

Ranch Ehrlo Society

Backgrounder



About the Ranch Ehrlo Society

The Ranch Ehrlo Society, a non-profit charitable organization, was founded in 1966. It is governed by a volunteer board of directors. It started as a single residential unit for six troubled boys and grew to a multi-service agency providing highly specialized programs. Today, the Ranch Ehrlo Society operates residential, clinical, community, and educational programs across the province. Youth are referred to our residential programs by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services, First Nations Child & Family agencies, as well as out-of-province referrals. Clients are referred to our community-based programs through a variety of channels including advertising and promotion, professional referrals, and word-of-mouth.

Who we serve

Residential programming:

The Ranch serves young people, ranging in ages from under 12 to over 18 years of age, who are experiencing social, psychological, behavioural and cognitive difficulties. The Ranch's residential programming is viewed as a long-term resource for young people with a variety of personal issues, and length of stay depends on the problems being addressed.

Community programming:

We operate five community-based programs. *Ehrlo Sport Venture programs* target inner-city and at-risk youth aged 8 - 18 through free recreational programming. *Ehrlo Counselling* serves individuals, couples, and families. *Ehrlo Housing* offers affordable housing to low-income families, single mothers, and individuals with chronic mental health conditions. *Ehrlo Community Economic Development* operates two programs: Avant-Garde Beauty College which is open to students aged 18 or older and a Work-Training program which is open to youth who have an interest in a career in the construction industry. Finally, *Ehrlo Early Learning Centre* serves parents/families who require childcare.

Family programming:

We operate three family-focused treatment programs. Our *Family Treatment Program* focuses on family reunification after out-of-home placement is complete. *Intensive Family Preservation Services* focuses on preventing unnecessary out-of-home placements to preserve the family unit. Lastly, our *Treatment Foster Care Program* provides parental care givers who provide a nurturing family environment for children/youth.

What is unique about Ranch Ehrlo

Our commitment to excellence

- The Ranch is accredited by the Council on Accreditation, which is an international standard setting body in New York. The Council develops and maintains standards that are on the leading-edge of new technology and change.
- The Ranch utilizes a comprehensive system to track results and success of all our residential clients. This is achieved through the use of the Efforts to Outcomes Database program by which staff enter information about clients and track their progress. This system is available agency-wide and training is offered to all staff so they may be able to fully utilize it.

Our educational programming

- Education is highly valued at Ranch Ehrlo Society. We are the only residential treatment program in Saskatchewan that offers a comprehensive range of educational programming to clients. Our programs are accredited by the Independent Schools branch of Saskatchewan Ministry of Education.

Our programming

- We are the only residential treatment centre to offer equine assisted therapy (E.A.T) as well as operate a horse-riding arena open to the public. The E.A.T. program is learner-based educational experience with horses. Participants in the E.A.T. program engage in fun and exciting horse-focused ground exercises and, in the process, find themselves learning valuable life-enhancing skills.
- The Ranch also runs a therapeutic arts program for its youth and employs a therapeutic arts facilitator. This program offers workshops, art class time, and special projects that address stress reduction, stress management, and teach youth to rely on themselves for guidance and answers. Art workshops help to encourage self-awareness and self-regulation.

Agency development:

- 1966 - The Ranch Ehrlo Society (RES) opens on June 1st
- 1971 - The agency becomes accredited through the Child Welfare League of America
- 1979 - Classroom building (Schaller School) constructed at the Pilot Butte Campus
- 1982 - The Hudson Administration building is constructed on the Pilot Butte campus
- 1984 - A special needs unit for psychiatrically disabled youth opens
- 1985 - RES Industries Inc. established to provide training and pre-employment services to multi-problem youth
- 1990 - Schaller School on Pilot Butte campus registered as an independent school
- 1992 - Schaller School becomes an accredited independent school
- 1992 - The Outdoor Hockey League (OHL)/Dress a Champion introduced as a Schaller School project
- 1995 - Ehrlo Community Services (ECS) established as an associated charity of Ranch Ehrlo (replaced RES Industries Inc.)
- 1997 - Ehrlo Community Services purchases 48-unit apartment complex known as Lakeshore Village
- 1998 - McNamara Family Unit opens on Pilot Butte campus
- 1998 - New Schaller School and Liski Gym opens
- 2002 - Ehrlo Community Services opens Washington Park Place, supportive accommodations for teen mothers
- 2002 - Ehrlo Daycare (renamed Ehrlo Early Learning Centre) opens at W.F. Ready School
- 2010 - Ehrlo Early Learning Centre opens four new sites in the City of Regina
- 2011 - ECS and the RES amalgamate to provide a seamless continuum of services to all clients
- 2011 - The Ranch Ehrlo Society celebrates its 45th anniversary
- 2011 - RES receives approval from the Ministry of Social Services to officially launch its Treatment Foster Care Program

Campus development:

- 1966 - Pilot Butte campus opens: 15 min east of Regina; 80 acres; 6 group homes, admin building, family unit, and school.
- 1997 - Buckland campus opens: 20 min north of Prince Albert; 40 acres; 3 group homes, admin offices, and Buckland Riding Arena.
- 2007 - Corman Park campus opens: 15 min north of Saskatoon; 40 acres; 2 group homes, admin building, and school.

The Ranch at a glance:

- Employs over 700 staff and serves over 250 clients in our residential programs
- Operates over 40 residential programs, two schools, two colleges, five community-based programs, and three family treatment programs
- Operates one of the largest residential treatment programs for persons with developmentally disabilities
- Operates three campuses totaling 190 acres across the province. These are located outside of Pilot Butte, in the RM of Corman Park, and in the RM of Buckland
- Founding and sustaining member of the Child Welfare League of Canada
- First residential treatment program to join UNESCO
- One of the first residential treatment agencies in North America to offer a residential volatile substance abuse program
- Employs a cultural coordinator who runs Aboriginal awareness training program for staff and the youth pow wow club
- Only non-profit organization in the province to employ an occupational therapist who provides treatment for Ranch clients

