in the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His atoning death through His shed blood, His burial, His bodily resurrection from the grave on the third day, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His personal return in power and glory.
We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the work of Christ and renewing of the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost. The saved are saved unto the resurrection of life. The lost are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ

SWR Extended Family Program

The purpose of this agreement is to clarify the policies and procedures concerning the Soaring Wings Ranch Extended Families Program. We are blessed with many supporters, friends, and families who are willing to be involved in the lives of our residents by inviting the residents into their homes for weekend visits. These visits are great opportunities to enhance and enrich the lives of our residents. The Extended Families Program was established to give our residents opportunities to build and cultivate relationships with families in the community. Thank you so much for your interest and commitment in truly making a difference in the lives of our residents.

Procedures and Requirements

Any family interested in becoming an Extended Family must complete the required application with all of the information requested and return it to Soaring Wings Ranch Applicant(s) will have to provide required references and completed background checks prior to keeping the residents. Extended Families will have an approved application on file, including references, and current background checks. In addition, an initial on site home visit will be conducted by SWR staff.

SWR staff will then work with the Extended Family for placement of the resident. Whenever possible, it is always best that the child has had an opportunity to meet the Family with whom he will be staying prior to the stay.

Guidelines

The following guidelines should be adhered to at all times by the Extended Families while the Ranch residents are under their authority. We are grateful for your willingness to help us provide consistency during these visits. We do not want our residents to have a difficult adjustment when they return to the Ranch. The following guidelines we ask you to abide by during will help keep consistency and safety in our residents' lives:

1. Our Extended Families should be prepared for a level of commitment to the Extended Family Program and the child they are keeping. Extended Families should be able to commit to keeping a child the last **full** weekend of every month and from Christmas Day at noon to New Year's Day at noon. If the family is unable to make this commitment of 12 weekends a year and a week at the holidays, relief family positions are also available. Relief families are available when a home is needed occasionally for a child for the weekend. These options will be discussed with the Social Worker during the home walk-through.
2. Residents should be given complete privacy when necessary, especially in sleeping and bath areas.
3. Under no circumstances should an adult sleep in the same bed or bedroom with the child. Nor is the child permitted to share a bed with anyone (child or adult) at any point. It is also ideal that the child have their own bedroom while visiting with their extended family.
4. The child should not be allowed to be involved in any risk-taking activity or event that was not pre-approved by the Ranch Staff (including driving, zip lining, scuba diving, etc.) Under no circumstances should a licensed adolescent resident be allowed to drive the Extended Family's vehicle.
5. Extended Families should have all phone numbers of Ranch staff members in case of an emergency.
6. The child should never be asked to participate in anything that would degrade or demean the child or that could be misinterpreted or considered inappropriate. If you have questions or concerns regarding this, please contact the campus director or social worker.
7. Extended Families should never consume alcohol or tobacco products while the residents are in their homes. If the extended family has the products in the house, they should be put away and out of reach from children.
8. Any activities engaged in while the child is in the presence of the Extended Families should be in line with the policies and principles of the Ranch.
9. While a child is with his/her Extended Family, a child should have NO CONTACT with his/her biological family unless prior approval was given by the Campus Director or Social Worker.
10. All internet and TV usage must be supervised. The child is not permitted to be on any form of social media (Facebook, Myspace, Instagram, etc.). The residents of Soaring Wings Ranch are exposed to Christian principles and strong family values on a consistent basis. They are involved in church and family devotions. We are dedicated to these principles and carefully monitor what the residents watch on TV and the music they listen to. In order to keep consistency in their lives, we expect the Extended Family to abide by these guidelines in what the residents are allowed

exposure to during their visit. Please do not allow music, TV, or movies which are anti-Christian, violent, or sexually explicit. The Ranch adheres to the approved and required Movie ratings for its residents. "G" and "PG" rated movies may be seen by all residents. "PG-13" rated movies may only be seen by residents that are 13 years old or over and must be approved by the Campus Director or Clinical Social Worker. "R" rated movies may not be shown to any Ranch Resident unless approved by the same.

11. The child is to be in your supervision at all times. He or she should not be allowed to go anywhere without you, stay at home alone, or to be left in another adult's care without prior knowledge and approval of the Campus Director or Social Worker. (This does not include nursery/classes at church).
12. The child is NOT permitted to operate an ATV (this includes golf carts) of any kind. The child is only permitted to ride with a licensed ADULT driver.
13. Long distance trips and out of state trips (overnight) must be approved by Campus Director/Social Worker at least one week in advance.
14. No pictures of the child are to be taken and posted/shared with others or online.
15. All firearms are to be locked away and maintained in a secure location other than where the child sleeps/resides.
16. Rule of Three: No child is to be left one-on-one with another adult or child. This is to promote safety and security in the child and for the overall protection of both Extended Family and SWR residents.
17. Extended families who are interested in becoming foster parents through DCFS should contact the campus director or social worker as soon as they can.
18. If you and your family express interest in adopting a child from Soaring Wings Ranch, contact the social worker and/or campus director before anyone else is notified. **Do not express this interest in adoption to the child!**
19. Confidentiality through the Department of Children and Family Services will prohibit us from sharing information with you and your family about the child in your care if it involves details about their case that are considered private or confidential. Please understand that we desire to give you as much information as we can, but sometimes we are unable to do so because of this guideline.
20. In all that you do, please remember that our primary goal is to build a strong Christian young adult with a good healthy lifestyle who will be productive in all areas-of life. This should be the basis of all decisions regarding activities of the child while visiting your home.
21. **Please be aware, Soaring Wings Ranch does expect our Extended Families to uphold all Biblical values and commandments and our Statement of Faith. Our Extended Families have a very significant influence in the lives and the faith of the kids at the Ranch. With this influence, we expect the Families to be a Godly influence with the kids and to show Christ to them.**

**Soaring Wings Ranch
Extended Family Application**

DATE:	NAMES:
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OTHERS IN THE HOME:

Name	DOB	Relationship

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Street:	City:	State:	Zip:
Home Phone:	Cell:	Other:	

APPLICANT #1 INFORMATION:

How long have you been married?

Where are you employed? How long?

What is your highest level of education completed?

Do you have any physical limitations? Y N If yes, please explain:

Why are you interested in working with the residents of Soaring Wings Ranch?

What role does church play in your life?

How would you incorporate your faith in being an Extended Family Member with the ranch?	
Would you be agreeable to NOT consuming alcohol or using tobacco products in the presence of the ranch residents? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
Are you willing to consent to State/FBI/Child Maltreatment Background checks required of all our Extended Family (Child Maltreatment required of all household members 14 and older)? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
Please indicate areas of personal strengths:	
APPLICANT #2 INFORMATION:	
NAME:	DOB:
Cell:	OTHER:
Where are you employed? How Long?	
What is your highest level of education completed?	
Do you have any physical limitations? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N If yes, please explain:	
Why are you interested in working with the residents of Soaring Wings Ranch?	
What role does church play in your life?	
How would you incorporate your faith in being an Extended Family Member with the Ranch?	

Would you be agreeable to NOT consuming alcohol or using tobacco products in the presence of the ranch residents? Y N

Are you willing to consent to State/FBI/Child Maltreatment Background checks required of all our Extended Family (Child Maltreatment required of all household members 14 and older)? Y N

Please indicate areas of personal strengths:

TO BE COMPLETED BY BOTH APPLICANTS

How did you hear about the Extended Family Program?

Where do you attend church? How often?

Does your whole immediate family attend church regularly? Y N
If not, please explain.

Do EITHER of you have any concerns or questions about the Extended Family Program?
 Y N If yes, please indicate:

I understand and agree to abide by all of the above-mentioned guidelines and procedures.

Extended Family Signature

Date

Extended Family Signature

Date