

Project **RED** (Roy Economic Development)

YOUTH RANCH

The Village of Roy is proposing to establish a youth ranch for un-adopted children from the ages of six to eighteen years of age. This ranch will be located seven miles northeast of Roy (the Chicosa Lake property) on 640 acres of property that the village owns. This ranch will offer a stable rural environment for the children and they will experience rural life. These children will have stable parents and will not be shuffled from foster home to foster home throughout their young lives. This ranch will offer the experience of rural ranch life, raising animals, working with horses, growing fruits and vegetables, living in the country, attending one of the best small schools in New Mexico, and having the experience of being raised by a small community. (A village raises a child). The students will attend Roy Public schools and will be transported by bus to the school. The children can participate in sports, FFA, 4-H, and other community activities. The students will be able to sell their animals at the county fair, and save the monies made from the sale of their animals to help pay for their college education. This youth ranch will offer many benefits that these children have never experienced and will make them productive citizens. This ranch will house sixty children and will create forty new jobs in Harding County. The ranch will establish 2700 square foot homes and will offer the children a normal home environment. The ranch will employ house parents (husband, wife team) to live in the homes. This ranch is the answer to Harding County's depleting population and low enrollment in the school system and the answer to offer a stable home for foster kids. Attached is the proposed budget for construction of the youth ranch and for operating expenses. The Village of Roy is asking for \$15 million in capital outlay monies for the construction of the ranch and \$6 million in recurring funds for operating expenses.