



Creating Connections  
That Inspire Change

# News From The Office of Admissions

800-790-4993

[www.cbryouthconnect.org](http://www.cbryouthconnect.org)

## Room in the “Inn” for a Child in Need

**J**ust before Christmas last year a therapist stopped by to express concern about a young child who was about to be discharged from CBR YouthConnect. The boy had progressed fairly well in his treatment and education but could not, for a variety of reasons, return to his home. Now, his situation was dire. His funding had expired and negotiations with his referral source had been unsuccessful. The CBRYC treatment team had recommended that he be placed in a step-down level of care, but the therapist had just received notice that no beds were available in any of the potential receiving facilities. Lacking a place to send him, the referral source decided the boy should be placed in a juvenile detention center over the Christmas holidays until a receiving bed could be found. This was not a viable option as far as our staff was concerned. They offered the referral source a significantly reduced rate so that the boy could remain at CBRYC until he could be placed in the appropriate facility. The referral source continued to deny funding, but we were told that the child could remain at CBRYC over the holidays if the boy's parent would pay the daily rate. This proved to be much easier said than done. The boy's mother we learned worked as a hotel housekeeper and had a very limited income. She became distraught at the thought of her son having to spend Christmas in a detention facility. After a brief consultation, the staff found a way to offer her an even more reduced rate — one that she could afford. She was extremely pleased and thanked the staff profusely for the offer.

Satisfied that we had found a workable solution to the child's dilemma, I returned to my routine duties. A

short time later, a young child came to the office and shyly asked to speak with me. As I introduced myself, he grabbed the sleeve of my jacket to

make sure that he had my full attention. He told me his name and said that he was the boy who had been about to be placed in a detention center. He expressed in words and with his wide dark eyes how grateful he was to be staying with us over the holidays. This was, he told me, his “best Christmas present, ever.” He went on to say, “when my Mom found out, she cried.” I related how happy I was that he would be with us and that I would look for him at our annual holiday party that week.

Later that evening, as I pondered the day's events and remembered the child's grateful expression, the words to a popular carol suddenly meant so much more to me.

*“Away in a manger, no crib for His bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head...”*

*Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven — to live with Thee there.”*

At this time of year, I give thanks for the caring hearts and compassion of our extraordinary staff and our generous donors. Because of them, we can from time to time provide a place for a child in need to “lay down his head” regardless of the circumstances.

—Martin Masar, CBR YouthConnect  
Executive Director of Campus Operations



## Happy Holidays!

The staff and youth of CBR YouthConnect wish you a meaningful holiday season and a New Year filled with hope and promise. Please enjoy the enclosed 2011 CBR YouthConnect calendar as a heartfelt thank you for your wonderful support. We look forward to hearing from you in 2011. Send your opinions, thoughts, and comments to CBR YouthConnect Executive Director Martin Masar at [mmasar@cbryouthconnect.org](mailto:mmasar@cbryouthconnect.org) or call 1-800-790-4993.

# “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.

## Accomplishments and Accreditation

*“It is energizing for me to survey agencies that really care about their clients.”*

This is what a surveyor from The Joint Commission had to say about CBR Youth-Connect after a recent intensive review. He went on to state, “The good news is you had no direct impact standard violations. You all should be very proud of that fact.” These views were shared by AdvancEd Worldwide (North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement) whose surveyor began the report summary with, “You are a hidden jewel—I wish more people knew what you do for kids. Your team has my highest admiration.” He continued, “You can be exceptionally proud that any student, coming from any school, anywhere in the nation, is receiving the finest education possible.”

Findings of two five-year outcome studies of former CBRYC youth underscore the quality of services these statements reflect. The recently completed second study took nine months to complete. The combined surveys represented 75 percent of the youth discharged from CBRYC over a 10-year period. The combined studies reported an 89 percent success rate based on a number of criteria that included no legal charges, no psychiatric hospitalizations, placement stabilization, high school graduation or GED, and improved family relationships. The average respondent was 36 months post discharge and all interview information was verified by a second source.

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:

- The Joint Commission
- TRICARE/TriWest, which provides healthcare services to U.S. military families
- National Association for Children’s Behavioral Health
- Colorado Association of Family and Children’s Associations

For additional information, visit  
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## 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.

**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.”**

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