SPRING REVIVAL
On March 24th, 25th, and 26th, the Ron Jackson State Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted its second annual spring revival. All youth, regardless of their religion, were allowed to attend. Each night, at least eighty students filled the chapel. Evangelist Andre Walker, from Dime Box, Texas, preached powerful messages of redemption, freedom, and hope for the future. Ms. Melissa Mason, from Bangs, Texas, led the worship. Special thanks go to Pastor Marcus Wasson, Mr. Steve Moss, Mrs. Kevelle Bailey, and all the other volunteers who came out to support this exciting event. The students were deeply impacted. Here is what happened this weekend in the words of the youth who attended:

“I was mad. Then I went to the revival and all my anger just went away. I was dancing! It was good. I feel good!” –J.M.

“He broke it down. Other people don’t do that. They don’t break it down to us.” –D.F.

McLennan County Open House
On April 13, 2017, McLennan County State Juvenile Correctional Facility in Mart, Texas hosted an Open House for their Education department. Parents and youth came together to meet the teachers that work daily with the youth and learn how they are doing in their education. The teachers took this time to show the parents what the youth have been doing in class, how they can take advantage of the time in TJJD to get caught up with credits, and what opportunities are offered by our education department with vocational certificates. One parent was able to sit in on a college class that the youth was attending and hear the speeches being presented that day in class. Parents and youth were also able to enjoy refreshments during this time together. The McLennan County Resource Council for Troubled Texas Youth sponsored the event by supplying the refreshments.

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Cooking For Life at McFadden Ranch

Twelve youth completed the “Cooking for Life” class at McFadden Ranch.

They learned how to shop, prepare and cook three meals. For the breakfast meal, the youth had a choice of an omelet with bacon and cheese or eggs and chorizo. For the dinner meal, they could prepare lasagna or fajitas. For lunch it was BBQ chicken or tacos. For the dinner meal, they could prepare bacon and cheese or eggs and chorizo. For lunch it was BBQ chicken or tacos. For the dinner meal, they could prepare bacon and cheese or eggs and chorizo. For lunch it was BBQ chicken or tacos. For the dinner meal, they could prepare bacon and cheese or eggs and chorizo.

The youth used the newspaper and marketing flyers to shop and compare prices at different stores. They learned about using coupons and stretching their budgets by cooking at home versus eating out.

The expense for the class, which totaled $562, was funded through a grant made possible by the State Volunteer Resource Council. The total includes the expenses for groceries, pots and pans and an apron and journal for each youth that participated in the class.

All of the youth said that they learned a lot and they enjoyed the class – especially the food.