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Forest Ridge Community Youth Services

Forest Ridge Community Youth Services
P. O. Box 515
4502 230th Street
Wallingford, IA 51365
Tel: 712-867-4724
Fax: 712-867-4505



Executive Director - Sue Nelson

Residential Capacity: 140

In February 1993, YSI purchased Forest Ridge Community Youth Services, an emergency shelter and residential treatment program that provides services for troubled youths. At Forest Ridge, YSI currently operates residential programs for adjudicated delinquent and at-risk girls and boys (with an average length of stay of nine months), an emergency shelter (with an average length of stay of two months), a diagnostic and evaluation center, and a newly-created, community-based therapeutic foster care program (with an average length of stay of nine months). Forest Ridge also runs its own school which is accredited within the State of Iowa, and runs a World of Work curriculum which includes for-profit telemarketing and a greeting card business.



Forest Ridge accepts 13 to 18 year old co-eds with a full-scale IQ of 70 and above, and who suffer from conduct disorder, oppositional-defiant behavior, post-traumatic stress disorder, and/or depression (no deep-seated psychopathology, but learned negative behavior patterns that victimize others). Other typical behaviors include: low degree of empathy for others, poor means-to-ends reasoning, high degree of impulsive behavior, problems controlling anger and aggression, lack of self-discipline, history of being counteractive and noncompliant with authority, history of responding to life stressors by thrill-seeking negative affiliations and/or criminal behavior, history of chemical abuse or family chemical abuse (children of alcoholics), low self-esteem, poor social skills, and/or functioning below capacity. Forest Ridge does accept students in the first trimester of pregnancy, but *does not accept youths with a significant history of fire-setting, those in need of a locked facility, or those with full scale IQ below 70*.

Programs:

- Open Facility - Residential
- In-Home Service Delivery
- Substance Abuse and Chemical Dependency
- Educational/Vocational Development
- Acute Short-Term Intervention

Facilities and Locations