staff successfully navigated complex wilderness regulations and group home standards in Montana. AYA was one the first programs to complete extensive outcome studies and did so for seven full years.

My last example of a unique program is less well known except for one of the founders of Galena Ridge and 20 Peaks. That person is Paul Clark, a former Montana legislator. Paul could have easily taken the road to "grow" these programs and achieve national prominence, but has chosen to stay intimately involved in a small manageable wilderness experience combined with a small ten bed program for boys. Paul has been credited for bringing the Outward Bound model to the state of Montana. He has also been singled out as the developer and key architect of Ascent Wilderness program located in Idaho. This past year, I have had three boys with the program and I have been highly satisfied with the gains these boys and families have made. These boys were selected because although they all struggled at home, they presented no serious psychiatric issues or serious behavioral problems.

This list and discussion of top notch programs in the state of Montana could be expanded to include many others, like Mission Mountain, Intermountain, Elk Creek Academy and others. However, the point is made. Parents across the country and abroad look to Montana for the best treatment they can find. Unfortunately, only those who are in the upper socio-economic range can afford these private pay programs. But then, it is a clear message that some of the brightest and most capable parents in the country choose Montana for their children. That says a lot. Montana is in the national spotlight and what happens in Montana may affect all states in some ways. However, don't feel sorry for Montana programs. They have an impressive start at providing some of the best care in the world. The PAARP board, in their efforts to improve programs through licensing mandates, should take on the physician's oath; "Do no Harm". As one program director said, "For God's sake, regulate us, but also for God's sake, don't turn the bull loose in the China closet."

There is only one honest impulse at the bottom of Puritanism, and that is the impulse to punish the man with a superior capacity for happiness.

~ HL Mencken

Copper Canyon Academy
A Trailhead to Success

Nestled in a scenic Central Arizona valley, Copper Canyon Academy offers a boarding school for girls ages 13-17 with behavioral, emotional or learning problems. We believe that by combining a warm, caring, structured environment, students will develop self-esteem, self-awareness, self-reliance, self-confidence, and self-management.

Our program offers:

- Comprehensive, therapeutic program including individual therapy, group therapy and family therapy
- Equine therapy and canine therapy
- Essential and extensive family involvement
- Intensive physical fitness as part of daily life
- Accredited college prep academic program



Contact Darren L. Prince for more information
(928) 567-1322
Email: admissions@coppercanyonacademy.com
www.coppercanyonacademy.com
An Aspen Education Group Program. Help for Today. Hope for Tomorrow.

THE TYLER RANCH

If your boy suffers from low self-esteem, anger problems, or is not reaching his potential in school, Tyler Ranch can help. Since 1978, our staff and home-based program have achieved positive results and created successful futures for our participants. Don't wait for the problems to get worse. The Tyler Ranch program can stop the downward spiral and bring hope to troubled boys and their families.

For an informative brochure, contact:
Tyler Ranch, Inc.,
4921 West Rosewood, Spokane, WA 99208
509-327-6900 800-368-7159



Clearview Horizons
A Therapeutic Christian based program
Please feel free to call us at 208-263-5894 if we can be of any further service to you.
www.clearviewhorizon.com