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FEATURED

Helping lives one grape at a time

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Kerr Taylor, owner of Rowland Taylor Vineyards, left, and Mindy LeBlanc, Pathways for Little Feet executive director, share some of the grapes picked Wednesday.

Alison Bryce/Banner-Press

A local grape harvest is on its way to help orphans through the adoption process.

Roughly 20 volunteers gathered at Rowland Taylor Vineyards to pick grapes during the first harvest of the season Wednesday morning. However, this specific harvest will be used for more than just making wine.

All of the proceeds from the wine will go toward Pathways for Little Feet, a non-profit aiming to provide sustainable care for orphans, just like it has for past years.

“All of the volunteers come out to help, and then these grapes are taken down to Haak Winery (Santa Fe) where (the winery) will make a fantastic rosé,” Owner of Rowland Taylor Vineyards and Founder of Pathways for Little Feet Kerr Taylor said. “This is our first vineyard, and our first fruit of our farm goes to the Lord through Pathways for Little Feet.”



Volunteers got to work picking grapes around 5 a.m. by taking the nets off the vines. Then it was a race against the sun to get the job done.

In total, the group filled roughly five bins with grapes.

“It’s such a neat local connection from where the grapes start, to the wine being made by Haak, to the proceeds coming back to Pathways for Little Feet,” Pathways for Little Feet Executive Director Mindy Leblanc said. “It all just ties together.”

Pathways for Little Feet has helped about 625 children, one family a week for the last 12 years, throughout more than 35 different countries with adoption and scholarships for counseling and therapy. It operates three ministries — Family Fund, Family Care and Farms for Little Feet — to help children become adopted.

Alison Bryce

News Editor