



Summer Youth Report 2024

**"Sun is Shining, Weather is Sweet, Makes You Want to Move your Feet!"
Check out what Haven House Youth Group
was up to this Summer!**



Hiking, Hiking and More Hiking

Every summer we have the "60 Mile Club" where we challenge all of our youth to complete a total of 60 miles over the school break. Hikes range from easy to challenging - and always offer a little outdoor education along the way. Some of the areas we visited were Escalante Canyon, Black Canyon, Arroyo Verde and The Grand Mesa (below).



Escalante Canyon...

was our very first trip of the season. The kids were filled with excitement and ready to explore! That is until we arrived at our spot (one mile in) and realized the van had a flat!

Our resourceful staff seized the opportunity to create a teachable moment, showing the kids how to change a tire.

Thanks to a bit more help from a good Samaritan, we were back up in no time. We went on to enjoy a gorgeous hike and an adventure filled day!



OURAY JEEP TOUR ADVENTURE



Thanks to our friends at San Juan Jeep Tours, our youth got to enjoy a great day touring Ouray!

The scenic (and bumpy) ride was both fun and educational as we learned about mining operations, landmarks and more on the history of beautiful Ouray.



Thank you San Juan Jeep Tours for giving our kids a special day full of adventure and learning!



Other summer outdoor activities included recreation, gardening, fishing, swimming, wild plant identification, foraging, and wildlife management.

Each activity included opportunities for our youth to practice skills like team building and communication, while also promoting physical wellness and self-confidence.

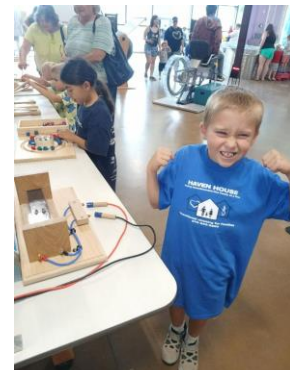


Each summer our Youth spend one day a week volunteering at Sharing Ministries in Montrose. They learn the value of giving back by preparing food boxes for those in our community with food insecurities. Another fun project was working in their garden – planting seeds, watering and fertilizing the sproutlings!



And after a hard day of volunteering, our kiddos enjoyed some down time at Montrose Public Library. Each week they choose a book for our "Reading Club" to promote the value of literature and that reading can truly be FUNdamental!

Something STEM-ulating!



We visited many museums over the summer including some favorites like the Dinosaur Museum in Fruita and Delta County Historical Museum.

This year we increased our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) focused activities to include special projects, group activities, hands on experiments and through interactive activities at the Eureka McConnell Science Museum!



GOING BANANAS!

And the reward for all this "hard work" and excellent attendance over the summer? A trip to Mimi's Ice Cream in Delta and our annual trip to Bananas in Grand Junction, of course!

Finishing off another summer of laughter, recreation, friendship, and adventure (with a lot of learning along the way)!

Our Youth Development Program addresses the deficiencies and challenges faced by the school age children of the Participants in our Transitional Housing Program. We offer a 4-5 day a week After School and Summer Program with goals to empower school-age children to reach their full potential by providing academic support, mentorship, and life skills development.

In 2023, we served a total of 65 school age children with 45 children attending our programs full time. Out of the 45, we saw each child advance on average 2 grade levels with school attendance rates improving by 89%. Each child in our program showed healing and growth with a reduction in trauma related issues, and in the development of their sense of belonging, identity, purpose and agency.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to Haven House and Youth Development Program, or to learn more, please click on the link below or visit www.havenhousehomeless.org.

Donations are eligible for a 30% Colorado State Tax Credit. Larger donations of \$5,000 or more may be eligible for a 50% Colorado State Tax Credit. Please call Lillian at 949-903-6161 for more information.