
Spotlight on...

The Pope Family



The Pope Family's contributions to Rite of Passage have been significant: spanning two generations and comprising more than twenty years of collective service. Angela Pope has been the Registered Nurse at Canyon State Academy (CSA) for nearly four years; all three of her sons work with ROP youth on a daily basis. Di'Ante is a 7-year veteran: he started as a Case Manager and currently works as a Unit Manager at CSA. Dominique-also a 7-year veteran-started as a Group Leader and is now the Program Manager at Desert Lily Academy. Angela's third son, Carl, started as a Coach Counselor in 2016, and now works as a Group Leader at CSA.

This devoted ROP family was hit hard by COVID - the virus struck everyone in the family - yet all four Popes returned to work and bridged the extensive medical

and staffing needs experienced during the height of the Arizona spring outbreak. Each worked tirelessly, selflessly, and courageously: Angela worked diligently with the medical team to test and care for COVID-positive youth; Di'Ante and Dominique, meanwhile, continued to work directly with COVID-positive students, leading by example without hesitation, while covering shifts during staff absences. Carl, too, returned to his duties as Group Leader, helping provide a normalized program for the youth in his care.

The entire Pope family stepped up to ensure continuity of services and programming for youth. Their selfless dedication to our youth meant that even during a national crisis, Rite of Passage continued to provide normalized, supportive care for some of our nation's most at-risk and vulnerable youth.
