



## **Wilderness Therapy Program Questions (Parents)**

### **Admissions**

- What are your admission criteria?
- Who reviews my child's application? What are their credentials?
- What are the costs? What does this cost cover?
- Are there additional costs? If so, what are they?
- How long will the admissions process take?
- When should we plan to admit him?
- How will my son get to your program? Do you recommend transport?
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### **Licensing and Accreditation**

- Are you licensed by the State? What type of license is it? What State office issued the license?
- What are the credentials of the staff that will be working with my child? Specifically the credentials of the counselors and/or therapists. Are they certified? Licensed within your State?
- What organizations are you affiliated with?

### **Therapeutic Model/Clinical**

- Will my child be receiving clinical therapy? How often?
- What will be expected of the parents during the program?
- Do you provide family therapy?
- Do you provide group therapy? If so, who facilitates it? Are there specific group therapies offered? (i.e. adoption issues, drug/alcohol abuse, etc.)
- How is my child's progress judged? Who participates in determining my child's progress?
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### **Academics**

- Can you explain about the academic curriculum in Wilderness? What kinds of course work would my son be doing?

## **Medication**

- Can my child be on medication while at your facility?
- My son is not currently on medication. Will medication be prescribed?
- Who is responsible for the medication management? His/her credentials?
- Where is the medication stored? Who has access to the medication?
- Who administers the medication? What is their training?

## **Direct Care Staff**

- What type of training is provided to your Field Staff? How many field staff do you have with each group?
- What are their duties and qualifications?
- Do you perform background checks? Who does the background check? How extensive is it?
- Do you provide on-going training for your staff?

## **Risk Management**

- What measures do you have in place to keep my child safe?
- What are your discipline procedures with resistant students?
- How do you deal with risk-taking behaviors? (i.e. running away, self-harm, etc.)
- Will my child be exposed to other students that have more negative behaviors?
- What if my child becomes ill? Will you transport my child to medical facilities?

## **Questions for Specific Program Types**

- Short Term Outdoor/Wilderness Program
  - How do you handle severe weather?
  - How do you handle emergencies?
  - What type of food do you provide?
  - How do you manage personal hygiene?
  - Will I be able to write and receive letters?
  - Will I be able to participate in a family seminar or visit to the field at any time during his stay?
  - What about family support groups?
  - How will I keep up with his progress? Will you send me pictures?
  - What kinds of things do I send with him? Clothes? Can he bring pictures or a camera?
  - Can you describe a typical day?

## **Success Rate / Outcomes**

- What is your success rate?
- Do you administer an outcome study? If so, what is that data?
- Do you have students return to your program?