



developmentally
focused

family involved

relationship based

trauma informed

competence centred

ecologically oriented

CARE and COA milestones

Ranch Ehrlo Society is seeking to obtain two important milestones this year. The CARE certification is scheduled for June, and the Council on Accreditation (COA) accreditation for the end of November.

What is the difference between the two?

According to Karl Mack, director of child and youth development and the CARE lead at the agency, CARE is a model that has been developed which is distinct to group living environments like Ranch Ehrlo to ensure program participants have positive outcomes, while COA is a set of best practice standards that have been developed by the industry.

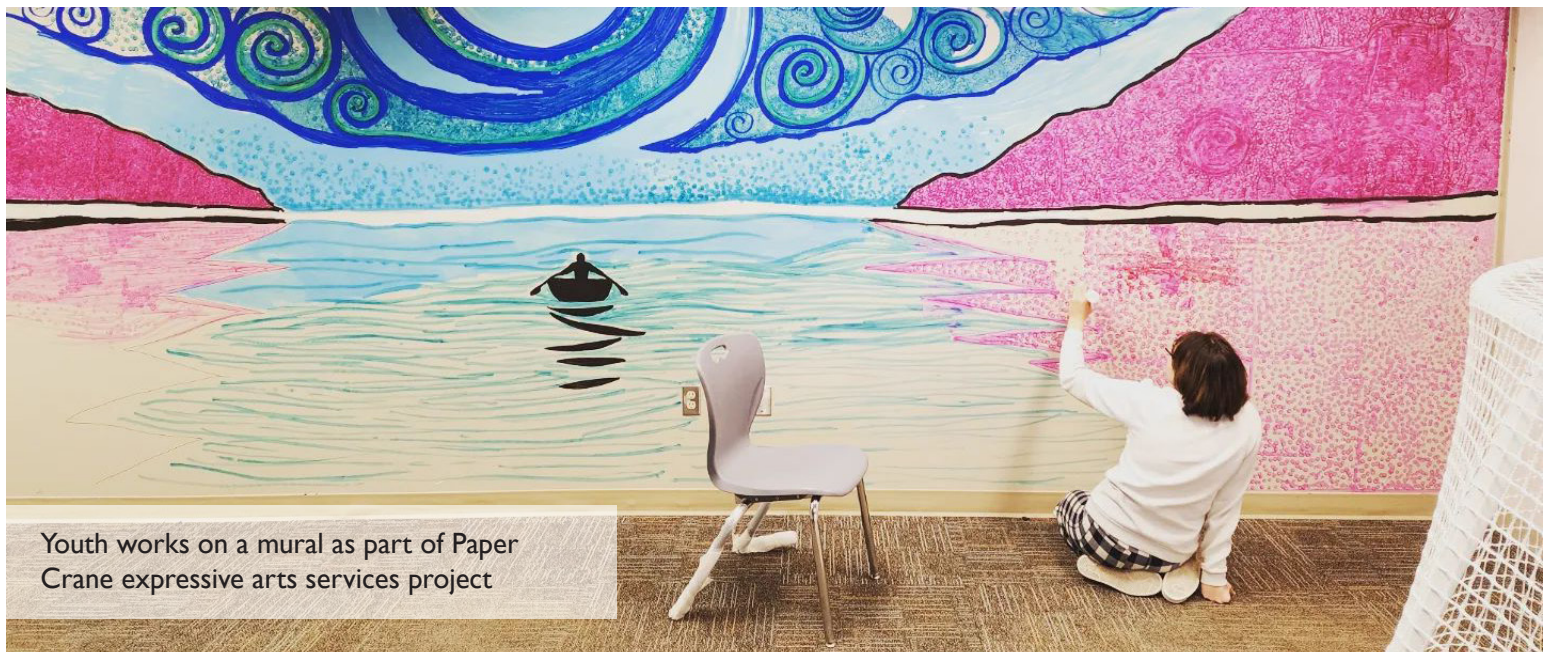
David Rivers, vice-president of clinical services added, “CARE is a framework for practice with participants while COA accreditation signifies

that every aspect of the agency meets administrative, management, and service standards.”

The final step for both the CARE certification and the COA accreditation will have representatives visit the Ranch in person to review our processes and have discussions with our staff and participants.

Representatives from Cornell University will visit the Ranch in June as the final step in the CARE certification process.

COA representatives will attend the Ranch



Youth works on a mural as part of Paper Crane expressive arts services project

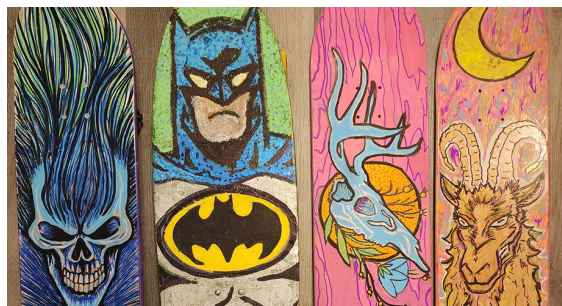
in the fall as a part of the accreditation process.

Ranch Ehrlo has been successfully accredited since 1977. It is the only COA accredited organization in Saskatchewan.

Currently, there are only two CARE certified organizations in Canada. Ranch Ehrlo hopes to be the third this year. There are only 15 organizations worldwide that have achieved certification.

Another similarity that COA and CARE share is that they both make Ranch Ehrlo better. We strongly believe that adhering to best practices and continual evaluation helps us strengthen our services for the young people, adults, and families we serve.

Expressive and functional art



Participants at Paper Crane have been hard at work using a new medium that is both artistic and functional.

Paper Crane is an expressive arts service at Ranch Ehrlo that helps participants to express their thoughts and feelings and promotes their personal growth and healing.

The group is currently creating art using old skateboards.

The idea came from Schaller Education Centre teacher Josh Hughes and former teacher Nolan Malbeuf, who started painting their own skateboards last summer. They lent unpainted boards to Dustin Ritter, art

facilitator for Paper Crane, so participants could experiment.

People in the community have also donated some old boards. Dustin and the participants refurbished them, and they're now being painted. So far the group has 10 boards painted.

“Working on skateboards has been very exciting for the participants because working on a functional piece of art they might be able to take home and use one day adds extra incentive into putting in more effort and creating better artwork,” Ritter explained.

He went on to say that they don't have enough skateboards for everyone yet and they are looking for community donations. If you would like to donate a skateboard to the project, please email dustin.ritter@ranchehrlo.ca.

Paper Crane plans to raffle off the finished skateboards to the participants sometime in the spring.

Naming ceremony anniversary feast

Ehrlo Counselling Services (Thundering Buffalo Lodge) conducted their second-year feast in honour of the naming ceremony that took place one year ago.

Sauteaux Elder Alvin Kequahtoway from Sakamay First Nation received tobacco and much gratitude for his blessings and traditional knowledge. Prayers and singing were imparted for a good life, protection, and to facilitate good communication with the spirit world.

“Together staff and others feasted for their names that were given to them a year ago,”
- Shelley Tamaki, registered psychologist and event organizer

“Together staff and others feasted for their names that were given to them a year ago. Their Indigenous spirit names help with understanding who one is in creation, helps one to have balance and lead a good life, know where one belongs, where one comes from, and where one is going in creation,” explained Shelley Tamaki, registered psychologist and event organizer.

Special guest, MLA Nicole Sarauer, participated again this year. Special thanks to Jamie Lerat, Ranch Ehrlo's Indigenous advisor, for her consultation and participation.

“In my opinion, in the spirit of reconciliation and “learning in action” - the Indigenous world view, participation in ceremony is the most effective and beautiful way to gain knowledge and understanding of Indigenous culture,” Tamaki added.

Cookie campaign for Sport Venture



Gloria Patrick, ESV manager, Natalie Huber, Ranch CEO and local Tim Horton owners

The Tim Hortons Holiday Smile Cookie campaign was a success! Thank you to everyone who came together as a community to share holiday treats in workplaces, healthcare spaces, classrooms, and everywhere in between.

A total of \$66,997.87 was raised for Ehrlo Sport Venture (ESV) through the sale of these cookies at Tim Hortons stores in Regina, Balgonie, Emerald Park, and Indian Head.

“We are grateful to the local owners who were fully committed to the campaign, invited us into their stores to promote the cookies, and for their belief in the power of sport,” stated Gloria Patrick, Ehrlo Sport Venture manager. “And of course, we are grateful to everyone in the community who purchased a cookie!”

We would also like to thank all of our community partners who helped with the campaign including the Regina Pats Hockey Club, the Regina City Police Service, the Saskatchewan Roughriders, and Play92 Regina.

A day in the life of our staff

The following stories are part of an ongoing series about a day in the life of staff in various positions and locations at Ranch Ehrlo Society.



Houseparent

Andrew Brown is the housefather for Alex Guy House on Ranch Ehrlo's Buckland campus outside of Prince Albert. Brown works Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and handles running the household in

“For someone who likes to help people and wants people to have a better life this is the place to work,
- Andrew Brown, housefather”

the group home.

When he arrives at Alex Guy, he checks in with the night staff for any updates. Then he begins to make the youths' lunches. Sometimes it's a hot lunch. Sometimes it's sandwiches. He likes to give the youth variety, so they don't get bored.

Then it's time to wake up everyone and prepare breakfast.

Brown said he uses this time to get to know the participants and their individual personalities. “I only get two hours with them every day. I really look forward to the days they're off from school so I can spend eight hours with them,” he said with a smile.

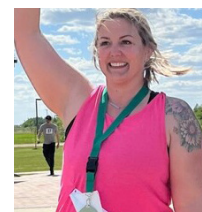
He goes grocery shopping after everyone is at school. Then back home to prep for supper, and the evening snacks. He usually prepares everything, so the staff only serve it.

Brown loves when the youth want to help in the kitchen. He encourages all the participants to suggest recipes they would like to have, and sometimes they want to help make something.

“I love my job at the Ranch. I'll be doing something, and one of the youth will ask if I want to play a game, then suddenly I'm getting paid to play baseball,” he said.

His advice for anyone thinking about working at the Ranch is to be energetic and have fun.

“For someone who likes to help people and wants people to have a better life this is the place to work,” he said.



Unit manager

Life is very busy but rewarding for Sarah Ovens, program manager at Frank May House at the Corman Park campus just outside of Saskatoon.

Email carole.bryant@ranchehrlo.ca to sign up.

"I love my job. I'm excited to come to work every day," she said.

Team meetings are also a big part of her job. She meets with the house staff which consists of youth care workers, youth care leaders, and the houseparent. Another member of the house's team she meets with regularly is the caseworker. The caseworker is a registered therapist that is responsible for the clinical treatment of the participants.

Ovens oversees a 10-bed group home of young people, so a large majority of her job revolves around ensuring the youth have everything they need to be successful in treatment. She ensures their daily calendars have all their appointments and activities scheduled and she sets aside time each day to spend with them between school and their various activities.

Ovens thinks there is an advantage to working at the Corman Park campus. "It's a small campus, so we all know each other. I am secure in the knowledge that all our staff are top-notch," she said.

She said she really likes working at Corman Park because she thinks it's a great place to work. She explained there are a lot of really fun and positive people.

Working in direct care means that every day is different. She said that she would tell a new program manager to not get too attached to their schedule because things can change very quickly. That's the exciting nature of direct care work.

Ovens said, "I think a really important part of it is regardless of what position you're in you can be a leader, and that comes from having a positive attitude and working at being consistent and reliable. Great things can happen if you do those things."

Corman Park tour



Ranch Ehrlo staff recently welcomed Ms. Kelly Block, member of Parliament for Carlton Trail - Eagle Creek for a tour of our Corman Park campus. The tour started at Ellen Gunn Education Centre. Here she is in Welke House with Cam, the unit manager.

Pie swap



Lee House recently had its eyes on the pies as they took part in the 1st annual pie swap. Youth at the home spent multiple days choosing a pie to make, shopping for the ingredients, and baking the pies. After all that work, the youth packaged the pies and delivered them to other Ranch homes.

Paper hearts



Thank you Boston Pizza Emerald Park for choosing Ranch Ehrlo Society as your charity of choice during their annual February paper heart fundraiser. Every paper heart was a \$2 donation to Ranch Ehrlo.

Jubilee medal



Staff members Gloria Patrick and Kathy Simard were recently awarded a Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal for their work in the community.

New experience



A youth who has been doing very well at school and in her program at the Ranch was recently treated to her first concert. Staff members Jenny (l) and Jennifer (r) worked together to take the youth to a Kane Brown concert after first getting her hair and makeup done. The youth was very excited and had an excellent time.