



Ranch Ehrlo Society

developmentally
focused

family involved

relationship based

trauma informed

competence centred

ecologically oriented

CARE certification achieved!

Ranch Ehrlo Society is officially CARE certified!

“I am so proud to work at Ranch Ehrlo, and I am so proud and grateful to the staff at all levels of the agency for their focus and commitment to implementing CARE these past six years,” stated Natalie Huber, Ranch Ehrlo CEO.

We are guided by the CARE model, which is a multilevel program aimed at improving the services for participants in care, based on six guiding principles (listed above).

Ranch Ehrlo Society implemented CARE in 2017. Everyone at the agency

has been including CARE in our daily working lives and working towards the certification since then and can share in the accomplishment. The CARE certification team was here in June for the certification process.

“Congratulations to you and your team at Ranch Ehrlo for successfully completing the CARE certification process. Ranch Ehrlo sets a standard of care that is an exemplar in the field,” said Martha Holden, director of the Residential Child Care Project with Cornell University.



Ranch leadership with CARE certifiers (L to r starting with the back row) Dr. Karl Mack, Anton Smith - CARE certifier, Malcolm Neill, David Rivers, Natalie Huber, Belinda Mayfield - CARE certifier, Carole Bryant, Shelley Reddekopp

Ranch Ehrlo is now one of only 16 organizations worldwide that have achieved CARE certification. We are the third organization in Canada to achieve CARE certification, and the first in Saskatchewan.

Huber added, “The achievement of this CARE certification is another step in our journey to provide the best possible care to our participants.”

She went on to state that the Ranch believes that quality improvement, including CARE, is an ongoing process but that this is an important milestone to celebrate.

They did it

Ranch Ehrlo has three high school graduates this year!

*Pricilla and *Mary live at Matheson House in Prince Albert. They faced some challenges along the way in their education journey, but they persevered. Pricilla even won an award for the highest mark in a subject!

“She came home with the award, and we were all surprised and so proud of her. She was so excited,” said Candace Carriere, Matheson youth care leader.

Mary has significant social anxiety, so the staff were surprised when she chose to go to the largest school in the city. She worked through her anxiety to succeed!

Both girls are interested in cosmetology. Mary has been accepted into hair styling school, and she is thrilled to be starting in a few weeks. Pricilla is enjoying being done with school for now. They are both learning some life skills to prepare them for independence.

*Danny is a participant at MacKay House in Regina. He said he’s very excited about his accomplishment.

“I didn’t think I could do it (graduate). I was

having a hard time with assignments,” he said and added that he has had plenty of encouragement. “There were a lot of people behind me telling me I could do it, so I worked really hard, and I did it.”

He plans to take a break and work for a bit before he goes back to school to be a chef!

**Names changed for privacy*

Cornerbacking life

Ian Seesequon is living the dream. The former Ranch youth was just selected to be the cornerback for a Western junior football team! The team scouted him from Saskatchewan and invited him to their camp to try out for the team.

Seesequon has been playing football since he was 11 years old. He started playing at the urging of his parents and found that he loved it.

“I feel like myself when I’m playing football. It makes up who I am as a person, and it makes me feel confident and strong,” he revealed.

He has played on several Regina teams over the years and in the spring league.

Seesequon lived at Ranch Ehrlo for almost five years and left about a year ago. He feels that the Ranch helped him immensely. “It changed my life. It gave me a better outlook on life and let me choose a path to success. I had a real sense of belonging when I was there,” he explained.

He is excited about the opportunity to live his dream of playing semiprofessional football.

Special guest at soccer wrap up



As the Ehrlo Soccer League wound up this year, they welcomed some very important guests to the final practice to give a special presentation to Ehrlo Sport Venture (ESV). Saskatchewan’s Lieutenant

Governor, the Honourable Russ Mirasty, along with his wife, presented a FIFA soccer ball to ESV.

The ball was a gift from Consul General Janbaz Khan of Pakistan to

Canada. Khan explained that the official Adidas FIFA ball was produced in Pakistan and was from the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

The Lieutenant Governor shared that he believed ESV was an excellent organization to benefit from the gift of the special soccer ball. During the evening, their Honours visited with the players and families, and helped with the players' medal distribution at the end of the practices.

"It was a privilege to have the Lieutenant Governor and Her Honour attend our soccer wind-up," said Gloria Patrick, ESV manager, "Having support from dignitaries helps to build community awareness and allows for meaningful participation in our programs. We are grateful for the time they spent with our participants and for their donation - it's an amazing story for us to tell!"

Ranch Ehrlo Society board members David Hedlund, Peter Hoffmann, and board chair Dr. Louise Greenberg along with Ranch Ehrlo CEO Natalie Huber were also in attendance.

Welcoming our new director



Our most northern campus is now under new leadership. Barclay Batiuk started his position as northern director of Group Living Services for Prince Albert and the Buckland campus in July. He replaced Kevin Mugford who retired in December.

Barclay was most recently the principal at Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division. Growing up in Prince Albert and

raising two children has aided him in developing strong connections to the community.

"Barclay has displayed exemplary leadership as a high school and elementary principal for the last eight years. When speaking with those who know Barclay, it was clear that because of his many strengths, he was sought after and invited to serve on various initiatives and committees with a mission of seeing enhancements," explained Pam Dmytriw, vice-president of group living services.

Barclay has been involved with the Ministry of Education's Leading to Learn initiative that deals with anti-oppressive and anti-racist behaviour impacting First Nations, Inuit, and Metis student outcomes.

Dmytriw added, "We believe this work will support the focus Ranch programs have on ensuring environments are responsive to the needs of youth."

"I have spent all of my career in education. Over time, my philosophy of building relationships with students, families, and staff has become

part of my fabric and to what I attribute much of my success. As a lifelong learner, I look forward to my next professional challenge," explained Barclay when asked his reason for joining the Ranch.

First family advisory meeting

The first meeting of the Group Living Services Family Advisory Committee was held in late June, and it was a great success!

While family involvement has always been an integral part of a participant's treatment program, the agency took the next step to establish a structured family advisory committee. The goal was for the family members to provide input to Ranch Ehrlo's board of directors, leadership team, and all levels of the organization on how the Ranch may be able to improve.

Karl Mack, director of child and youth care worker development, and one of the staff leads on the committee said, "It was an absolutely delightful experience. The families were open and honest with us because we approached them with respect and acceptance. We had a robust and meaningful discussion."

The families were made up of parents, grandparents, and siblings of Ranch Ehrlo participants. They expressed their appreciation of the Ranch's Group Living Services and specialized education program and felt reassured that the agency will work with the participants to help them succeed.

There were family members on the committee representing participants in Regina, Pilot Butte, Corman Park, Buckland, and Prince Albert. Ranch Ehrlo Society staff are looking forward to the next Family Advisory Committee meeting in a few months. There will be quarterly meetings to continue this important work.

Artistic expression



Lee House has been making its property brighter with a new project. They have been painting the fence in the backyard with colourful images of animals and nature.

Michael Torrie,
program manager,

said, "What an amazing project for our youth and Lee House as a whole! This project has really encapsulated positive programming and what we strive for at Ranch Ehrlo. The activity of painting the fence really gives literally a blank canvas for the youth to express themselves creatively."

"It not only is a daily reminder of the positive work that we are accomplishing at Ranch Ehrlo, but it also shows our community that we are here, and we are proud to be here, and we want to have a positive impact for our community," Torrie concluded.

Thank you to our sponsors and donors

Thank you to all our incredible donors and sponsors who helped Ranch Ehrlo in the past two months:

Shelley Tamaki \$1,000 donation

KLM Ventures LTD \$15,000 donation

Childrens Aid Foundation-\$15,000 Back to the Land grant

SaskTel \$3,000 sponsorship for our Awards Night events

Anonymous Donor at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation-\$50,000 for pro-bono Ehrlo Counselling

Music concert



The music therapy program held a concert performed by participants from the Supported Living Program in July. Hits including "Mama Mia," "Firework," and "Yummy yummy yummy" were performed to enthusiastic applause.

Loving language



Fifteen staff from two Ehrlo Early Learning Centres attended training to learn different support strategies for helping children with their language development. The training course was called "Learning Language and Loving It."

Tenant appreciation



Ehrlo Housing held its annual tenant appreciation barbecue in June. Tenants from McEwan Manor and Chaz Court joined the tenants at the Lakeshore Village to enjoy the food and camaraderie. Ehrlo Housing provides affordable housing to low-income families, individuals with enduring mental health conditions, and young people transitioning from care.

Dazzling donation



When student Grady was given a class project to raise funds for a non-profit program, he delivered dazzling results!

Grady decided to support Ehrlo Sport Venture because he loves hockey himself and knew that he could help kids who didn't have access to the sport. Grady's mom, Deena, helped him learn to make and sell earrings, raising a total of \$170!

Gloria Patrick, Ehrlo Sport Venture program manager remarked, "We are thankful for Grady's hard work and ingenuity in developing this project which led to his donation. Grady is an incredible youth ambassador, and we look forward to seeing his business grow!"