

SUWS Adolescent and Youth Programs

(Outdoor Therapeutic Program)

CONTACT		PROGRAM OUTLINE	
Phone:	(888) 879-7897	Gender:	Coeducational/All-Girl/ All-Boy
Executive Contact:	Kathy Rex	Ages:	Youth - 11 to 13; Adolescent - 14 to 17
Admission Contact:	Dan Kemp	Grades:	N/A
Email:	admissions@suws.com	Enrollment:	8 per group
Fax:	(208) 886-2153	Duration:	28 day minimum; 45 day average
Address:	911 Preacher Creek Rd. Shoshone, ID 83352	Founded:	1981
Website:	www.suws.com www.suwsyouth.com		



NATSAP

Member Since: 1999



Shoshone

Airport: Boise, Twin Falls, Sun Valley

Operating in southern IDAHO since 1981 SUWS is a licensed treatment program that uses a desert environment in an intervention focused on assessment, wilderness therapy, and a strong clinical team to help struggling teens. Utilizing the outdoors, professionally led experiential activities, and highly individualized treatment plans, SUWS strives to empower adolescents with opportunities for growth as they rediscover their sense of purpose and strengthen their connections to self, family, and community. Begun in 1997, the Youth Program promotes a solid foundation of personal self-worth and value from which students and their families rediscover hope through positive reference experiences.

Research indicates that 11-to-13 year olds have specific needs; they think in concrete terms and require tangible experiences from which to build. For this reason SUWS pioneered the Youth Program, separate from its Adolescent Program for 14-to-17 year olds, to provide the security, structure, and predictability required by this age group. SUWS excels at addressing the underlying causes of negative, unhealthy behavior and working through impasses brought about by internal struggles. Common behaviors and issues include family conflict, low self-esteem, entitlement, manipulation, isolation, depression, substance abuse, oppositional defiance, attention deficit, learning differences, school failure, and negative peer relationships.

SUWS provides families with a safe and immediate intervention. The outdoor environment, emphasis on teamwork, and experiential learning help students gain insight and build upon their own sense of self-worth as they learn the value of helping others. Therapists work closely with each child to help him/her determine the attitudes and behaviors that are negatively impacting self-perceptions. By pinpointing and examining these self-limiting beliefs, the therapist can work with parents, counselors, consultants, and schools to develop customized treatment plans and determine appropriate aftercare arrangements. Program highlights include hiking, primitive skills, ropes course activities, equine assisted psychotherapy, use of llamas as a therapeutic resource and pack animal, mock search-and-rescue drills, licensed therapists, individualized treatment plans, flexible length of stay, individual and group therapy, weekly treatment planning sessions, availability of psychological testing services, parent workshops, therapeutic ropes challenge course, and webbased student updates.

Individual Psychotherapy Available: Yes

Accreditation, Licensure: State of Idaho Department of Health & Welfare, Children's Therapeutic Outdoor Program, CARF accreditation, AdvancEd accreditation (academic transcripts now available)

Professional Affiliations: NATSAP-Full Member, AEE; NATWC, Idaho Outfitters & Guides, Woodbury Reports-Excellence in Education Award