

Places for Struggling Teens™

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"It is more important to get it right, than to get it first."

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(Articles and information appearing in this publication are the opinions of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Woodbury Reports, Inc., StrugglingTeens.com.™ or it's staff. We urge our readers to conduct their own investigation of the products and services identified herein.)

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**"Education is
the ability to
listen to almost
anything without
losing your
temper or your
self-confidence."**

~ Robert Frost

PARENT CHOICES - DECEMBER REVIEW

Hosted by:
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Independent Educational Consultant
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www.strugglingteens.com



Parent Choices For Struggling Teens airs Mondays at 12 pm, Pacific Time on LA Talk Radio, Channel One.

How Pornography Harms Child Development:

Sean Brooks, Executive Director and Co-Owner of Oxbow Academy-UT discussed how pornography has radically changed for the worst in the last 30 years and really targeting adolescents. This results in much greater impact on their brains and brain development than ever before. The discussion concluded with some thoughts about what parents and society can do to keep their children safe. Oxbow Academy is an RTC for adolescent teen males struggling with sexual behavioral issues. 435-436-9460, shawnb@oxbowacademy.net, oxbowacademy.net.

The confusing Problem of Parenting Young Adults:

As the process of becoming an adult has become more protracted and confusing, their needs and parent expectations have changed. Emphasizing that "once a parent, always a parent" Rohini Ross, MA, MFT, Executive Director of VIVE headquartered in Colorado, describes what young adults still need from their parents, ways that the process of becoming an adult gets sidetracked, and what parents can do to help smooth the process. Vive is a support program for young adults and adolescents needing parent coaching and counseling. 303-449-2516, rross@vivenow.com, vivefamilysupportprogram.com

Searching For Real Self-Esteem:

Jason Wynkoop, Clinical Director of EDGE Learning and Wellness Collegiate Community, discussed how the concept of self-esteem went wrong, what it tends to do to young people, and a more healthy value system that should replace it. EDGE Learning and Wellness Collegiate Community, based in Chicago, is a support system for young adults struggling with college. 312-344-1871, jwynkoop@edgelearningcommunity.com, edgelearningcommunity.com

The Young Adult's Path to Independence:

Pam Broker, Owner and Director of Milestones for Young Adults in Idaho, talked about issues contributing to floundering and Failure to Launch young adults like helicopter parents, impact of technology, brain still under construction and society and parenting changes in the last couple of decades. The discussion wrapped up with a number of things young adults need to grow up properly and suggestions as to what parents could do to help. Milestones for Young Adults is a young adult program that helps residents transition to independence. 208-676-8235, Pamela.Broker@gmail.com, milestonesforyoungadults.com.

PARENT CHOICES: Continued on page 2

PARENT CHOICES REVIEW

Mothers and Sons:

C. Lynn Williams, talked about the unique relationship mothers need to build with their sons and how it is different than father's relationship with their sons. Lynn also discussed the importance of both parents relationships with their daughters as well. C. Lynn Williams is a Parent Coach, Educator

and Author of *The Pampered Prince: Moms Create a GREAT Relationship with Your Son* and her latest book *Raising Your Daughter Through the Joys, Tears and Hormones* (both available on amazon.com). 773-875-6572, cgwwbooks@yahoo.com, clynnwilliams.com,

Parent Choices for Struggling Teens

Tune in Monday
at 12:00pm pacific on
www.LATalkRadio.com

WHAT IS A SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATE?

By: Nicole C. Shelton, M.Ed., M.S.

If you have a child with special needs, you may have heard the term "advocate". An advocate is a person with a background in special education who is an expert in the public school system's responsibilities in providing services to a child with special needs. Advocates are former special education teachers, administrators, school psychologists, or other special education service providers. An advocate's purpose is to help you navigate the special education system to obtain appropriate services for your child.

What is the difference between an advocate and an attorney? An advocate is different from a special education attorney in that the advocate prepares your case for due process, whereas an attorney takes your case to due process. An advocate is an expert in the special education system and is knowledgeable about special education law within the school system. An attorney is an expert at the law and may have minimal knowledge about the special education system itself. An advocate's role is to interpret school assessment reports, review and revise the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) goals to be relevant for your child, and to ensure the services your child receives are appropriate. An attorney's role is to litigate. The distinction is important because an advocate will know what to look for in your child's IEP, how to write appropriate goals, and how to interpret reports written by school professionals. An advocate will help you to understand the special education system. Most importantly, an advocate understands how the school system works, so they are able to negotiate the dance between you and the school district. Finally, an advocate is often a more cost effective means to obtaining an appropriate IEP compared to an attorney.

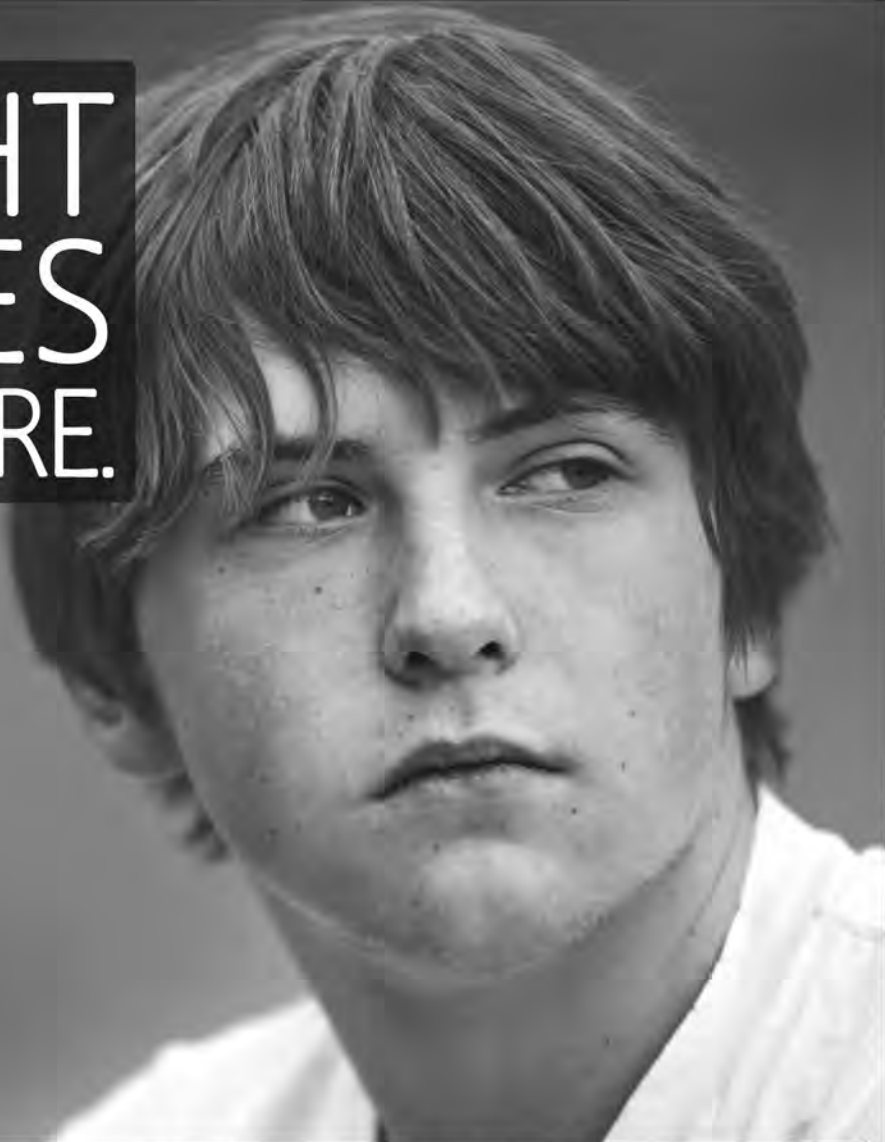
How do I know when I need an advocate versus an attorney? I recommend starting with an advocate first. An advocate will be able to review your case and direct you either to the best path, whether an advocate or an attorney. If you are seeking an IEP for your child, wish to ensure your child's IEP is appropriate, or are having difficulties with the school district, an advocate will be the most efficient.

What can I expect if I hire an advocate? Many advocates will start by providing you with a complimentary consultation to determine the nature of your case. A good advocate will conduct a thorough interview with you, review all of your child's records (academic, psychological, etc.), and conduct a screening of your child. All of these steps ensure the advocate knows as much about your child as possible. The advocate will want to observe your child in their school setting, possibly prior to screening your child. The advocate will then hold another meeting with you to discuss suggested next steps. The advocate will likely want to write a letter of representation to notify the school district that you have retained an advocate as your chosen representative, and schedule an IEP meeting to give the school district an opportunity to provide appropriate services for your child.

Why won't the school district provide my child with what he needs without my hiring an advocate? The ugly truth is that there actually are a couple viable reasons. First, special education is a very expensive system. It requires teachers and service providers to be credentialed in specific subject areas, different and additional instructional material, and specialized training for both special education and general education teachers. While federal funds pay for a portion of each school's special education services, the majority of funding comes from individual school sites, taking monies from the budget that could go to non-disabled students. Second, students with special needs often require more time from teachers. Unfortunately, many teachers still hold the attitude that providing appropriate instruction for students with special needs takes away time from the other students in the class. Special education is time consuming and difficult. It requires a lot of paperwork, a lot of meetings, and many teachers feel it detracts from their time with students who really want to learn. Finally, obtaining the appropriate special education services for your child requires an extensive knowledge of the law, the education system, curriculum standards, and behavioral planning. You are your child's expert. The advocate is the special education expert who combines your expertise with hers to obtain an appropriate IEP for your child.

ADVOCATE: Continued on page 4

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For more information, please contact:

Doug Czyz, National Admissions
Office: (402) 498-1973 | Cell: (402) 990-5371
doug.czyz@boystown.org





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1.800.474.4848

The Benchmark Transitions® Program

Benchmark Transitions® is a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to residential transitional living for young men and women, ages 18-28.

Our dual-diagnosis model serves students who have had substance abuse issues, as well as those who have not, by combining clinical treatment, behavioral health therapy, addiction recovery & aftercare, educational & vocational opportunities, career training and life skills in a structured and nurturing environment that fosters self-discovery and autonomy.

Benchmark is a long-term residential program. Our level-based curriculum is designed to be completed in 9-12 months. Extended care options are available.

Benchmark is designed to be a step-down transition program for participants coming out of other primary treatment programs, such as Detox, 30/60/90 day Residential Treatment Centers, Wilderness Therapeutic Programs, hospitalization/stabilization units, and for adolescents aging-out of Therapeutic Boarding Schools and is also an ideal option for young adults who are "stuck" at home with failure to launch issues.

Students exhibit behavioral and clinical issues such as:

- Academic challenges
- ADD/ADHD
- Adoption/Attachment
- Anger management
- Anxiety/Depression
- Asperger/Autism Spectrum*
- Bi-Polar/Borderline
- Compulsive behavior
- Distressed relationships
- Drug/Alcohol Addiction
- Dual Diagnosis
- Eating disorder (mild)
- Emotional & Behavioral issues
- Gaming/Internet Addiction
- Grief/loss
- Lacking confidence
- Learning differences
- Life changes
- Non-verbal learning difference
- ODD/PTSD
- Poor judgment
- Shy/withdrawn
- Sneaky/underground
- Socially isolated
- Substance use/abuse
- Trauma
- Unmotivated

ADVOCATE:

This is all really frustrating. Is there hope? For whatever reason, schools often overlook their most valuable resource in working with children: the parents, the experts in their children. As the parent, you are not expected to know the ins and outs of the special education system. Unfortunately, schools often take advantage of that. By bringing an advocate onto the case, you let the school district know that you have an ally whose priority is to obtain the most appropriate services for your child. A good advocate will help you to determine what is most appropriate and work with you to ensure the school district is providing that support. Your advocate becomes your spokesperson, your expert, your biggest supporter in gaining appropriate services for your child. Your advocate helps you regain hope.

About the Author: *Nicole C. Shelton, M.Ed., M.S., is a special education advocate providing nationwide advocacy for parents of students with special needs. She is a professional member of IECA, NATSAP and COPAA.*

The past has no power over
the present moment.”

~ Eckhart Tolle



APEX
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Wilderness therapy to heal, inspire, prepare—to unlock the potential of each of our students, spark an interest in the world around them, and prepare them for their journey into adulthood.

APEX also provides treatment for co-occurring substance abuse disorders that do not require acute levels of care or detoxification.

APEX is the only adventure and wilderness program in the Northeast that will accept youth who require professional transport services due to unwillingness to actively participate in treatment. Our program also features an academic element.

For further information, please contact
Patrick McAvoy, Program Director, at
508-274-3777.

MINDSTREAM ACADEMY

Bluffton, South Carolina
843-757-2003

Ray Travaglione, Founder and CEO
www.mindstreamacademy.com

Rather than traditional weight loss programs and schools, this new co-ed therapeutic boarding program teaches teens, ages 14-18 how to obtain a healthy lifestyle, learn to have fun through exercise and activities, to get fit and to achieve a healthy weight and build their self esteem by focusing on the mind, body and spirit.

MindStream Academy was founded in 2010 by Ray Travaglione, who previously founded and created The Heritage School, located on Hilton Head Island, SC, the International Golf Academy and the International Junior Golf Tournament, yet left these ventures to work with kids he felt needed help the most. Dr. David Katz, MD, MPH, FACPM, FACP, recently joined MindStream as the Senior Medical Advisor. Dr. Katz has been the consultant on obesity control to the US Secretary of Health; the US FDA Commissioner; several Governors; private corporations; and the health insurance industry in addition, in 2009 he was nominated for the position of U.S. Surgeon General to the Obama Administration by the American College of Physicians, the American College of Preventive Medicine, and the Center for Science in the Public Interest. Another staff member is Patrick House, the 2010 winner of NBC's The Biggest Loser. MindStream also has a dietician and chef, fitness instructors, psychologists and equine specialist in addition to counselors, educators and therapists.

With this unique, 4 month- one semester program, teens maintain accredited academics through Advantage Online Private School, receiving an individualized academic program including college prep courses, Honors, AP and SAT/ACT prep courses. MindStream focuses on experiential learning, with the emphasis on fun. Students can take part in expressive arts which include music, drama, dance and creative writing; mindfulness practices that include yoga, meditation and martial arts.

MindStream uses the acronym "FLOW" which stands for fresh, local, organic, whole food as a nutrition program for its students. Students learn to have a natural relationship with simple healthy eating and how to select and prepare their own food, life skills for wellness and optimum weight.

Students participate in several types of therapy including individual, group and family counseling in addition to a variety of experiential therapeutic interventions that include neurofeedback, QEEG brain mapping and equine assisted psychotherapy. A follow up plan is set for each student at graduation that includes monthly phone calls and emails with the family and a wellness weekend retreat, counseling, a fitness program plan and nutrition education and culinary resources are set in place.

[This information came from the MindStream Academy website.]

MICHAEL'S HOUSE

Palm Springs, California
Scott Ward, Director of Operations
877-345-8494
scott.ward@dualdiagnosis.org

Michael's House was founded as a chemical dependency treatment center designed to treat co-occurring disorders. The program treats men and women aged 18 and over. The program operates two campuses. Length of stay varies by individual based on the issues being treated and severity of issues.

Krista Gilbert, CEO of Michael's House, has an extensive background as a therapist and as a Director of Outpatient Services. Barbara Lampert, MD, is the resident psychiatrist. She received her M.D. from SUNY Downstate Medical School and completed her internship at Georgetown Medical School. She previously served as Director of the University of New Mexico Mood Disorder Clinic. The program is accredited by CARF as an inpatient drug and alcoholism rehab facility.

Following admission, each client is evaluated by the intake staff of the program and provided a structured clinical program to address the clients' specific needs. This plan includes length of stay and types of therapy. The staff at Michael's House is trained in The Foundations Treatment Model. Therapies utilized by the program include 12-Step, group and individual therapy, and life skills classes. The program goes beyond counseling to teach patients life skills and personal accountability to aid in the recovery process. Michael's House offers an Extended Care program which caters to patients who require extended stays to ensure a full recovery.

The residential portion of Michael's House includes an exercise weight room, meditation and quiet time, daily recreation, and other leisure activities for residents. Located in the San Jacinto Mountain Range, the holistic approach of the program is complemented by the physical surroundings, including desert views and a private setting.

[This information came from the Michael's House website.]

THE HUNTER SCHOOL

Rumney, NH
603-786-9427
Laurie Ferris, Admissions
laurieferris@hunterschool.org
www.hunterschool.org

The Hunter School was established in 1998 by the New England Salem Children's Trust and is located adjacent to the campus of the New England Salem Children's Village. This private day and boarding school is for young boys and girls, ages 5-15 and grades kindergarten through eighth grade, who struggle in traditional school settings due to educational and behavioral differences associated with ADD, ADHD and Asperger's.

Approved by the New Hampshire Department of Education as a Special Education School, and licensed by the New Hampshire Bureau of Child Care Licensing, the Hunter School. Founder is Thom Hartmann, a psychotherapist and the author of numerous books on ADHD, in addition to being a radio talk show host and his wife, Louise Hartmann, a NLP Practitioner and Coach.

Besides the use of traditional approaches, the use of alternative methods with the students emphasize the inter-relationship between mind and body, such as dietary and nutritional interventions with the introduction to whole foods and a vegetarian diet; animal assisted therapy and expressive therapies that include art, dance and music. In addition, the use of culturally based healing arts that include acupuncture, Reiki, yoga, biofeedback, meditation and massage therapy work to relieve stress and anxiety.

Situated on 137 acres of woodlands in the foothills of the White Mountains, this "kid-friendly" campus contains a modern schoolhouse and three family style residences. Each residence has two live in house parents, that are trained and experienced child development counselors, and up to six kids. In this informal, but structured environment, children learn appropriate ways to interact with adults and peers, with house parents readily available to teach important social skills, teamwork, mutual respect and self confidence to the residents. Each Hunter family dines together, participate in fun activities and work on building interpersonal relationships within this intimate family style living arrangement. Within this beautiful setting, the children hike and explore the natural surroundings, with swimming in Stinson Lake in the summer, to snowshoeing and sledding in the winter.

[This information came from the Hunter School website and the New England Salem Children's Village website.]

"Education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate integration of the younger generation into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity or it becomes the practice of freedom, the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world."

~ Paulo Freire

ASD SUPPORT SERVICES

Haddam, Connecticut
Christopher Carlin, MSW, LCSW
President
860-532-0604
chris@asdsupport.us
www.asdsupportservices.com

ASD Support Services provides services to help adolescents, young adults and their families who are living with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other disorders by offering options that are available and holistic and comprehensive support to address the needs of the student and the family.

Christopher S. Carlin, MSW LCSW is the President of ASD Support Services and has worked with struggling adolescents and their families for over 25 years, with the last five years specifically working with those with non-verbal learning disabilities and Asperger's Syndrome. Chris is a member of Asperger's Association of New England, the National Association of Social Workers and is EMDR trained. Barbara Hughes, EdD, LPC, LMFT is Chris's Associate and she also has 25 years experience working with families, with 22 of those years as a Psychotherapist. With two years working with adolescents and young adults with non-verbal learning disabilities and Asperger's, Barbara has facilitated groups for STEP and ACOA and has memberships with Kappa Delta Pi, the American Counseling Association, International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors and the American Mental Health Counselors Association. She too, is EMDR trained. ASD Support Services Advisory Board consists of several professionals with an expertise in working with special needs youth, these include: Marcia Rubinstein MA, CEP, an educational consultant in Connecticut; Margie Schaffel M.Ed, LICSW, an educational consultant in Massachusetts and Peter W. Stevens MA, also an educational consultant in Massachusetts.

Once a student is assessed and appropriate for services through an initial consultation, a pre-evaluation is completed to determine the levels of services needed, goals are set and phase one of services are outlined for a three month period. Students receive an individualized plan that includes hands on support with independent living skills, organizational functioning concerns, in addition to self advocacy, working with social difficulties and emotional regulation in order to achieve a positive long term development. ASD also supports families by increasing parenting and communication skills, advocacy skills and work with the family system to tackle pressing student issues. The use of Skype or other video conferencing system is used for counseling and meeting with the student and family throughout the services.

ASD Support Services also provides specialized services and training for schools and programs. These services may include: training in ASD for teachers and administrators, facilitation of groups for students with ASD, assisting with IEP's and 504 development for insuring students needs are met, provide counseling services for ASD students and families and create a partnership between the school district and family to access services.

[This information came from the ASD Support Services web site.]

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At Montcalm School, children have a whole world of people ready to help them succeed. As a program of Starr Commonwealth, Montcalm School utilizes the knowledge and insights from thought leaders in education and strength-based therapeutic services. We employ vast expertise and resources to support the needs of children, empowering them – regardless of their challenges – to transform their lives academically, behaviorally and socially.

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Montcalm
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Montcalm School for Boys and Girls is a private therapeutic boarding school serving kids and families from around the world. Montcalm School offers a traditional therapeutic program for boys and girls ages 12-18; Outside In, a program for boys and girls, ages 12-18, with autism spectrum disorders; and Structured Transitional Living, a life skills program for boys, ages 17-21. Montcalm School is part of Starr Commonwealth, an organization that has helped children and families for 100 years.

DEEP RIVERS FAMILY RANCH

Ferron, Utah

Matthew Pettit, Founder and Director

970-623-4281

mattp@deepriversfamilyranch.com

www.deepriversfamilyranch.com

Deep Rivers Family Ranch is a non-denominational, bible-based therapeutic program whose mission is dedicated to uniting struggling families through hands-on application of love, discipline, forgiveness, respect, hard work and honesty. This is a seven-day program that is designed to unite families and equip them for long-term positive relationships that restore the joy of being a family.

The Founder and Director, Matthew Pettit, is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Certified Equine Co-Facilitated Psychotherapist. He worked with the former Aspen Ranch in various roles for over ten years until it closed its doors earlier this year. He has training and experience in family therapy, experiential therapy, and therapy with children and adolescents. He has co-authored a book, *Generational Fathering*, with his father-in-law, Gary Taylor.

Families arrive at the Ranch and the week starts out with a pre-arrival assessment session so that the experience is customized for each family. The Deep Rivers Family Ranch staff teaches some parenting skills as well as practicing parenting as a team. They use the horses to teach relationship skills to all the family members. The Deep Rivers experience will provide opportunity to practice your relationship skills with immediate feedback that families need and desire. Throughout the week the program challenges families to be honest with each other, forgive each other and build a future with each other serving our redeeming God. The program also gives the family time to interact, play, process and rejuvenate.

[This information came from the Deep Rivers Family Ranch website]

SURRENDER INTERVENTIONS

Palos Verdes Estates, California

Dirk Eldredge, Intervention Specialist

310-373-1011

Dirk@Surrender-Interventions.com


www.surrender-interventions.com

Surrender Interventions helps people of all ages with addictions realize they have an addiction before they hit rock bottom. They can help the family on the families' terms with the help of a professional interventionist.

Dirk Eldredge, Owner of Surrender Interventions got his degree in Drug and Alcohol Counseling from Loyola Marymount University. He then developed his training with one of the pioneers of intervention, Ed Storti. He is a Board Registered, Level I Interventionist. He is certified by the State of California in chemical dependency counseling (CADC). Dirk also is a consultant for the Seattle Seahawks, offering life skills coaching to their organization. Dirk will travel the globe to meet you at your need and to offer the gift of treatment to you or your loved one.

Surrender Interventions offers a one year commitment to the entire family beginning with an assessment preparing each individual and the group as a whole. Surrender Interventions then facilitates the intervention, accompanies the client to the appropriate treatment facility, and then works with the treatment team to create an aftercare plan for the patient while working with the family to better understand their roles in their loved ones long term recovery.

[This information came from the Surrender Interventions website]



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or
depression?**

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SEVIS



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GOALS ARE TO:

- Build a positive value system
- Assess resident's level of functioning developmentally, emotionally and academically
- Develop & implement services to help the resident meet goals.
- Provide each resident with living skills
- Assist residents to work with their families
- Develop a discharge/aftercare plan

PO Box 1325

Fort Davis, Texas

432-364-2241

Fax: 432-364-2261

high.frontier@sleschools.org

RECOVERY RANCH

Santa Ynez, California
Daniel Ross, Co-Founder
Andy Kirk, Co-Founder
805-252-5661

therecoveryranch@gmail.com
www.therecoveryranch.com

Recovery Ranch is a structured sober residence for men. The Program is based on the 12 step program of Alcoholics Anonymous. They offer several lengths of programs at 30, 60, 90-days as well as a long-term 12 month program. The programs main purpose is to help alcoholics and addicts change their lives so they can stay sober and clean, and live a purposeful and balanced life. Their main objective is to help their men live to the best of their ability, and to live as gentlemen according to the website.

The staff integrates a variety of mandatory daily recovery-based elements such as; peer groups, addiction education, meeting attendance, phase system and more. Additionally, Recovery Ranch provides case management services that work together with each resident's support network, family, sponsor, and other professionals to ensure long-term recovery.

The program is located in Santa Ynez Valley within Santa Barbara County. While at the Ranch you will have the opportunity to fish, hike, golf, garden, and many more hobbies that you may be interested in are available.

[This information came from the Recovery Ranch website]

ANGELS WAY SOBER LIVING

Pasadena, CA
Susan Curry, Executive Director
626-808-3488
angelswaysoberliving@yahoo.com
www.angelswaysoberliving.com

Angels Way is a Twelve step structured home for ages 15 - 26. One must complete a Rehab program before they will be eligible for admission. The program provides a clean and sober environment for recovering addicts. They are apartment homes able to accommodate eight men and eight women. During your stay at Angel Way you will learn to share responsibilities, do chores, hold down a job or go to school, mandatory 12 step meetings/bible study; as well as coping with one another and how to problem solve.

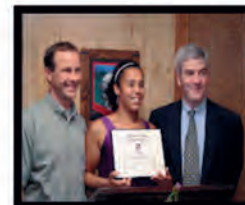
Angel Way was founded in March 2008 by a husband and wife team Susan and Foy Curry. They are former alcoholic/addicts who have successfully entered into 30-day treatment programs and went on to live in Sober Living Environments and follow the 12 Step program. With this knowledge base, they are here to offer the support and guidance needed to help others recover and lead a successful sober life. The program is licensed through the City of Pasadena. The staff have been trained and certified in the Sober Living Coalition Training Network, CPR and First Aid.

The program works in partnership offering a discounted rate with a Life Coach if needed. They are not a Christian sober living program but Pastor's from their Church offer Free mentoring to any individuals seeking Spiritual guidance. In order to insure that no one comes on the property under the influence the program provides a Drug/Alcohol sniffing dog, which is a Pure Breed German Shepherd.

[This information came from the Angels Way Sober Living website]



THE DISCOVERY SCHOOLS OF VIRGINIA



Outdoor Emotional Growth Schools

Boys and Girls schools located on two separate campuses in central Virginia

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

The Discovery School uses a structured and effective group process along with the natural environment to promote a student's overall positive development. Groups are composed of ten students and three adult staff. The goal of the group is for each of its members to gain the self-esteem, maturity, self-control, and problem solving strategies needed to be successful in his or her family, school, and community.

ACADEMICS

Fully accredited; offers middle school and high school credit classes as well as special education, remedial and GED preparatory classes. Licensed by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education and Accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Specialized Education Facilities.

A parent recently wrote to us "...Your approach gives the kids back something they lost along the way; self-esteem and inner strength. Which in turn gives them the power to make appropriate decisions for themselves on life's journey. I might add it gives the parents something back they had lost...their children."

Contact Us to Find Out More

www.discoveryschool.org

434-983-5616 email: dsadmissions@yahoo.com



Grove School

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To learn more, please call 203.245.2778 or visit our website www.groveschool.org

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Dr. Melody Foxx

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Four Circles Recovery Center is a state-of-the-art, innovative wilderness-based treatment program for young adult males and females, ages 18-28, with addiction, substance abuse, and co-occurring mental health issues.

Four Circles Transition Program in Asheville, NC, is a transitional living / extended care facility for young adult males, ages 18-28, who are transitioning from any primary substance abuse treatment program.

www.fourcirclesrecovery.com 877.893.2221



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Four Circles Recovery Center Announces Changes: Meg Nygren has been promoted to Director of Admissions & Business Development and will be responsible for serving families in need and professionals in the industry. Meg replaces Shane Applegate who has been promoted with our parent company, in a larger business development capacity. 877-893-2221

Saving Teens Annual Appeal: We are excited to again hold the Saving Teens in Crisis Collaborative Annual Charity Scramble Golf Tournament. This third year event is scheduled ahead of the 2014 NATSAP Annual Conference, Wednesday, February 5, 2014. Even if you don't golf, you can support this critical cause by joining us for dinner. 978-852-2144

Dr. Villiers Joins Family Support Collaborative: Family Support Collaborative is pleased to announce that Dr. Dan Villiers, Ph.D. has joined the FSC team as Director of Clinical Assessment and Intervention. Dr. Villiers is the founder of Mountain Valley Treatment Center, the first non-hospital residential program for the treatment of adolescent anxiety in the U.S., where he has also served as the Director of Admissions for the past 3 years. 603-726-6108

ISPA Celebrates 8th Anniversary: The Independent Small Program Alliance recently celebrated its 8th anniversary and awards dinner in San Diego, with members and Educational Consultant Guests. 727-512-9144

Warm and Wonderful Offerings at Northwest Academy: Northwest Academy offered a wonderful selection of adventure education opportunities and more for families and students alike this holiday season. 208-267-7522

Pearsons Retires From Second Nature: It was with mixed and strong emotions that Second Nature said goodbye and bid good luck to Ben Pearson, MSW, LCSW. After 14 years and an incredible journey, Ben retired from Second Nature and wilderness therapy. 801-913-3733

Kantar Announces Retirement: Bob Kantar, an Independent Educational Consultant from New Hampshire, announced he retired as of January 1, 2014, and has closed his consulting practice. rkantar@aol.com

Curtis Joins Family Support Collaborative: Family Support Collaborative is pleased to announce that Richard Curtis, LMHC, has joined the organization as a Clinical Interventionist. In this role, Richard will provide member programs with admissions support, to include assessment, outreach, and, when needed, in-home interventions. 603-989-3500

Talisman Summer Camp Continues Operations: Talisman Summer Camp is continuing operations under new ownership, with no interruption of programming for the 2014 season. After 16 successful summers as a program of Aspen Education Group (a division of CRC Health Group), the camp has changed into some very familiar hands. Douglas Smathers, current director, and Linda Tatsapaugh, former director, are now owners and operators. Douglas will continue to run the camp program, while Linda will run operations and new programming. 828-712-0466

CCA Students Participate in National Portfolio Day: For the ninth straight year, students from Copper Canyon Academy attended National Portfolio Day (NPD) in Phoenix. NPD is an annual college fair that affords budding art majors the opportunity to show their art portfolios to representatives of art colleges from around the country. The trip was led by Academic Director Ken Buxton and

art teacher Bev Miller, and seven CCA students participated.
877-617-1222

New Team Members At Second Nature: Please join Second Nature in welcoming two new members to our Clinical Team! Kathy Donovan has spent most of her professional career specializing in post-traumatic stress, reactive attachment, depression and anxiety disorders in children, adolescents and young adults. Her clinical work includes desensitization and exposure techniques to reduce debilitating stress and trauma responses, skills to detect and reverse nervous system distress, resilience training, social and leadership skill development and methods for developing greater self-awareness. CJ Powers comes to us with a doctorate in child and adolescent clinical psychology from Pennsylvania State University. He has formal training in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) as well as Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) and has worked as an outpatient therapist providing child, adolescent and family psychotherapy in medical and community mental health settings. 801-913-3733

Updates From John Dewey Academy: As the transition of the John Dewey Academy in the post Tom Bratter era continues we are announcing two significant staff changes. After eight years, Lisa Sinsheimer has decided to move out of her role as Intake Coordinator and Parent Liaison. To fill the vacancy we are fortunate to have brought on board Andrea Nathans, PsyD who will be adding to the program in many ways besides intake and parent liaison. Andrea's specialties range from divorce mediation and parent counseling to child, adolescent and family therapy. In addition, she has considerable experience with autistic spectrum disorders and psychodiagnostics. Secondly, after seven years Andrea Esperat Lein is leaving us so she can work full time on her doctoral dissertation. The passion and devotion she has given to JDA has kept her from being able to complete her degree since her arrival. With her departure we are also excited to have hired Jovanina Pagano. Jovanina has worked for twenty years with adolescents and families in programs and schools. 413-528-9800

Skyland Trail Launches Alumni Program: Skyland Trail recently launched the Alumni Program under certified peer specialist Wade Lee. The program was created to help further clients' recovery in providing opportunities for alumni to stay connected, build new relationships, and engage in healthy social activities in a supportive environment. 404-273-6054

Casting Call For A New Documentary-Style Television Series: Metal Flowers Media, LLC in Los Angeles, CA is currently casting a new documentary-style television series for a major cable network. Each episode will center on one rebellious teen and their family with a experienced person who has been working with teens and family for a long time who will transform their lives and get the teen back on track. 310-922-3613

Stage Front For Boulder Creek Academy Students: A number of Boulder Creek Academy students who have spent the past couple of months working alongside the Bonners Ferry High School Performing Arts Department, performed in a theatrical performance of Clue, a stage adaptation of the cult movie classic. 208-267-7522

Higher Education Recovery Option: HERO House has made significant changes and additions in the last year. A new staff, new leadership, a new Curriculum and a brand new web site, complete with new logo has HERO House again leading the Collegiate Recovery movement. HERO House in Atlanta, started by Randy Haveson in 2005 has grown into a regional resource for much of

the southeast. Now, with the addition of Leah Briick as Program Director and Mark McGuinness as Chief Development Officer, HERO House is on the verge of a national resurgence. 866-525-8085

Summit Prep Expands Clinical Team: Summit Preparatory School is excited to announce the addition of two therapists, Nick Harper and Trevor Allen. Nick hails from North Carolina and holds a MSW from the Columbia University School of Social Work. His background is in Community Mental Health, with emphasis on intensive in-home therapy, individual therapy, and intensive outpatient substance abuse groups for teens and adults. Trevor joined the Summit Team this Fall. He and his family are settling into the Flathead Valley after living in Utah and Samoa. He has a Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Phoenix. Trevor enjoys working with a wide range of youth as they work through their journey to a healthier lifestyle. 406-261-9437

Forest Heights Lodge Mourns Passing Of Colburn: Russell H. Colburn was born January 28, 1930 and passed away in November 2013. Russ devoted his professional life to helping children. He was the executive director of Forest Heights Lodge, a non-profit residential program in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. He led "the Lodge" for 31 years believing that troubled children could grow into adults with healthy self-esteem and the ability to trust and form relationships. 303-674-6681

Spectrum College Announces First Asperger Fraternity: Sigma Tau Epsilon is the first and only national Greek letter fraternity representing Asperger's Syndrome undergraduate professionals. Sigma Tau Epsilon was founded in October 2013 by the students at the Spectrum College Transition Program, who wanted to enhance their college experience. Tim Zollars, Michael Dinsdale, Grant MacIntyre, Griffin Burt, and Andrew Peralion sat down with Officer Dan Antrim of the Scottsdale Police Department's Canine Unit, who donates his time as the student's Character Education mentor, and founded the organization for the purpose of building a brotherhood among members, whose primary purpose is community service, and aimed towards the development of character, friendship, leadership, or literary ability. Since its inception, the students have pledged their community service efforts towards helping the local Ronald McDonald House, and Feed My Starving Children Foundation. 480-443-7331

The Pinnacle Schools Accredited: The Pinnacle Schools has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for accreditation by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety in behavioral health care. 866-906-8336

"I don't believe in colleges and universities. I believe in libraries because most students don't have any money. When I graduated from high school, it was during the Depression and we had no money. I couldn't go to college, so I went to the library three days a week for 10 years."

~ Ray Bradbury

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