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The mission of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches is to prevent delinquency and develop lawful, resilient and productive citizens.

The Ranch was started in 1957. The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches is a 501 (c)3 charitable, non-profit organization which provides full -time residential education campuses and camping programs to Florida's needy, neglected youth and their families.

The residential campuses offer a stable home and safe place for children to live. The children develop a strong sense of responsibility and respect through the "Work, study, play and pray" philosophy. This along with counseling, academic schooling and other services helps deserving boys and girls develop strong values and positive behavior as they become productive young men and women.

"Mending Lives, Healing Hearts" is the Ranches tag line and goal of each activity.

Summer camp programs serve approximately 1,400 children each summer; with three locations to provide a positive camping experience. Canoeing, archery and swimming, as well as, many other esteem building recreational activities, allow boys and girls the opportunity to participate in groups, building teamwork and positive peer communication skills.

website: <http://www.youthranches.org>