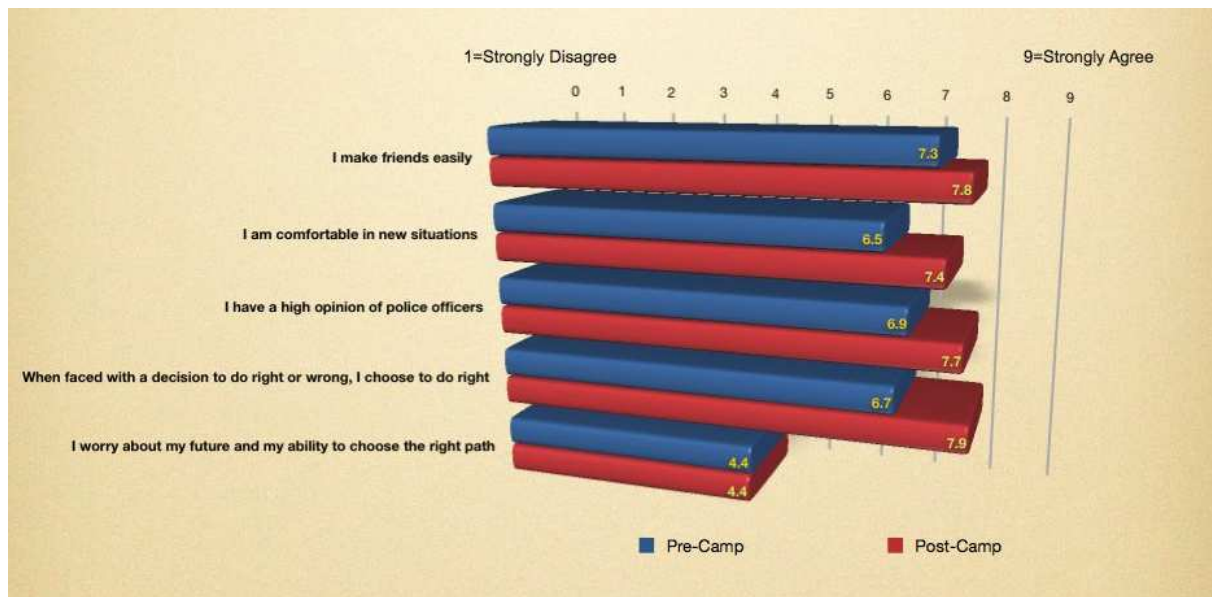


NARRATIVE

Laramie River Valley Rendezvous is devoted to increasing at-risk youths' self esteem and confidence, while introducing them to law enforcement and nature in a wilderness camp setting, to reduce criminal recidivism. The organization works to bring at-risk youth in Larimer County (and occasionally Weld and Summit County), Colorado, together with law enforcement officers in an outdoor adventure camp, at no cost to the campers. The organization meets the IRS defined charitable purpose of combating community deterioration and juvenile delinquency. The program provides advancement of education, lessening neighborhood tensions, and eliminating prejudice and discrimination.

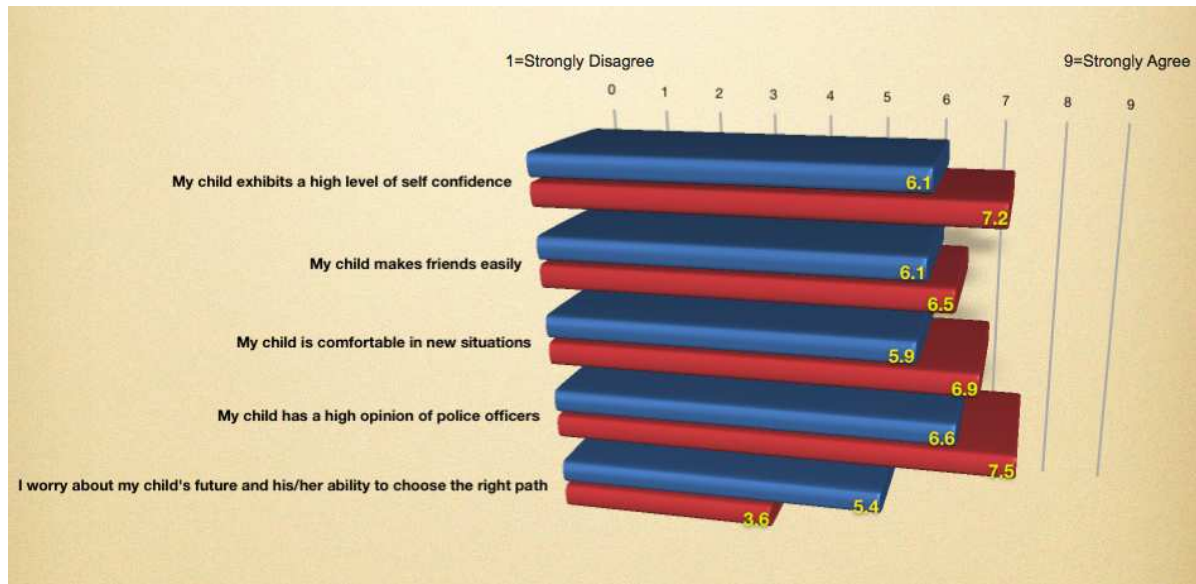
Every summer since 1984, Larimer County law enforcement officers, working with the Laramie River Valley Rendezvous, have been camping, hiking, biking, rafting and horseback riding with about 25 youth, totaling over 1200 youth to date. The organization has been a qualified fund recipient and is under fiscal sponsorship of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado, which is a 501c3 tax exempt organization and authorized fiscal sponsor. Recent changes in procedures and policies at the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado have necessitated Laramie River Valley Rendezvous to pursue their own 501c3 tax exempt status and withdraw from the fiscal sponsorship of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado.¹

Laramie River Valley Rendezvous was started in response to the at risk needs of the youth in Larimer County. Studies show that at-risk youth are often impacted the most by a lack of self esteem, making it likely for the youth to make poor decisions as a result of peer pressure. A recent study done after the 2008 Rendezvous indicates that when the campers were posed



¹ See attached History of the LRVR Tab 8

questions about self esteem, their opinion of police officers and their ability to make the right decision, they all reported positive change.



This chart indicates that camper's perception of their own ability to make the right decision increased 18% and their opinion of law enforcement officers increased 11%!

Additionally, parents and guardians of the campers noted changes as well, all positive. Here one can see that the parent's perception of the camper's self confidence has increased 18% and the parent's concern about their child choosing the right path in life has decreased 33%. These results show this program is successful in reducing youth recidivism.

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Laramie River Valley Rendezvous has developed a nonprofit organization with a board of directors, by-laws, and articles of incorporation. There are 9 board members and up to 50 volunteers. The organization holds regular monthly board meetings. The organization resides in Fort Collins, Colorado and serves the Northern Colorado region, particularly the cities and towns of Fort Collins, Loveland, Windsor, and Wellington (and occasionally Weld and Summit Counties) in Colorado. The organization has a collaborative relationship with Community Foundation of Northern Colorado for fiscal sponsorship and Colorado National Guard for camp operation support. Once 501c3 tax exempt status is provided from this application, the organization will no longer fall under the fiscal sponsorship of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado. The board volunteers their time to operate the organization. The board also conducts fundraising activities to ensure the mission of the organization is met. This activity meets the organization's exempt purpose by providing the organizational support for the organization to continue to provide services to at risk youth in the region. This activity will take

30% of the organization's annual time in 2009. In 2010 and 2011 this activity will take up 25% of the organization's annual time per year.

THE RENDEZVOUS

The Laramie River Valley Rendezvous is a week-long camping trip that brings 40 at risk youth to the mountains near the Colorado and Wyoming border. The Colorado National Guard supplies such as water buffaloes, tents, and cots and transports the items to the camp. Transportation is provided for the campers by the Poudre School District who provides school buses and drivers. Forty to fifty volunteers, each year, act as mentors, instructors, and chaperones for the teenagers. The goals of the program are to improve self esteem, teach team building skills, instruct better decision making skills, build stronger relationships with law enforcement, provide acceptable life choices, and encourage relationships between students. The event includes a paramedic, a cook, police officers, and volunteers.

The youth are identified through school counselors, probation officers, mental health providers, and school resource officers. The kids must want to go voluntarily and are not accepted to the program if they are coerced by parents or other adults. The organization conducts background checks on the participants and does not accept individuals with sex offenses, felonies, some first and second degree misdemeanors, and gang related activities. Individual circumstances are reviewed to determine the best fit for the participants to the program. Students ages 13 to 16 are accepted into the program. They must be considered at risk and come from single parent homes, blended homes or foster homes.. The program has a non discrimination policy²; it is open to all income levels and does not discriminate by race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual preference. Applicants³ must include an essay written by the student, sponsorship by a school counselor, resource or probation officer, mental health specialist, or other professional and parental or guardian permission.

The first day of the rendezvous experience brings the participants to the Fort Collins Police substation. They have their bags searched for drugs and/or weapons, which are not allowed on the activity. They take pictures of the kids and ensure the waivers are signed. The kids receive t-shirts, caps (required clothing to wear during the activity) and water bottles. They load the students into buses and drive them to the Rendezvous site located 8 miles north of the intersection of Highway 14 and the Laramie River Road in Larimer County. Once in the camp, the campers are split into 4 groups of 10 campers each. They set up the boys and girls sleeping tents (2 tents) and the mess camp tent. This is their first team building activity. They set up cots, make their beds and get settled into their environment. After eating lunch and cleaning up they do an activity such as a scavenger hunt. Lights are out at 9:00 PM. Rules of the camp include

² See attached Anti Discrimination Policy Tab 16

³ See attached Application for Participation Tab 19, page 3

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having to wake up or speak with an adult counselor if they have to use the outhouse or step away from regular activities.

The next day the campers wake up between 6:30 and 7:00 AM, eat breakfast, and split into their 4 groups. There are 4 activities that occur each day and each group goes on one of those activities each day. The activities are hiking, horseback riding, whitewater rafting and biking. There are 3 counselors per activity and another 2 or 3 volunteers providing a strong adult support network for each group of 10 campers. The evening time brings the whole group of 40 students back together for dinner and evening activities. Lights are put out at 9:00 PM. This is repeated each day until each group has attended all four activities.

On the second to last night there is a dance with a DJ and the last night is a team building exercise highlighting the Colorado National Guard's Counter Drug Program. The last day the campers must tear down the camp and return on buses to the Fort Collins Police substation where they are met by their families.

This activity is the exempt purpose of the organization; combating juvenile delinquency, lessening burdens of government, lessening neighborhood tensions, and providing relief for the poor. The organization operates primarily to support this Rendezvous each year. This activity takes 40% of the organization's annual time in 2009. In the 2010 season, Laramie River Valley Rendezvous hopes to provide a second week of the camp to another 40 students, thereby offering 2 weeks to 80 campers. This activity will take up 40% of the organization's annual time in 2010 and 2011 respectively.

FUNDRAISING

Laramie River Valley Rendezvous conducts several annual fundraisers. In 2006 the organization started a grass roots donation letter campaign that netted over \$4,000 in donations. Donations could be made online through another the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado and Black Tie website or by check. In 2006, 2007, and 2008 the organization received grants from the Bohemian Foundation, a local philanthropic group that values the children of the local community. Additionally, the Rendezvous received a donation from the local Sertoma Club to purchase new bikes for the camp valued at \$3,500.

In 2008, Laramie River Valley Rendezvous held two (2) fundraisers. The first was the First Annual Bar Olympics. Local bars develop teams who participate in various activities including the empty keg carry in flippers, dunk tank, team of tug of war, wing eating, obstacle course with drink tray, and skills challenges. The event is held in early June in the public Old Town Square of Fort Collins Colorado. There are 6-8 members per team. The local bar teams pay fees to participate ranging from \$250 to \$550 based on the level of sponsorship they choose. The teams receive t-shirts and recognition in publications of their participation. After participating in the events, teams can choose to increase their sponsorship by playfully "bribing" judges for points. There are awards given for winners without the bribes and winners with the

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bribes. This event is a family oriented event open to the entire community to attend. The activity is free for the public to watch, however, t-shirts are available for purchase, face painting for \$5 per artwork, bounce house donations, and dunk tank donations. This activity raised \$4,800 for the organization in 2008.

The second fundraiser was the annual JAX Surplus store equipment drop off. The public brought in old and/or used surplus sporting and camping equipment. Ten percent (10%) of the funds were donated to Laramie River Valley Rendezvous. The remaining ninety percent (90%) of the value of the equipment was given to the person who brought in the equipment. This activity raised \$1,400 for the organization in 2008.

In 2009 the organization plans to conduct a dinner gala and silent auction in April at a Fort Collins Elks Lodge, the 2nd Annual Bar Olympics on June 7 at the Old Town Square in Fort Collins, Colorado, a grandfather/father/son catch and release Fishing Derby in the summer, a mother/son dance in the fall, and the annual JAX Surplus store equipment drop off. These fundraising activities meet the exempt purpose of the organization by raising funds to conduct the rendezvous for the students each year. This activity takes 30% of the organization's annual time.

In 2010 and 2011, the organization plans to conduct a dinner gala and silent auction, the 3rd and 4th Annual Bar Olympics, a grandfather/father/son catch and release Fishing Derby in the summer, a mother/son dance in the fall, and the annual JAX Surplus store equipment drop off. These fundraising activities meet the exempt purpose of the organization by raising funds to conduct the rendezvous for the students each year. These activities will take up 35% of the organization's annual time in 2010 and 2011 respectively.