

**Background:** In 2006 Rite of Passage opened the Mount Evans Qualifying house with the approval of the Clear Creek County Board of County Commissioner's approval. The purpose of the facility is to provide at risk youth an opportunity to establish themselves as productive members of the community through working, saving money, and providing restorative justice projects to the general community. The reason for this is that many students lack positive opportunities in their home communities. In order to be considered for the qualifying house, students must demonstrate positive behavior and pass through the Clear Creek County community review board.



Since establishing the Qualifying House, hundreds of students have successfully and safely transition to the community because of the support of Clear Creek County. The students show their gratitude by providing thousands of hours of meaningful public service each year. These experiences is life changing. On behalf of all the staff and students of Rite of Passage, a heartfelt thank you to the commissioners, CRB members and the community in general for the privilege of offering program. We are all grateful for the opportunity.

**Program Description:** Situated eight miles up Scenic Highway 103, Rite of Passage (ROP) operates the Mount Evans Qualifying House, a transitional group home, licensed by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care licensing as a Residential Child Care Facility (RCCF) for up to 15 male students and a maximum compliment of eight staff. The focus of the program is to provide students with employment opportunities, restorative community justice, pay restitution, develop independent living skills, practical use of evidence based programming and social skill development, and post secondary education opportunities. Eligible students from a youth correctional facility must receive approval from the Clear Creek County Juvenile Community Review Board prior to placement in the program. These students must have their High School Diploma or General Education Development (GED) and are ready to transition back into the community. Students will work full time, participate in online college classes, perform community service, and participate in the rich recreational and historical activities Clear Creek County has to offer. As a Residential Child Care facility, The Q-House is also eligible to receive direct referrals into the program from the Department of Social Services and the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Probation Department. These students will reside in the program and attend school in the community.

The average length of stay is four to six months based on the individual student's needs. In instances where a student needs additional services, the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) consisting of the Student, ROP Program Manager, ROP Case Manager, Parent(s) or legal guardian, DYC Client Manager or DHS Case Worker and other identified student resources will meet and discuss what is in the best interest of the student.

**Employment:** The Q House students will work in the labor force alongside other adults, and participate in community service activities with other citizens. In addition they will participate in intramural activities through the local recreation center and experience local historic landmarks and tourist attractions. During the day's interactions within the community, students will be able to participate in life experiences while being mentored by employers and staff. Rite of Passage continues to grow and develop partnerships with local businesses to support students working and developing the necessary employment skills and experience. Our employment partners include: McDonalds, Burger King, Jiffy Lube, Big O Tire, Evergreen Car Wash and Detail, Ralph Lauren Polo, Walgreens, Loveland Ski Area, Kitchen Collection, Smash Burger, Safeway, Arby's and Starbucks.

**Community Service/Restorative Justice:** ROP continues to foster community partnerships with local groups and agencies that assist in enhancing the students experience in Clear Creek County. Additionally, the students are able to develop pride in their home, by learning housekeeping and routine maintenance and upkeep of the property. Our community partners include but are not limited to: Young Life, Boy Scouts of America, JROTC, Charlie's Place, Clear Creek County VFW an American Legion, Idaho Springs ELKS Lodge, Clear Creek Open Space Commission, Clear Creek County Public Lands, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado Forest Service, St. Baldrick's Foundation, Loaves and Fishes, United Church, First Baptist Church, City of Idaho Springs, City of Georgetown, Idaho Springs Historical Society, Dumont Historical Society, Rock House, Clear Creek Recreation District, Carlson Elementary School and the Oh My Gawd Rodeo.

**Treatment Groups:** ROP offers a variety of treatment opportunities such as: Pathways Relapse Prevention, Transition and a Positive Skill Development group as part of each student's experience. After completion of Pathway's, AA/NA groups are offered in the community on Wednesday evenings. For individual needs, one on one sessions may be provided by trained facilitators utilizing the following curriculum: Thinking For A Change, Aggression Replacement Training and Victim Impact.

**Post-Secondary Education:** Students are encouraged to pursue higher education opportunities. Staff assist those students, who are interested, in completing the FAFSA paperwork as well as applying for a Passageway Foundation Scholarship through ROP. Additionally, students will have an opportunity to participate in college and/or vocational school tours. Internet capabilities allow students to begin their experience at the school of their choice, within the program.

**Positive Community Impact:** The Q House is committed to providing positive services and opportunities to the community. Q House staff will have two vehicles to transport the 15 students into the community each day to work, and attend or participate in community service activities. (Students do not have their own vehicles.) In accordance to the CDOT Access Permit, and to not create undue traffic congestion, the students will be transported and returned to the program as a group in the two vehicles. Likewise, during

community service projects, we will utilize the vans to transport the maximum number of students at one time.

**Staffing Patterns:** The staffing pattern shows a well-defined chain of command and overlapping shift schedules that permit good supervisor-to-staff ratios and clear direction with good communication across shifts. The Q-House maintains the following staff positions: 1 Program Manager, 1 Case Manager/Group Leader, 1 Group Leader, 2 Coach Counselors, 2 Partime Coach Counselors, and 1 Awake Night Staff. Staff work an “A and B” shift that consists of 3.5 days per week and accompany students continuously throughout their week. This translates into a “shift change” on each Wednesday and staff completing pass over shift change report on Sunday. This shift schedule helps ensure a continuity of care for the students. The Program Manager works a five-two schedule and is on-call seven days per week. In the evening, the Q House employs an Awake Night Staff to monitor each student during sleeping hours. This is a requirement of Child Care licensing guidelines. Additionally, the facility has a security system to notify staff when a door or window has been opened. The security system shall be periodically tested at least semi-annually by an independent company with the results placed on file with the Clear Creek County Planning Department for public inspection.

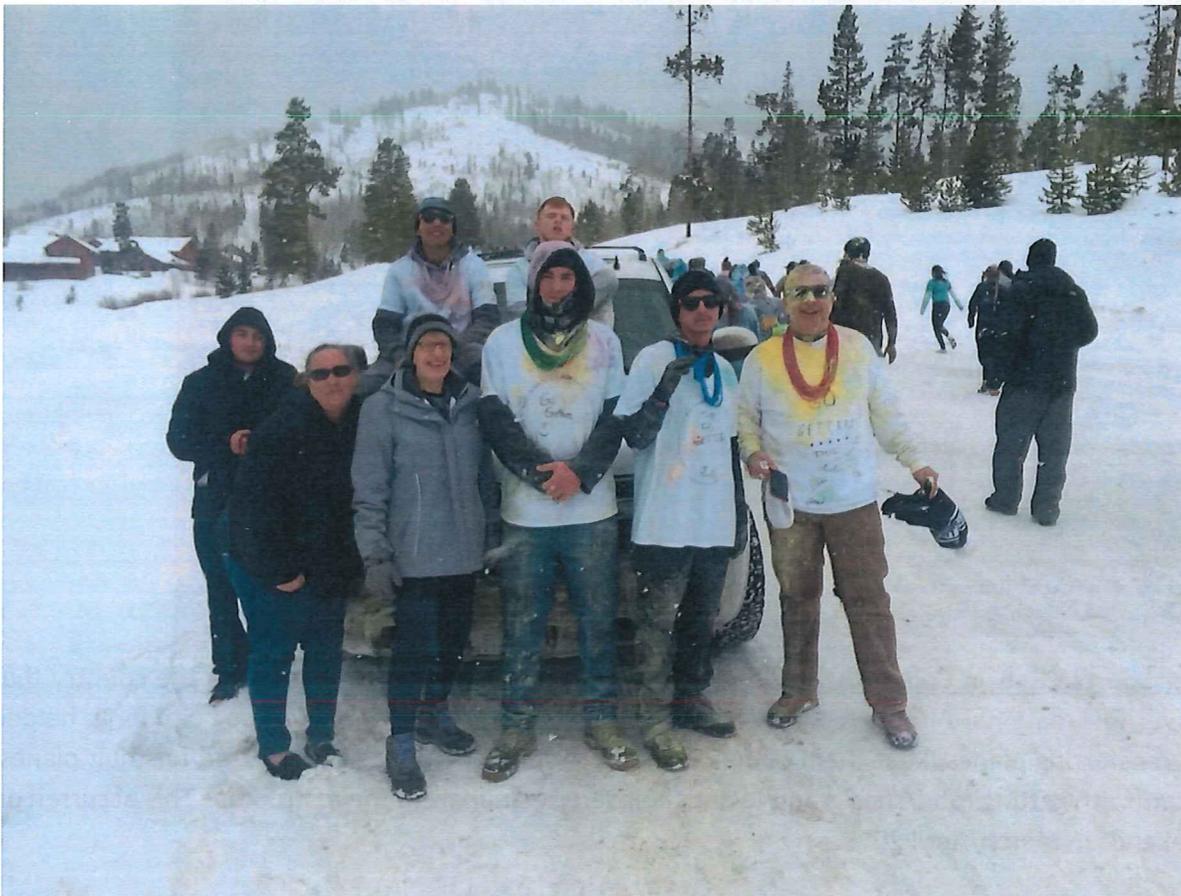
**Daily Schedule:**

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
6:00	Wake Up Breakfast Chores Hygiene	Wake Up Breakfast Chores Hygiene	Wake Up Breakfast Chores Hygiene	Wake Up Breakfast Chores Hygiene	Wake Up Breakfast Chores Hygiene	Wake Up Breakfast Chores Hygiene	
7:00	Walk through Team Meeting Drive to Work	Walk through Team Meeting Drive to Work	Walk through Team Meeting MPE	Walk through Team Meeting Drive to Work	Walk through Team Meeting Drive to Work	Walk through Team Meeting Drive to Work	Wake Up Breakfast Chores Hygiene
8:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Pathways	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Walk through Team Meeting Drive to Project
9:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Charlie's Place / Identified Project
10:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event
11:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event
12:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Lunch Chores	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event

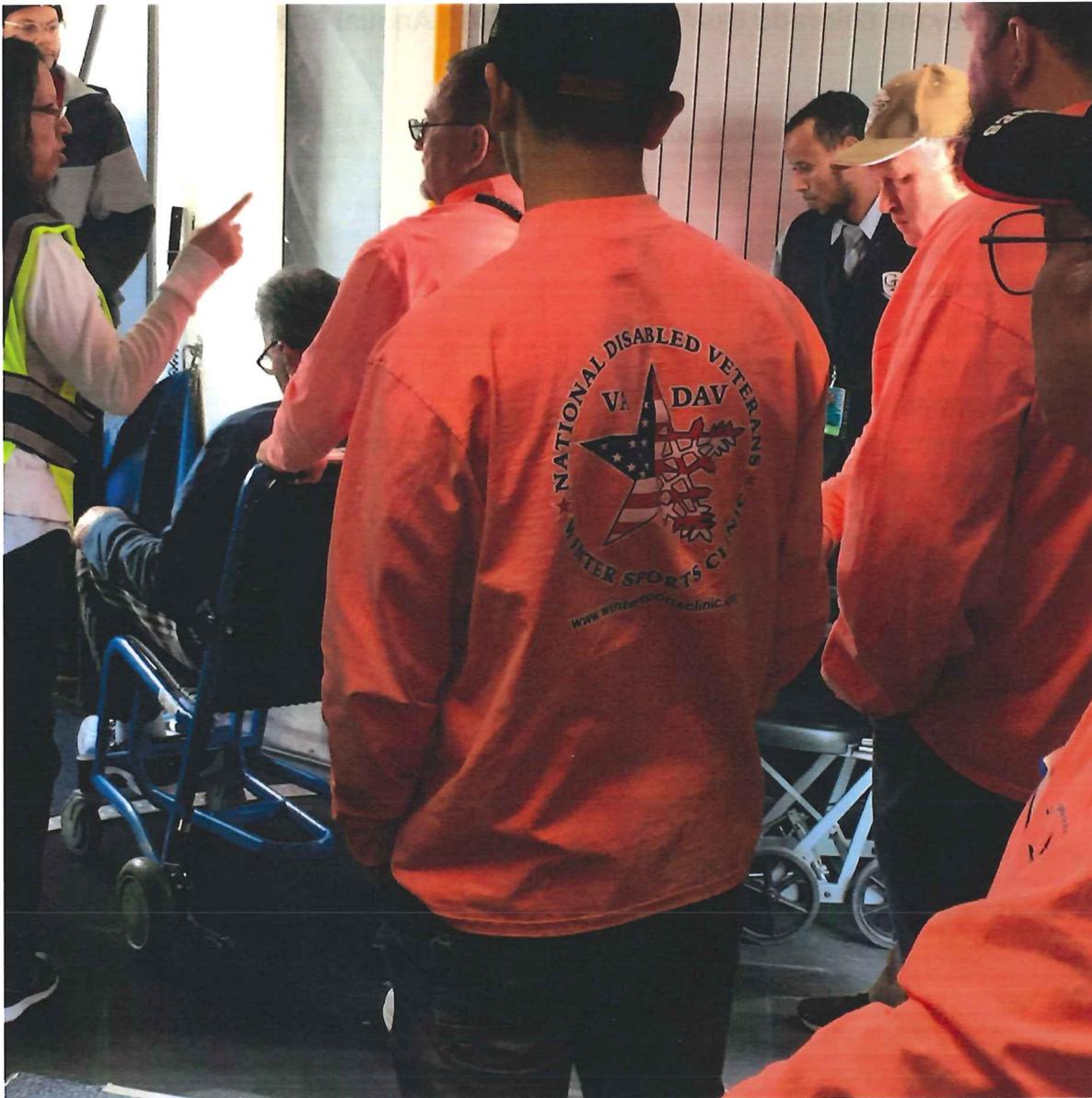
1:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Shift Change	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event
2:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Team Meeting Project / Event	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event
3:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event
4:00	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Employment Education Community service	Project / Event
5:00	Return to Site Meal Leisure Time Chores						
6:00	Cont'd	Cont'd	Cont'd	Cont'd	Cont'd	Hygiene Phone Calls	Hygiene Phone Calls
7:00	Positive Skill Development	Young Life	AA/NA	Venturing / Book Club	Transition Group	RAMS Movie	Values Movie
8:00	Hygiene Phone Calls Team Meeting	RAMS Movie	Values Movie				
9:00	9 In Rooms 9:15 Lights Out 9:45 Block R bed time	9 In Rooms 9:15 Lights Out 9:45 Block R bed time	9 In Rooms 9:15 Lights Out 9:45 Block R bed time	9 In Rooms 9:15 Lights Out 9:45 Block R bed time	9 In Rooms 9:15 Lights Out 9:45 Block R bed time	9 In Rooms 9:15 Lights Out 9:45 Block R bed time	9 In Rooms 9:15 Lights Out 9:45 Block R bed time
10:00	Light Out! No one on tile.						

## Mt. Evans Colorado Qualifying House 2019 Annual Report

- One escape for the year (down from 8 escapes last year)
- No PREA incidents
- No physical managements
- CARF accreditation (awarded 3 years)
- No Child Abuse reports
- \$14,391 paid in restitution
- 15,108 hours of paid work for students
- 1,237 hours of Restorative justice projects
- Continued involvement in the community through RCJ, community events, recreation activities. Below are some of the more significant events/activities:



**Young Life Camp February 2019:** 5 Students and 2 staff (Robyn Hainline and TM Nancy Taylor) and one Young Life leader/mentor attended a 3-day weekend snow camp in Fraser Colorado. Young Life is a Christian Youth organization. Great experience for the students to practice social skills with approximately 500 other high school youth from the Denver Metro area. They also had fun just being kids for a weekend, participating in various games and activities. The picture is after what they call a crud war which is colored flour and shaving cream that they get to throw and spray at each other.



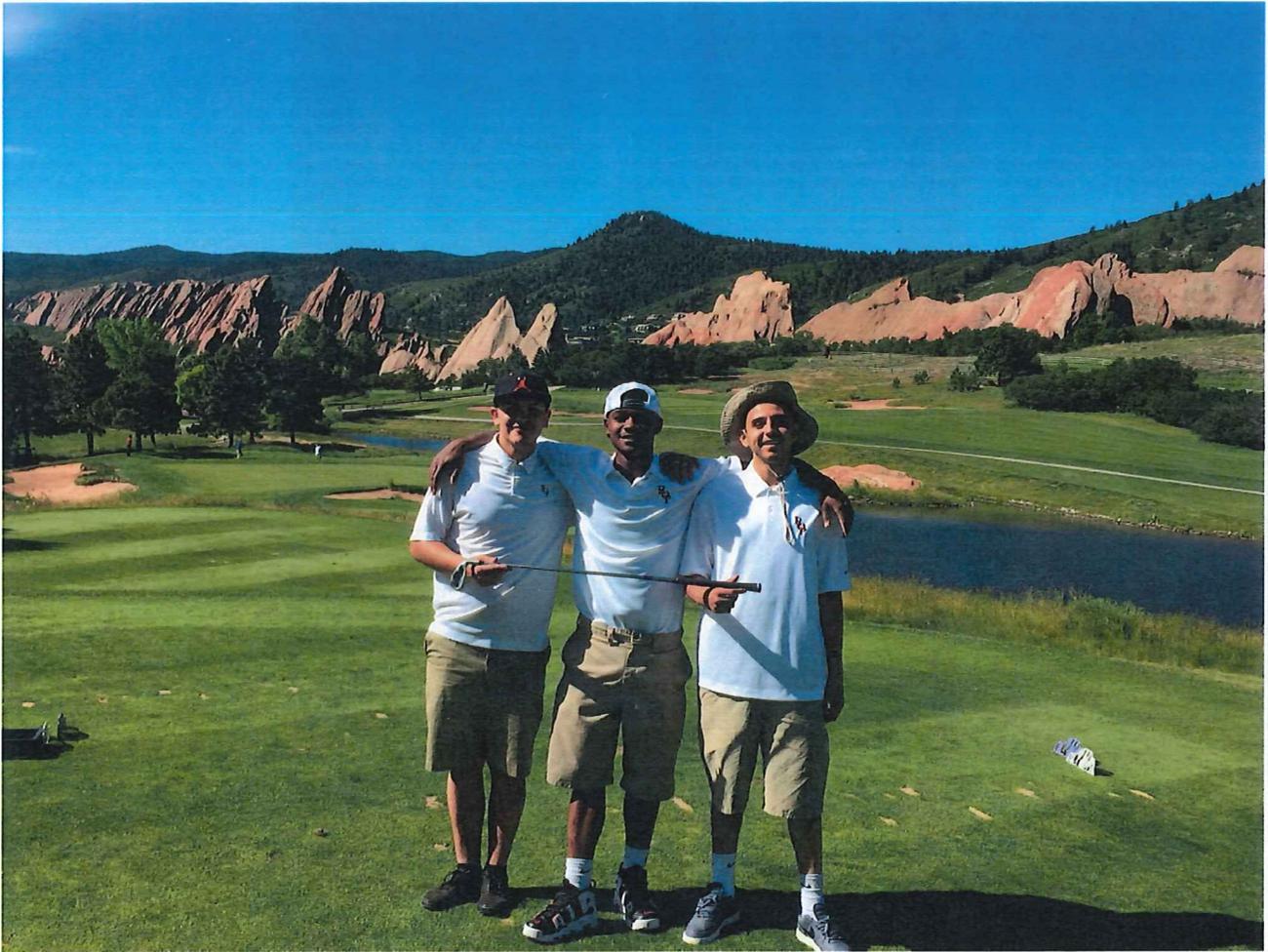
**Veteran Winter Sports Clinic in Colorado:** Students assisted disabled veterans from around the country that flew in to Denver International Airport for a week of adaptive sports in Aspen, Colorado. Students helped veterans with transferring planes, kept them company in a reception area while they waited for their planes, and assisted them with getting food/snacks and taking their service animals to the restrooms. This occurred on 2 separate weekends in March/April 2019.



**St Baldricks event:** This was the 8<sup>th</sup> annual event, held in May 2019. This is an organization that raises money for children's cancer research and treatment. This was originally a student's block R project first done in 2011 and has become an annual tradition. This year some of the participants included 2 females who shaved their heads, 2 of our County Commissioners, the County Sheriff and several local citizens. We raised over \$1,500 during this event.



**Flag Day event:** An annual event in June 2019, that includes partnering with the elementary student summer program – the elementary students were educated about and participated in a flag retirement on Flag Day.



**17<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic benefitting the Roger Allot Student Transition Fund:** 3 of the Q House students participated in the annual golf tournament in June 2019 at the Arrowhead Golf Course in Littleton.



**9/11 annual event in Black Hawk, Colorado:** This event raises money for the Fallen Firefighter's Fund and is a memorial to those lost on 9/11. There is a stair-climbing activity where participants scale the stairs of the Ameristar Casino 4 times. This is symbolic to the number of flights of stairs that fire fighters climbed in the Twin Towers on 9/11. 5 students, one staff, and a volunteer participated in this event this year. Students also learned about those who lost their lives in the tragedy on 9/11 and gained significant insight into victim empathy for what emergency personnel risk daily in their jobs.



STATE OF COLORADO  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD  
DIVISION OF EARLY CARE AND LEARNING  
1575 SHERMAN STREET  
DENVER, COLORADO 80203-1714

## PERMANENT CHILD CARE LICENSE

Provider ID: 1536590

Service Type : RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE FACILITY

MT EVANS QUALIFYING HOUSE  
8810 HIGHWAY 103  
IDAHO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80452

LOCATION:

8810 SCENIC HWY 103  
IDAHO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80452

COUNTY: CLEAR CREEK

License Effective Date: 12-31--471

The licensee must comply at all times with the Child Care Act and the rules and standards of the Department of Human Services. The licensed premises and its records must be available for inspection at all times by the Department of Human Services or its authorized representatives. This license is valid only for the location address listed above and is not transferable to any other person, organization or location. The licensee must surrender this license to the Department of Human Services upon denial, revocation or suspension.

Numbers and ages of children cared for at the licensed premises must not at any time exceed:  
15 children of the age 16 years 0 months to 18 years 0 months

Other conditions and restrictions:

Unique conditions:

Place Stickers Below



ANNIVERSARY DATE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THIS LICENSE MUST BE POSTED IN A PROMINENT LOCATION ON THE LICENSED PREMISES



Dedicated to protecting and improving the health  
and environment of the people of Colorado

Colorado Department of Public  
Health & Environment  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive S.  
Denver, CO 80246

**Child Care Inspection Report**

**Permit ID** 11-CCP99-0012807

**Address** 8810 Chicago Creek Idaho Springs, CO 80452

**Facility DBA** Mt Evans Qualifying House

**Permit Type** Child Day Care Permit

**Total Time** 2.5 hours

**Insp Date** 1/9/2020

**Inspection Type** Routine Inspection

IN = In Compliance OUT = Out of Compliance NO = Not Observed NA = Not Applicable COS = Corrected On-Site During Inspection R = Repeat Violation  
- - - = Not Applicable

DESIGN	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A
3.a Construction Approval						
<b>PREMISES</b>	<b>COS</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
6.a Grounds Maintained						
6.b Grounds Hazards - Critical			✓			
6.c Solid Waste						
6.d Pools, Hot Tubs & Swim Areas - Critical						✓
<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>COS</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
7.a Building Hazards Controlled - Critical				✓		
Corrected On-Site: No Correction Method: Follow-Up						
Comments: 7.7.1.A The building or buildings are not maintained in a clean and sanitary condition and free of insects, rodents and their harborages. Mouse droppings were observed in the corner of the storage room with the chlorinator. Area needs to be cleaned as discussed (no dry sweeping) and monitored for further evidence. Submit verification of correction by 1/19/20.						
7.b Building				✓		
Corrected On-Site: No Correction Method: No Follow-Up Required						
Comments: 7.7.1.C Ventilation is not maintained to minimize health hazards. Temperature throughout building is sufficient (around 70°F) except in the Kiowa Room on second level where it is only 63°F. The room is not currently occupied. The heat in this room must be sufficient prior to occupancy.						
7.c Detached Modular Classrooms						
<b>FACILITIES &amp; CONTROLS</b>	<b>COS</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
8.a Safe Water Supply - Critical			✓			
8.b Water System Design/Testing						
8.c Drinking Water Access - Critical			✓			
8.d Hot Water Supply - Critical			✓			
8.e Sewage - Critical	✓			✓		
Corrected On-Site: Yes Correction Method: No Follow-Up Required						

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Comments: 7.8.2 All sewage is not discharged to the sanitary sewer or a sewage system constructed, maintained and operated according to law. Director reports that mop water is being dumped outside. The facility does not have a utility sink so director agrees to dump mop water either in a shower or a toilet.				✓		
8.f Plumbing				✓		
Corrected On-Site: No    Correction Method: Follow-Up						
Comments: 7.8.3.A Plumbing fixtures are not sized, installed or maintained in accordance with applicable state and local plumbing codes, ordinances, regulations and standards. There were several plumbing fixtures observed not working properly. Specifically, the water tank in the storage room near the kitchen is leaking, the downstairs toilet in bathroom with shower is leaking, two showers on the second level are not working and a sink is broken in one of the upstairs bedrooms. Submit verification of correction within 30 days.						
8.g Toilet Facilities						
8.h Handwashing Access and Supplies - Critical			✓			
8.i Toileting Hygiene - Critical			✓			
8.j Handwashing/Bathing Facilities						
8.k Custodial Areas						
<b>DESIGN</b>						
	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A
9.a Personal Belongings						
9.b Play Equipment						
9.c Napping, Sleeping Areas and Equipment						
9.d Transmission from Common Surfaces - Critical			✓			
9.e Toys, Furnishings & Equipment						
9.f Injured Child Area - Critical			✓			
<b>PREVENTION</b>						
	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A
10.a Personal Health - Critical				✓		
Corrected On-Site: No    Correction Method: Follow-Up						
Comments: 7.10.1.B Official Certificates of Immunization, Official Exemption, or written documentation of In-Process are not on file for each enrolled child. One child's record reviewed was lacking a record of immunization. It is strongly recommend that director obtain access to the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS). Submit verification of correction by 1/19/20.						
10.b Demonstration of Knowledge						
10.c Handwash & Hygienic Practices - Critical	✓			✓		
Corrected On-Site: Yes    Correction Method: No Follow-Up Required						
Comments: 7.10.3.D Hand sanitizer gel or wipes are not stored out of reach of children. Hand sanitizer is stored accessible to children outside the kitchen and on the desk on the main floor. Sanitizer at desk was removed and the container was removed from the dispenser near the kitchen.						
10.d Medication and First Aid - Critical			✓			
10.e Sanitizers - Critical			✓			

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 - - - = Not Applicable

10.f Disinfectants - Critical			✓				
<b>SERVICE</b>	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A	
11.a Adequate Facilities - Critical			✓				
11.b Critical Requirements - Critical				✓			
Corrected On-Site: No    Correction Method: Follow-Up							
Comments: 7.11 Food service operations do not meet the critical requirements of CCR 1010-2, Colorado Retail Food Establishment Rules and Regulations. The director is lacking knowledge on the proper cooking temperatures for animal derived foods. Inspector will send signs for correct temperatures. These requirements need to be reviewed with staff and children who are handling food. Submit verification of correction by 1/19/20.							
11.c Non-Critical Requirements							
11.d Plumbing - Critical			✓				
11.e Ventilation							
11.f Cooking and Holding Equipment							
11.g Refrigeration							
11.h Domestic Equipment							
11.i Operational Requirements - Critical			✓				
<b>PROGRAMS</b>	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A	
12.a Personal Items and Bedding							
12.b Staff Clothing for Infant Care							
12.c Feeding - Critical							✓
12.d Diapering - Critical							✓
<b>OF ANIMALS</b>	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A	
13.a General Care of Animals							
13.b Prohibited Animals - Critical			✓				
13.c Animal Bite Control							
13.d Enclosures							
13.e Child Participation - Critical							✓
13.f Designated Animal Areas							
<b>MATERIALS MANAGEMENT</b>	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A	
14.a Insect and Rodent Control - Critical			✓				
14.b Poisonous or Toxic Materials -Critical			✓				
14.c Art and Science Materials - Critical			✓				
<b>PROCEDURES</b>	COS	R	IN	OUT	NO	N/A	
15.a Critical Enforcement - Critical			✓				
15.b Non-critical enforcement							

### Inspector's Comments

License Recommended Approved  
 Free chlorine measured 1.39 mg/L. Director agrees to continue to test water daily and submit logs monthly. Discussed with director that pesticides may not be applied when children are present. Inspector will send resources on immunization exemptions, food safety, CIIS, and mixing bleach in smaller quantities.



# Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office

405 Argentine Street ★ Post Office Box 2000

Georgetown, Colorado 80444

[www.clearcreeksheriff.us](http://www.clearcreeksheriff.us)

**SHERIFF**

*Rick Albers*

**UNDERSHERIFF**

*Bruce Snelling*

**DETENTIONS  
COMMUNICATIONS  
DIVISION  
CAPTAIN**

*Jeff Smith*

**SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
ADMINISTRATION**

**DIVISION  
CAPTAIN**

*Matt Brown*

**PATROL  
INVESTIGATIONS  
DIVISION  
CAPTAIN**

*Glenn Hardey*

**TRANSPORT  
DIVISION**

*(303) 679-2472*

**RECORDS  
DIVISION**

*(303) 679-2452*

**CIVIL  
DIVISION**

*(303) 679-2376*

**DETENTIONS  
ACCOUNTING**

*(303) 679-2451*

October 13, 2020

Re: Mount Evans Qualifying House (Q-House) – Rite of Passage

To whom it may concern,

As Sheriff of Clear Creek County, and a life-long resident of Clear Creek County, I have had the pleasure of working with the students and the staff of the Mount Evans Qualifying House, both personally and professionally.

For years, the Q-House students have donated their time and provided community assistance to a multitude of local organizations, such as; our local schools, Senior Center, Clear Creek Veterans, Elks Lodge, the Clear Creek/Gilpin Counties Animal Shelter, the Clear Creek County Advocates and the Clear Creek County Government.

The Q-House has made a positive impact on the communities of Clear Creek County, and in turn, has provided the Q-House students a sense of enrichment and belonging.

I fully support the Rite of Passage's proposal for continuing their work with Colorado's youth here at the Mount Evans Qualifying House.

Respectfully,

Rick Albers, Sheriff



John and Karen Hager  
PO Box 1125  
Idaho Springs, CO 80452

October 14, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to recommend Rite of Passage for their special use permit renewal. We have known of the work of this great program for 3 years, especially for the community service they do for the local Veterans Service Organizations.

Rite of Passage is dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk youth through mentoring, education, vocational training and counseling. They build positive relationships, helping youth become assets to their communities, helping them grow and develop into confident young men.

We have had a personal relationship with one of the young men of Rite of Passage who came to work for us once a week. He was a delight and such a hard worker, we couldn't have asked for anyone better.

We see Rite of Passage as an integral asset to this community and we hope to continue our relationship with this outstanding organization. Therefore, we ask that you renew their special use permit.

Sincerely,

John and Karen Hager



Clear Creek County Department of Human Services  
405 Argentine Street  
Post Office Box 2000  
Georgetown, Colorado 80444

Clear Creek County Board of County Commissioners  
Randy Wheelock, Chairman of the Board  
George Marlin, Commissioner  
Sean Wood, Commissioner

October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

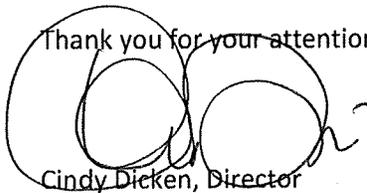
Commissioners,

I am writing requesting you approve the renewal of the "Mount Evans Qualifying House, Rite of Passage" Special Use Permit. After the original permit was issued in 2005 the facility opened in 2006. I watched and listened to many of the residents of Hefferman Gulch, and residents of other parts of our county speak in opposition to the original permit. Their fear of the "unknown", distrust of the owner and the young men who would be living at 8810 Colorado Highway 103 was the focus of many hearings prior to the County Commissioners granting the permit.

Through Troy Erickson's previous leadership and now Robyn Hainline, the young men who have earned the opportunity to become part of the Mount Evans Qualifying House population have subsequently been given another opportunity; to engage in programs and services that provide a stable foundation for ongoing success. Over the years Troy, Robyn and their staff have presented programs and worked with the youth to change antisocial thinking and behavior, and helped the young men learn new prosocial skills, one of which has reverberated through out our communities and become synonymous with these individuals; volunteering. No job has ever been to large, or too small. These young men have been selfless when "hands on help" is needed.

Finally, perhaps the greatest accomplishment for some of these youth is learning self respect. Learning how to treat "yourself" with kindness and compassion and the ability to establish healthy boundaries for how others should treat "you". These programs, this project, has provided the tools necessary to live a good and productive life. Commissioners, there will always be young men who desperately need another opportunity to make changes in their lives, to have one more chance to "get it right". The opportunity is here in Clear Creek County. My request is to approve the renewal of this Special Use Permit. Allow Mount Evans Qualifying House, Rite of Passage programs to continue.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Dicken", is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Cindy Dicken, Director  
Clear Creek County Department of Human Services



September 28 2020

Hello,

My name is Eric Protzman and I have served as a volunteer at the Q House for about 10 years. My role has been as a mentor to more than 100 boys. I represent a Christian ministry, Young Life. We currently serve Clear Creek County at Clear Creek high school, Clear Creek middle school and the Q House.

Over the years we have provided a consistent non-staff presence at the Q House which we believe strengthens the role of Q House staff because the boys recognize we could be denied access but instead we are trusted.

This improves trust with the staff.

Perhaps our most influential activity is our camp at Crooked Creek Ranch, a Young Life property in Fraser, Colorado. Each year Young Life leaders take Q House boys to this camp for either a week or a weekend.

The boys experience an unconditional love and the ability to just be a kid when they are with us. They experience safety and if they can bring themselves to do so, they can trust us. We have had perhaps 10-12 different Volunteer Leaders over this time who have worked successfully with many staff members but most consistently with Robyn Hainline. Robyn has shown a remarkable ability to lead in a challenging constantly evolving situation.

I trust her completely.

We support the Q House and enthusiastically recommend continuing certification in Clear Creek County.

Best regards,

Eric Protzman

Committee Chair and Volunteer Leader

Intermountain Young Life

972-979-0021

Attached are some pictures of our times at Young Life Camp in February 2020



October 2, 2020

The seniors at project support, 1402 Miner St., want to express how much the young men in the Right of Passage program have helped us at the apartments.

The young men have helped with heavy chores, such as moving furniture, mowing the lawn in summer and shoveling the walk in winter. They also help in the kitchen, cleaning up after meals and moping floors. These are chores that we can not do our selves as the average age is 70 years. The young men have always been polite and respectful. The seniors here would have a hard time to find someone to help us like these men do. If the Right of passage program were to leave Idaho Springs, it would leave a big void in the lives of some of our seniors as we have adopted them as our own boys. These young men mean a lot to us.

Joyce {grandma Joyce}

Joyce Maulis  
Brandi Lee Simpson  
Jeanne Glesner  
Boz & Ann  
Michelle Shaw

Lola Barunko





## IDAHO SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Box 907, Idaho Springs CO 80452

303-567-4291 OFC / 303-567-1014 FAX

*Electronically Transmitted Communication*

October 15, 2020

Clear Creek County Commissioners  
Clear Creek County Planning Board Commission Members

To the Esteemed Clear Creek County Commissioners and Planning Commission Members:

Please accept this letter as my endorsement for the renewal of the Rite of Passage Mt. Evans Qualifying House special use permit. One of the first groups I interacted with upon my appointment to Idaho Springs was the "Q House" men. Since that time, I have come to appreciate their unique place in the greater Clear Creek County community and the value of their interactions with members of the residential, commercial and governmental entities.

Their extraction from traditional juvenile corrections programs and placement in the Rite of Passage is an exemplary example of restorative justice aimed at showing young people there are positive options in life. Furthermore, their immersion into community projects provides them exposure to the greater civility of our combined Clear Creek County communities, civility they are often otherwise deprived of in their previous homes and neighborhoods.

Having first hand experience working with these men and their mentors I am grateful for their contributions in cleaning up illegal dump sites, painting graffiti, and participating in an array of special events, but also recognize the positive interactions related to their contributions to our towns and the county. Most of the participants take jobs that would otherwise be difficult to fill. As you know maintaining a viable workforce is one of the largest challenges in Clear Creek County. In engaging in these jobs these teens contribute to the health of our economies and sustaining local businesses while learning responsibility and self discipline.

I believe it is our duty to support these programs. If we divert even a percentage of these young men from prison, we are making an effort to give them their best chance at a successful life.

Sincerely,

Christian J. Malanka, MSCJ  
Chief of Police





**CLEAR CREEK COUNTY GOVERNMENT**  
**405 ARGENTINE STREET, P.O. BOX 2000**  
**GEORGETOWN, CO 80444**  
[WWW.CLEARCREEKCOUNTY.US](http://WWW.CLEARCREEKCOUNTY.US)

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October 15, 2020

Robyn Hainline  
Mount Evans Qualifying House/Rite of Passage  
Highway 103  
Idaho Springs, CO 80452

Dear Robyn and "Q-House" Team:

Please accept this letter of support for your organization, the Mount Evans Qualifying House/Rite of Passage, on the renewal of your County special use permit.

It has been an honor to work with the students from the Q-House on several projects across the community. The boys and staff teams have helped me, personally, with multiple projects in the past 10+ years including the Slacker Races, Clear Creek Metropolitan Recreation District events, Town of Georgetown Parks & Recreation events, and the Canine on the Creek fundraiser for the animal shelter, just to name a few.

The students originate from a variety of backgrounds and even if they had no idea what they were in for, they proceeded to ask questions, jump in to fill gaps in service, and present in a friendly manner to those with whom they worked or served. I can only imagine the journey their life has been and to evolve to the level of the Q House has to provide some level of satisfaction and fulfillment for them.

Ever since the initiation of the program in Clear Creek County, I have witnessed their efforts and contribution to our small rural community. If there is any local event involving the public, you will see them. If there are any struggling nonprofits, you will see them there volunteering and helping out. No doubt, it is difficult to encourage any teenager to give of their time and effort, but still they show up and continue to give.

The Q-House program teaches the basic foundational life skills of living and contributing back to your community. It is a skill I wish was in every school across the country. I have to believe it reduces recidivism and provides these young men with a new view of life resulting in a new outlook and most of all, hope.

Respectfully, I would hope the special use permit review committee gives your application their full and positive consideration of approval. Thank you for all you have done for our community and I look forward to seeing your team at the next event! Best of luck to you!

Gratefully,

Beth Luther, Operations Admin, CAP  
Clear Creek County Government

*Additional relevant experience:*

- *Georgetown Parks & Recreation Commission, 2008-present*
- *Clear Creek Metropolitan Recreation District Board of Directors, 2010-2020*
- *Slacker Races, Race Director, 2001 to present*
- *Community Volunteer, 1995 to present*

Clear Creek School District  
320 Chicago Creek Rd, CO Hwy 103  
Idaho Springs, CO 80452



October 15, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to write this letter of support for the Mount Evans Qualifying House (Q House). I am a relatively new member of the Community Review Board for the house; I joined the board just under one year ago. During this time, I have been continually impressed with the dedication and professionalism of the staff. Further, the opportunities provided by the Q House to the youth who are accepted into the program are life changing.

Every child deserves the best experiences and environments growing up. Yet we know that some childhoods bring heavier loads and bigger challenges. Many of the youth who are supported at the Q House have navigated difficult situations, have lived through significantly traumatizing experiences, and have been faced with difficult choices. The youth who are accepted into the Q House need the support and guidance the program provides. They need the opportunity to turn their life around. They benefit from the small residential environment in the mountains. They benefit from the tight knit community and work opportunities provided by Clear Creek.

Because the residents of Q House are able to secure work and earn a wage, they provide a service to the community and help the local economy. They also gain valuable experience and skills that will help them become independent. Periodically, they volunteer and provide important help to others in our community. The Q House is a benefit to Clear Creek County and models what we believe: every person has value and brings value to the greater good of the community.

As the leader of the school district, I am thrilled to support the Q House. I am honored to have a small part in the success of the youth who deserve everything we can provide as a community.

Warmly,  
Karen Quanbeck  
Superintendent & Lead Learner  
Clear Creek School District



PO Box 43  
Dumont, CO 80436  
October 15, 2020

Board of County Commissioners  
Clear Creek County  
PO Box 2000  
Georgetown, CO 80444

RE: Renewal of Special Use Permit – Mt. Evans Qualifying House

Dear Gentlemen:

My name is Troy Erickson and I am the former Program Manager for this program. While there, I enjoyed a working relationship with the current Program Manager, Robyn Hainline as she was our Case Manager. When I transitioned away from Rite Of Passage, I was excited to see the company place their confidence and faith in Robyn to lead this program forward.

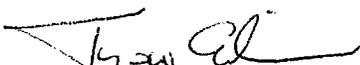
As a the County Veterans Service Officer, I continue to engage the youth and staff in this program on a weekly basis. Sometimes it is to request project assistance and other times it takes on a more social role. I also represent the Department of Human Services on the Juvenile Community Review Board.

Given my past role in the Q-House and with my many aspects of reviewing the youth before they are approved for placement and then working alongside them in the community provides me a unique insight to the program and how is it is managed and the effects it has on the youth.

I am proud to say that very little has changed in the time that Ms. Hainline has been running the program. She continues to lead the Q-House, Staff and Students with integrity and vision along with expectations and accountability. Their participation in our community continues on a service and recreation level all while providing a safe and structured atmosphere for these young men to process their options, make choices and continue to grow in to productive members of society.

I strongly encourage you to approve the renewal for the Special Use Permit and continue to support the best step down program for young men in the State of Colorado. The Q-House is just not a program, with its home here in Clear Creek County, employment options, service projects within the community and the many recreational and social opportunities are an experience for these young men to be able to holistically enjoy and realize how much life has to offer.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Troy Erickson

