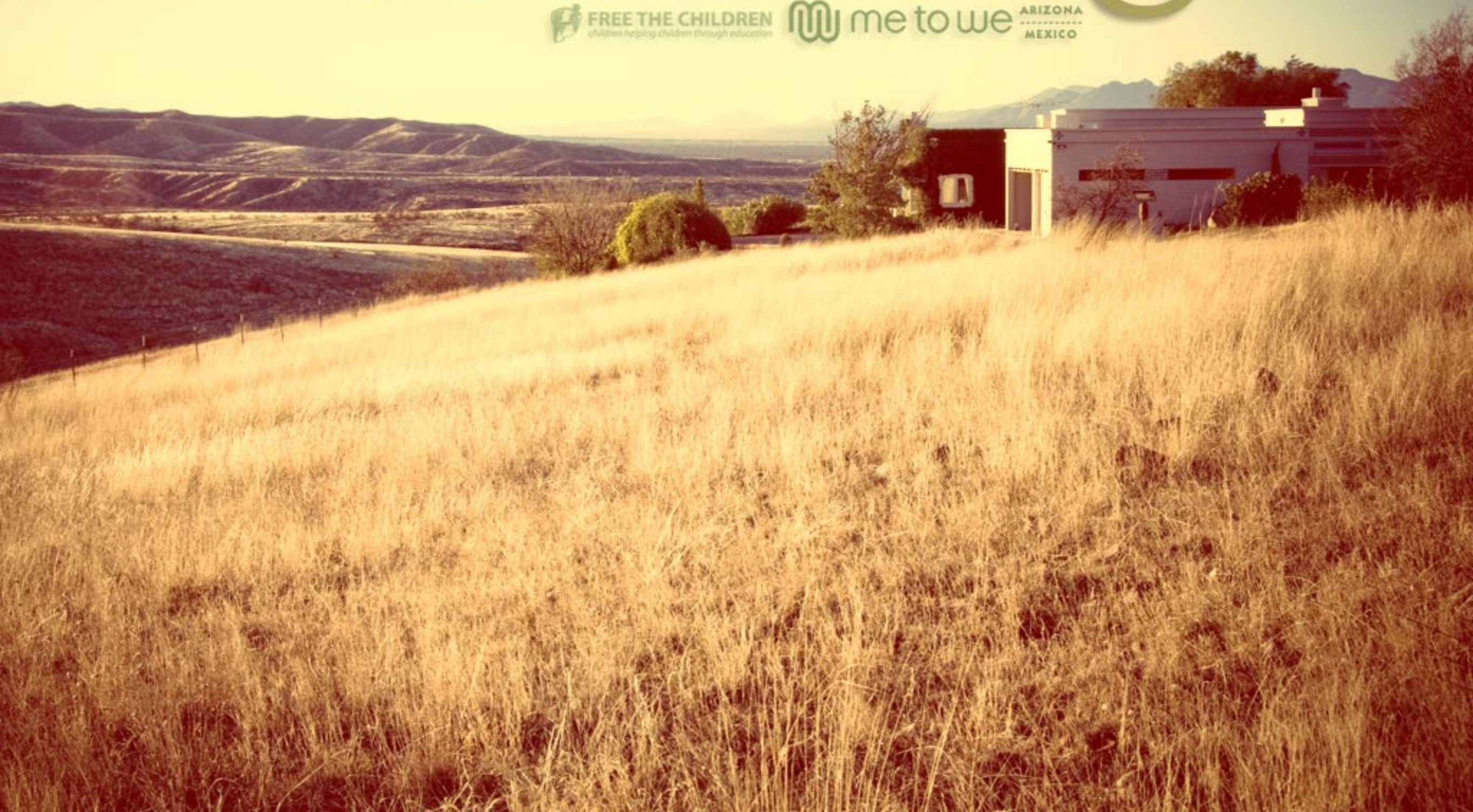


Windsong

PEACE & LEADERSHIP CENTER

 FREE THE CHILDREN  me to we ARIZONA
MEXICO



welcome

The Windsong Peace and Leadership Center is a dynamic and innovative 40 acre ranch, located 15 miles from the Arizona/Mexico border, in the heart of the desert Grasslands. For almost a decade the Windsong Peace & Leadership Center has developed educational partnerships with schools and organizations across Arizona, the United States, and Canada giving young people the tools and experiences necessary to become change agents.

Windsong is operated on behalf of a non-profit called *Free The Children*. As the worlds largest network of children helping children through education, *Free The Children* empowers children in North America to take action to improve the lives of fellow children overseas.

www.freethechildren.com

All on-sight leadership programs are led by *Me to We* facilitators. Designed to support the work of *Free the Children*, *Me to We* is an innovative social enterprise that provides people with better choices for a better world. Through socially conscious and environmentally friendly products and life-changing experiences, *Me to We* measures the bottom line, not by dollars earned, but by the number of lives we change and the positive social and environmental impact we make. In addition, half of *Me to We*'s net profit is donated to *Free The Children* (www.freethechildren.com) and the other half is reinvested to grow the enterprise.

www.metowe.com

In keeping with a vision of grassroots, sustainable solutions to the world's problems, Windsong is eager to welcome dialogue and action-planning from people of all ages and experiences. Offering a diversity of programs and volunteer opportunities—from leadership training to permaculture workshops to personalized retreats—Windsong is open year-round to provide the space for education and inspiration for you and your group, whatever your passion! Committed to social and ecological regeneration, the Windsong Peace and Leadership Center continues to demonstrate innovative and diverse methods for change-making. We look forward to adding your vision to our community.



me to we programs

At the core of Windsong and the Me to We mission is the essential blend of learning and action needed to make positive change in our world.

Located minutes away from Patagonia Lake State Park, in the heart of Apache Chiricahua and Tohono O'odham traditional land, Windsong ranch finds itself strategically situated within a hot bed of political, social, and environmental discourse. With immigration at the forefront of U.S. domestic policy, environmental degradation occurring daily, and regional economic issues garnering constant media attention, Windsong is in a prime geographic location to provide for students, organizations, and other individuals interested in educating themselves and taking action.

Me to We Arizona/Mexico Volunteer & Leadership Trip

Me to We trips take youth, schools, families and corporate groups on 5 day to 3 week eye-opening volunteer adventures. Participants leave their trip feeling empowered to share their volunteer experiences, use the knowledge gained from educational social issues sessions, and implement their newly honed leadership skills from daily leadership workshops in their schools and community. The Windsong team has established relationships with over 20 community organizations and non-profits in Arizona and in border towns in Mexico that are working on a variety of issues such as environmentalism, immigration reform, education, water rights, and poverty. The Windsong Peace & Leadership Center hosts a wide array of group experiences and will coordinate with you to provide a trip that matches your passions & education interests.

Me to We Customized Leadership Retreats

At the Windsong Peace & Leadership Center, we think of our Leadership Retreats as the spark that ignites the flames of global activism. They give young people the kick-start they need to turn their passion into action. Our retreats have been tailored for some of the world's leading youth organizations, schools, school boards, and community groups, with remarkable results. Using innovative curriculum and engaging activities, our expert facilitators craft interactive and skill-based workshops that bring to light some of the most pressing issues challenging our world, and provide participants with the tools to make a real difference. Whether you're a conference organizer, community association representative, educator or simply an interested independent party, we'll customize your Leadership Retreat to fit your needs.



workshops and retreats

Community Workshops

At Windsong, there is always room for organizations and local experts to share their knowledge of pressing social and environmental justice issues. We will work with you to design and implement workshops, including day-long and multi-day retreats, which allow you to showcase your skills with a willing and eager audience.

A list of potential workshop titles can be provided upon request.

Private Retreats

The Windsong Peace & Leadership Center is open for private bookings so that groups may further their own work and pursue their vision in a refreshing and supportive setting. The facility can be used for your own programming including retreats, conferences, and reunions, all with the stunning backdrop of the Patagonia mountains. Both indoor and outdoor spaces may be rented for daylong or overnight retreats. With exquisite buildings, luscious gardens and walking paths, fully equipped kitchen and dining facilities and wide selection of both large and small meeting areas, your retreat will be second to none. Me to We facilitators are also available to facilitate catered workshops or meetings.



facilities

The Windsong Peace & Leadership Center has four main facilities — Casa dos Lobos, Casa Ocotillo, Casa Coyote, and Casa Javelina — available for rental by groups, agencies, and organizations and can collectively house 50 people overnight and up to 100 people for daylong events.

Casa dos Lobos

The former residence of benefactor Gini Benderly, Casa dos Lobos reflects Gini's unique and creative style, her love of traditional art and architecture, and her fascination with spiritualities and ethnicities the world over.

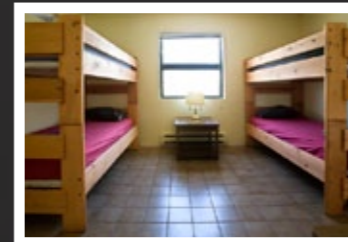
- Spanish-style, hacienda architecture (with interior courtyard and tile fountain)
- Spacious, full-service kitchen
- Indoor and outdoor dining areas
- Rooming for 20-26 with bunk-bed and individual style accommodations
- Library and museum room (with local and foreign artifacts and collectibles)
- Meeting rooms with capacity for 50 people
- Meditation, art, and yoga sun room



Casa Ocotillo & Casa Coyote

A centralized gathering place, Casa Ocotillo and Casa Coyote are ideally situated near the gardens. East-facing windows grace this house with a sunrise view of the Patagonia Mountains.

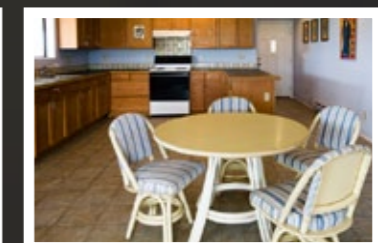
- Ocotillo:** Rooming for 10-14 with bunk-bed style accommodations
- Full bath
- Combined living and dining room
- Full kitchen and laundry facilities
- Outdoor dining/lounging area
- Coyote:** Rooming for 6-10 with bunk-bed or individual style accommodations with bathroom and partial kitchen facilities



Casa Javelina

Isolated from Casa dos Lobos by a three-minute stroll, Casa Javelina boasts a stunning view of the greater Santa Cruz Valley, with hills peppered by grazing cattle and horses.

- Rooming for 10-16 with bunk-bed or individual style style accommodations
- Full bath
- Combined living and dining room
- Full kitchen and laundry facilities
- Outdoor Patio



our commitment to regeneration

There is no doubt, in our present global situation, that the efficient, equitable, and creative use of natural resources is of paramount importance to the international community. Affecting the lives of humans and non-humans all over the planet, present circumstances are forcing leaders of every kind to rethink our previous systems, and radically adjust how we grow and harvest food, how we create our energy, where our water comes from, and how we build our communities.

As a drylands ecosystem, the Southwestern United States faces region-specific situations as it attempts to address these problems. In true Me to We style, grassroots initiatives to address these issues are rapidly emerging. Drawing on local, indigenous knowledge, and the principles of ecological design, the opportunity is there to address these concerns and create a healthy, thriving community.

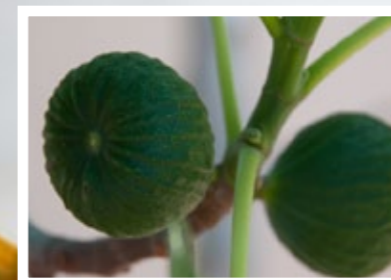
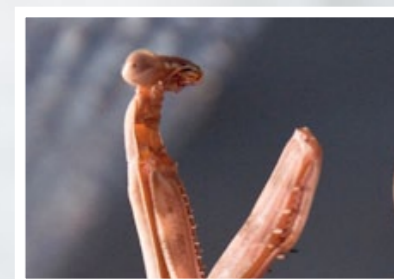
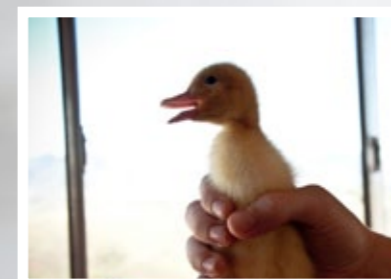
Windsong continues to pursue the ideas and concepts of ecological sustainability. With the help of local educators and on-site permaculture enthusiasts, visitors and program participants at Windsong will discover how providing for their own basic needs can help to improve the quality of the soil, provide food and shelter for native wildlife, improve a diminishing watertable, and produce surplus rather than scarcity. And by bringing these basic skills back home with them, they bring the knowledge and ability to apply them in their own communities.

Current Efforts:

- Passive Rainwater Harvesting
- Organic Vegetable Gardening
- On-site Free-Range Poultry
- Fruit and Nut Cultivation
- Native Plant Propagation
- Living Ocotillo Fence
- Use of Earth Building Materials
- Dairy Goats

Planned Efforts:

- Active Rainwater Harvesting (storage)
- Extensive Food Crops
- UV Solar Energy
- Aquaculture
- Solar Hot Water Heating
- Butterfly/Hummingbird Garden



contact us today!

Whether through discussions with community organizer, on-site earthen building projects, or moonlit strolls with the Windsong wolves, Anubis and Feliz, the Windsong Peace and Leadership Center will always strive to be a safe haven to foster community-building, leadership, passion, and action. Just as you can learn from us, so can we learn from you. We look forward to seeing you here at the ranch, and working towards positive change together.

To book a Me to We Leadership Seminar or volunteer trip - or to book a custom retreat of your own - please contact our team today!

Hope to hear from you soon!

Windsong Peace and Leadership Center

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Erin Blanding

Director

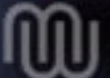
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www.metowe.com/leadership-centers/windsong

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children helping children through education