



Boys and Girls Country is a home for children who come from families experiencing crisis. The goal is to help our children develop a firm foundation for their lives, emphasizing God and family, academic achievement, personal accomplishment, and participation in enrichment activities. The organization differs from other residential organizations in the following ways:

- Boys and Girls Country is not a foster care or social services facility. Children placed by the courts tend to be more transient, since foster care can relocate them at any time. The average stay of a child in our home is 3 years, but many stay here longer or grow up here.
- Unlike other organizations, Boys and Girls Country's program is long-term and allows children to remain at Boys and Girls Country for many years, providing much-needed security and a sense of trust.
- Boys and Girls Country children are generally referred by churches, families and shelters and are typically placed by the families themselves.
- In addition to a stable and loving Christian family, all of our children are provided with food, clothing, medical and dental care, and counseling as needed.
- Boys and Girls Country is licensed to provide a basic level of care, but is not a treatment facility. Other residential facilities accept children with mental health issues such as depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, obsessive compulsive disorder, and other behavioral problems. Those facilities are designated as a short-term treatment facility.
- At Boys and Girls Country, the Teaching Parents live in the cottages, working eight days on and four days off throughout the year. They serve as role models, providing encouragement, accountability and support 24 hours a day, every day of the year.
- Boys and Girls Country is considered a working ranch and sits on 216 acres of land. With 60 to 65 head of cattle, the ranch serves as a food source, income, recreation as well as giving those children who are interested an opportunity to learn valuable ranching skills.
- Boys and Girls Country provides in-house counseling services, an after-school education program, and a fully staffed facility complete with a gymnasium, basketball court, workout room, swimming pool and art work room.
- The Boys and Girls Country team plans various activities for the children throughout the year. We coordinate with civic groups and individuals who want to come and fellowship with the children or host an activity. For example during the summer there is an all-day beach trip to Galveston, basketball clinic, self-esteem classes (for girls), haircuts donated by a local business, guitar lessons, swimming lessons, and much more.
- Boys and Girls Country depends on private funding from the community to sustain operations. The organization is not a United Way member agency, nor does it rely on state or federal grants, which would impose restrictions on the duration and quality of care provided.

- Children do not “age out” of Boys and Girls Country. Most children placed in foster care or a child welfare system have to leave at the age of 18. At Boys and Girls Country, our kids are encouraged and able to remain part of the family as young adults through the College and Career program.
- In 1997, the College and Career program was established, giving Boys and Girls Country the capacity to support high school graduates until they are independent adults. There are typically 12 to 20 young adults in the College and Career program with an opportunity for a college degree, technical certificate, enter the military or begin their first job. Through grants and scholarships, students can begin their independent life debt-free.
- Boys and Girls Country students attend public school within the Waller Independent School District. Our campus cumulative Grade Point Average is 3.3, a high achievement for students who often enter the program two grade levels behind their peers.
- Since 1971, we have raised 1,403 children, helping children grow into adults and breaking their generational cycle of poverty, abuse, neglect or domestic violence.