



Creating Connections
That Inspire Change

News From The Office of Admissions

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800-790-4993

www.cbryouthconnect.org

CBR Promotes Martin Masar To Chief of Campus Operations

Martin Masar has been named CBR YouthConnect's executive director of Campus Operations. He will continue to oversee the admissions and referral process at CBR.

"Martin has played a vital clinical and administrative role at CBR for more than 20 years and has had a profound impact on the lives of thousands of youth admitted to CBR over the years," said CBR President Chuck Thompson. "He will provide even greater leadership in his new role."

In addition to his work at CBR, Martin, who holds a master's degree in social work and is a licensed clinical social worker, has served as a national and international consultant in the areas of juvenile justice, mental health, organizational development, crisis prevention, risk management/intervention, program development and policy and procedure for 26 years.

Weathering the Challenges of Change

We have now experienced the early chill of winter and passed through the Thanksgiving holiday. The weeks ahead will usher in the Christmas season and welcome the New Year. As with all things, the changing of seasons is a constant in our lives. As we enter 2009, many of the changes will not be as festive. Our national economy has dramatically changed with further deficits on the horizon. The state agencies that support our children's needs are struggling and are likely to pass on increasingly stringent cost-saving measures. Within the larger provider community, we face major changes in the rules, processes and requirements that affect the treatment available to troubled children and their families. Those of us who serve children and families will look at these changes in the context of all that it takes in this day and age to help a single child. In quiet desperate moments many of us will ask—why?

Our children's needs did not diminish, go away or somehow fix themselves. In fact, according to any number of reports, our nation's children are struggling with increasingly severe and complex problems — from trouble with learning and behavior to abuse, neglect, hurt and abandonment. The challenges facing those who provide treatment, education and care to our nation's children have accelerated. Not only do we face increased costs for essentials such as food, housing, transportation and insurance, we will be confronted with increased regulations and ever more stringent requirements.

Challenges and change can be both professional and personal. After many years of direct service to children and families I will move to a new office and begin a different journey at CBR YouthConnect (see sidebar). Aaron and his family were the last of my therapy cases. My promise to Aaron and his mother was that I would personally continue to provide their therapy until he was discharged and reunited with his family. As the end of Aaron's treatment drew near, he greeted me as I walked across campus late one evening. After a few routine questions, Aaron blurted out, "When do you give up?" His query caught me off guard and I paused for a moment. And then, as simple as his question had been, the answer was as well— "never."

Despite the problems that plague our state and national governments, we must for the sake of our children, never ever give up. As we get ready for the uncertainties of the New Year, I wish you unwavering belief in our children and families and the commitment it takes to see another child successfully return home.

—Martin Masar, CBR YouthConnect Executive Director of Campus Operations



Happy
Holidays!

On behalf of the staff and youth of CBR YouthConnect, we wish you a meaningful holiday season and a New Year filled with hope and promise. Please enjoy the enclosed 2009 CBR YouthConnect calendar as a heartfelt thank you for your wonderful support. We look forward to hearing from you in 2009. Send your opinions, thoughts and comments to CBR YouthConnect Executive Director of Campus Operations Martin Masar at mmasar@cbryouthconnect.org or call 1-800-790-4993.

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Accomplishments and Accreditation

“One of the best in the nation.”

That is what a surveyor from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) had to say about CBR YouthConnect after an intensive three-day review. A team of educational reviewers from the North Central Association reached the same conclusion.

A recent study of former CBR youth reported a 92.5 percent treatment success rate. Success was based on eight different criteria, including whether the youth was reunited with his family or guardians or was able to live independently. Another recent survey found that more than 90 percent of former CBR residents interviewed were satisfied by the treatment they received.

CBR is licensed and certified by the State of Colorado as a psychiatric residential treatment facility and mental health provider and is accredited by or a member of:

- JCAHO
- North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement
- TRICARE/TriWest, which provides healthcare services to U.S. military families
- National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
- American Association of Children's Residential Centers
- Colorado Association of Family and Children's Associations

CBR YouthConnect is the flagship program of Colorado Boys Ranch Foundation, a non-sectarian 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is “to achieve excellence in providing troubled youth with the means to become hopeful and productive citizens.”

“Connecting parents and their children through improved relationships, new skills and hope.”

CBR YouthConnect (CBR) is a fully accredited national psychiatric residential treatment center for severely troubled youth. CBR has been providing these youth with refuge and hope since it was founded in 1959 as Colorado Boys Ranch. Conceived by a group of caring Colorado judges as a safe, nurturing environment that would provide at-risk youth with the means to become hopeful, productive citizens, CBR is located on 320 acres of land in southeastern Colorado,

Each year, more than 130 youth ages 10-21 from throughout the nation and from all ethnic, cultural, geographic and socio-economic backgrounds are admitted to CBR. Most have failed to succeed in other placements, and for many CBR is the place of last resort for psychiatric treatment and specialized educational services.

Integration of Treatments that Work

Contributing to CBR's success is its nationally recognized treatment model—*The Integration of Treatments that Work™*. The approach is based on extensive evidence that psychotherapy, neuroscience and an enriched learning environment can help improve a youth's ability to regulate emotions, thinking and behavior.

CBR's treatment results are supported by one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive outcomes databases for behavioral and medical analysis of adolescent mental health.

Integrated treatment elements are:

Psychotherapy—Credentialed therapists apply a wide range of research-based and professionally approved therapies to address illnesses that significantly impair how a youth thinks, manages his emotions, and relates to others. Preserving and reestablishing healthy family connections and relationships is a primary goal of CBR, which emphasizes and encourages family involvement and participation in each boy's treatment through family therapy.

Neuroscience—Applied as part of a youth's treatment plan, this discipline illuminates how development, genetics, biochemistry, physiology and

pharmacology can affect behavior and learning. Neuroscience is implemented within the context of the overall treatment plan, helping each youth receive a well-rounded and balanced therapy experience.

Enriched Learning Environment—CBR provides settings in which optimum staff-to-youth ratios, combined with ample program choices, create the best conditions for youth to discover their full potential, develop social and emotional skills, and gain self confidence. Opportunities include working with animals, the arts, music, gardening and pre-vocational programs. In addition, educational services are provided on campus through an affiliation with the local county school district.

CBR now offers a shorter-term, medical-based treatment program in addition to its 14- to 18-month program so that children can be admitted from all referral sources, including third-party payers.

Reaching Out to Military Families

CBR is among a small handful of centers certified by TRICARE/TriWest, a U.S. Department of Defense medical partner, to provide psychiatric residential services to the children of military families.

For additional information, visit www.cbryouthconnect.org or call 1-800-790-4993.

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