



Embracing Summer Harmony

The Importance of Balancing Work and Fun for Young Men at Westview Boys' Home

Summer at Westview is more than just endless days in the sun. It's a time filled with opportunities for both relaxation and important life lessons. Here, we embrace the philosophy that dedicated effort is the precursor to rewarding leisure, a principle that guides our structured summer activities.

Every summer presents a valuable chance to instill the importance of diligence, demonstrating that true fulfillment and joy are the rewards of effort and dedication. We provide a mix of activities and responsibilities, creating practical experience in time management and responsibility while demonstrating the importance of life balance.

We expose our residents to team sports and individual skills, all chosen to teach vital life lessons like teamwork, leadership, and perseverance. These activities focus on physical health, character building, and resilience. Facing challenges and overcoming obstacles teaches our young men the value of hard work and the sweet victory of achievement.



However, summer at Westview isn't just about work; fun is equally important. After fulfilling their responsibilities, our residents have plenty of leisure time for activities they love. This isn't merely a break but a crucial part of our program, teaching them to value relaxation and enjoyment. This balance of work and play helps them understand how life's duties and joys can coexist harmoniously.

Summer at Westview is a lesson in life itself. It's when our young men grow in both stature and character, learning life isn't just about leisure but also the satisfaction from facing work's challenges. Through summer, they become ready for life's journey, realizing true happiness comes from balancing hard work with well-deserved fun.

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Foundations of Normalcy

The Psychological Value of Cultivating Normalcy at Westview

Many of us take normalcy for granted, but our team deeply understands its value, especially for our residents. By providing more than just shelter, our young men experience a caring environment where they learn essential skills like financial management, family bonding, and responsible driving. This nurturing approach fosters personal growth, community involvement, and the warmth of home, ensuring every resident feels secure, supported, and prepared for successful societal integration.

Earning and Saving Money

One of the foundational lessons at Westview is the importance of financial literacy. By engaging in activities and programs that simulate real-world earning scenarios, the young men learn the value of hard work and the rewards it brings. This hands-on approach not only educates them about the significance of earning money but also the importance of saving it. Through practical exercises, they experience firsthand how saving can lead to financial security and freedom – being good stewards of God's blessings. This dual focus on earning and saving prepares them for a future where they can manage their finances wisely, avoiding common pitfalls that many young adults face.

The Joy of Family Trips

Family trips are another cornerstone experience at Westview Boys' Home. These excursions are more than just opportunities for fun and relaxation; they serve as memory producing moments. Through these trips, the young men conquer new environments, as well as treasure the importance of spending quality time with loved ones. These experiences also teach them about the world beyond their immediate surroundings, expanding their horizons and fostering a sense of curiosity and adventure. The trips are instrumental in teaching about sharing, compromise, and enjoying life's simple pleasures together.

The Responsibility of Driving

Driving is a significant milestone in any young person's life, symbolizing freedom and independence. At Westview Boys' Home, learning to drive is treated with the seriousness it deserves, emphasizing the responsibility that comes with it. Our residents are taught not just the mechanics of driving but also the importance of safety, respect for other drivers, and the consequences of careless behavior. We emphasize that driving is a privilege that carries deep responsibilities, not just for themselves but also for the community.

These traditional summer experiences support personal growth and community involvement for our residents, preparing them for successful lives. Our team is dedicated to raising respectful, sharing, and responsible individuals who can relish the joys of summer and create lasting memories.



Lessons in the Great Outdoors

Life Skills from Wilderness Expeditions

The great outdoors is more than an adventure setting; it's a boundless classroom. Here, our young men take on Wilderness Expeditions. These expeditions are key educational experiences, where nature's raw challenges act as both curriculum and teacher. Through these immersive outdoor adventures, participants learn about the environment and how to respect and marvel at God's wonderful gifts. Teamwork naturally develops as they face challenges together, creating unity and mutual reliance. Leadership grows from making decisions and guiding others through obstacles. Resilience, a key skill, is built as they overcome adversity, discovering strengths and exceeding limits. These skills, refined in the wilderness, ready them for future challenges, giving them the confidence and ability to handle life's complexities with grace and determination.

Building a lasting legacy?

Please remember

Summer's Bounty of Adventures

Joyful Experiences from Pools to Camps

Summer is not just a season; it's a vibrant opportunity to explore, learn, and grow. The value of excursions during these sun-filled months cannot be overstated, as they offer unique experiences that contribute significantly to personal development, learning, and the building of social bonds. Our summer itinerary is carefully designed to capture the essence of summer with activities that offer both fun and educational value.

From the exhilarating splash into the pool to the creative endeavors inspired at the Wellington Activity Center, each activity is more than just a pastime. They are avenues for learning, exploration, and self-discovery. Jumping into a pool isn't just about cooling off; it's about trust, taking big leaps, and conquering fears, all wrapped up in those fun memories from being young. It's about creating moments that are worth cherishing.

Each summer we visit the Wellington Activity Center in Texas, a year-round hub for creativity and innovation. This center welcomes our team to unleash their artistic talents, fostering creativity and turning imagination into reality. It's a place where confidence blooms as ideas take shape. With a variety of activities, there's something for everyone. Our residents enjoy access to basketball, tennis, volleyball courts, a rock climbing wall, bowling alley, arcade, weight room, racquetball court, batting cages, and an observation deck. It provides ample opportunities for residents to explore and hone their talents, and discover new interests.

Summer Camp is a place where kids learn important life lessons while enjoying nature and camaraderie. It's all about teamwork, leadership, and overcoming challenges. Campers face various activities, from outdoor adventures to team-building tasks, helping them discover their strengths and areas for improvement. They learn how to lead, follow, and support each other. These aren't lessons you'll find in textbooks, but they're crucial for personal growth. Summer Camp makes learning enjoyable and experiences memorable, leaving campers with lasting memories.

These summer excursions offer a break from the digital world that dominates our lives. They remind us of the beauty of the outdoors, the joy of human interaction, and the value of living in the moment. They teach us to appreciate the world around us, to care for it, and to explore it with respect and curiosity.

Besides personal growth, these activities create a community feeling and belonging. They unite people, breaking barriers and forging lasting friendships beyond the summer. This camaraderie is crucial in today's isolating world, reminding us of the joy in shared experiences,



laughter, stories around a campfire, and the connections made when people come together to learn and grow.

Join us in making this summer unforgettable! Volunteer or donate to our excursions and contribute to a journey of learning, creativity, and personal growth. Support a team that values environmental stewardship and teamwork, creating lasting memories and foundational skills for life. For more information and to get involved, **contact Terry Owens at towens@wbh.email**. Let's make a difference together!

Westview's young men in your will or trust.

Green Thumbs, Greener Futures

Introducing Our New Greenhouse Program



We are extremely excited to announce our ambitious plans to establish year-round greenhouses. This project represents a significant step forward not just in terms of agricultural production, but as a vibrant, hands-on learning laboratory. Our vision is to create a dynamic learning incubator, focused on building a vibrant educational space where our young men learn valuable agricultural knowledge. They'll grasp plant growth, sustainable farming, and the significance of local food production.

This initiative aims to deepen our connection with the environment and strengthen community bonds through shared

responsibility and sustainable living. By engaging in the cultivation process, our young men will develop hands-on skills and help build a self-sustaining community. This experience highlights the value of teamwork and pursuing shared goals. By offering year-round access to fresh, local produce, we promote healthier eating and community goodwill.

You can support this mission by contributing to the greenhouse project by **contacting Chip Moore at jmoore@wbh.email**.

Together, let's build a legacy of community stewardship and engagement.

Our Legacy and Our Pledge

Decades of Success Stories at Westview Boys' Home

Since its establishment, the Westview Foundation has empowered transformation for many young men at Westview Boys' Home through funding livestock programs and continuing education opportunities. The countless success stories that have emerged from our collaboration serve as powerful testaments to the vital role we play in nurturing the potential of each individual. These narratives are not just stories; they are real-life testimonies of resilience, growth, and the strength of the human spirit, all fostered by the supportive environment we provide. As we look to the future, we are committed to continuing this legacy, ensuring that we offer a sanctuary of support and opportunity. With your unwavering support, we pledge to keep this legacy alive, making a difference for many more generations to come.

The Westview Foundation, PO Box 714, Hollis, OK 73550; (580) 688-3608.

**Westview is supported
by its many friends, and
local congregations of the
Churches of Christ**

Uniting for LAUNCH

Support Needed to Increase Our Capacity, Making Greater Impact

The LAUNCH initiative, a groundbreaking program aimed at empowering our young men transitioning from foster care, is taking a significant leap forward. This initiative is our opportunity to make a tangible difference in their lives, guiding them towards a path of success. Your support is crucial as we are currently raising funds to add an additional home to our community. This expansion ensures that an additional four young men will receive essential support for shaping their futures, saving them from the brink of homelessness. Let's rally behind the LAUNCH initiative, investing in the enormous potential of our young men. **Email Ron Bruner at rbruner@wbh.email** to make a gift.

BIRTHDAYS

Michael Zybach...05-23 **Mitchell**

Alex Sosa.....07-15 **Overstreet**

Zeke Campbell.....08-12 **Overstreet**

Nate Whinery.....08-26 **Overstreet**

Adrian Brown.....09-11 **Mitchell**

A Note from the Heart

A Message from Our Executive Director

As summer unfolds, it deeply aligns with our mission at Westview Boys' Home, symbolizing growth, renewal, and development for our young men. Your support is crucial during these months, enhancing our efforts to nurture responsible, insightful, and empowered individuals who will positively impact society. This season encourages closer bonds through active participation and volunteering, contributing to our collective impact. Let's celebrate the bright futures we're building together, adding chapters of hope and achievement to our story. Thank you for being a vital part of our community and this transformative journey.

Dr. Ron Bruner
Executive Director