



# AURORA CENTER FOR HEALING

RESTORING HOPE  A NEW BEGINNING

# Our Experienced Leadership Team



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- McKaye Treanor, Founder and Admissions Director
- JayDee Porras-Grant, Executive Director
- Dr. Paula Lockhart, Medical Director and Psychologist
- Susan Bauman, Psychiatric APRN



Over 100 Years of Combined Treatment Experience

Earning our CARF Accreditation in the top 3% of all programs surveyed  
internationally

# Our Why

- Provide hard-to-place youth with high-quality, compassionate care
- Serve underserved youth
- Contribute to Nevada's behavioral health continuum of care
- Reduce the rate of residential treatment recidivism
- Heal generational trauma, Heal Families



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# Who We Are



- Secure, 60 bed psychiatric residential treatment center in Mineral County, Nevada.
- Providing developmentally aware, trauma responsive care for teens ages 12-17.
- Practicing an attuned, relationship based model of treatment
- Facilitating boundaries, structure, support, and compassion to help our students feel safe, gain confidence, and begin to heal and re-engage with their families and communities in positive ways.
- Specialize in working with students in need of sub-acute care.



# Our Students



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Prior to enrolling with us, our students have experienced trauma in their lives, and have developed maladaptive behaviors and coping skills in response to their traumatic experiences.

## Diagnosis we treat include:

- PTSD
- Mood disorders
- Attachment disorders
- ADHD
- Oppositional defiant disorder
- Conduct disorder
- Executive functioning disorder
- Specific learning disabilities
- Parent-child relational disorder
- FASD

## Common Maladaptive Coping Skills

- Substance abuse
- Aggression against people and/or property
- School refusal
- Theft
- Lying
- Codependent relationships
- Gaming and online addictions
- Struggles with friendships and familial relationships
- Running away
- Self-harm
- Suicidal ideation and attempts
- Risky sexual behaviors



# Program Offerings



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## Student Amenities Include:

- Spacious dorms
- Sensory Centers
- 50,000 square foot grass field
- School
- Cafeteria
- Basketball courts & Track
- Rec Room
- Stabilization Dorms
- Medical Center



## Specific Services Provided

- Person-Centered Individual Treatment Plan
- Therapy - Weekly Individual, Group, & Family
- Weekly Psychiatry Visits & Intensive Medication Management
- Individualized Academics
- Skills Groups
- Meditation and Mindfulness
- Service Opportunities
- Student Jobs
- Student Leadership
- Art
- Sports
- Outdoor Adventure
- Community Involvement
- Prevocational Training

# Aurora Phase System



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## Phase 1 – Orientation

**Responsibilities** – Students are expected to complete their orientation to the program, accept responsibility for themselves and their behavior, and to abide by program rules and listen to staff prompts.

- Keep Personal Space Clean
- Must Obey Staff Instructions and Program Rules
- Must sit in assigned space and seats and line up with dorm to walk anywhere
- Complete Assigned Dorm Chores
- Shower Daily
- Use Deodorant Daily
- Attend School Daily
- Attend Individual Therapy Sessions
- Attend Group Therapy Sessions
- Attend Family Therapy Sessions
- Participate in Exercise Daily
- Participate in Skills Night Daily
- Complete Orientation Packet

## Privileges

- May attend all single gender on-campus activities when earned an advancement point
- May listen to Aurora-owned music with Aurora-Owned Headphones during self-structure time
- Will live in the Bodie Boys Dorm or the Sierra Girls Dorm
- May have 50 points to the student store each week if they have less than three referrals and no high risk incidents

## Advancement Criteria

- Must earn at least four advancement awards with a minimum of three straight in a row
- Must be off all High Risk Protocols and Restrictions for at least one month
- Must be on Supervision Level 3 or higher for at least one month
- Completed Orientation Packet
- Completed Master Treatment Plan



## AURORA PHASE SYSTEM

Our Continuum of Care motivates students to make progress in their therapeutic program using positive incentives and opportunities to make mistakes and try again, building confidence, resilience, and responsible autonomy. Every child is worthy of a new start, every day.

Orientation  
A New Beginning  
Preparation  
Action  
Transition



# Crisis Intervention and Restraint Reduction



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- **Crisis Intervention Team Members**

- Former Law Enforcement Officers
- Former Juvenile Probation Officers
- Former Military Officers

- **Crisis Intervention Team Purpose**

- Prevent major incidents and restraints from occurring
- Keep campus safe from self-harm and aggression
- Facilitate our students' use of coping skills to help manage their behaviors.

- **Crisis Intervention Team Training**

- Handle with Care
- Verbal Judo
- The Choice Dialogue
- HALTED

- **Self-Reflection & Sensory Rooms**

- Calm & Therapeutic Environment
- Students have three twenty minute sensory breaks a day
- Art, blocks, playdough, sand, marble run, music, nap area

- **Stabilization Dorm**

- Safe and secure space for students exhibiting high-risk behaviors
- Provide 1:2 staffing, additional therapy, and an opportunity to redirect and commit to basic structure
- All new students enroll on the Stabilization Dorm
- Goal is to rejoin the milieu as quickly and as safely as possible.



# Student Restraint Reduction



- **Crisis Intervention Team Response Codes**

- **Green** – Student wants to use a coping skill/self reflection room
- **Yellow** – Student seems agitated, sad, anxious, disengaged, or isn't following structure
- **Red** – Student is an immediate danger to themselves or others, or there is a medical emergency

- **Goals**

- Prevent the need for restraint by utilizing code greens and yellows quickly to meet student needs
- Verbally de-escalate code reds without safety holds

- **Restraint Protocols**

- Always the last option in student care
- Must have an order from one of our providers for an escort or restraint
- Only Handle with Care safety holds may be used
  - No prone restraints
  - No restraints that use pain to manage the student
  - No picking students up to move them
- Nurse must observe and time the holds, ensuring student vitals remain healthy
- Staff must consistently speak kindly to students, using verbal de-escalation
  - Staff consistently tell the students that as soon as they commit to safety they will cease performing the safety hold
- Student is allowed to decompress and process for as long as they need
- Nursing assesses the student for injury
- Critical Incident Report and Student Restraint Report are completed same day
- Incident is assessed and debriefed in the Crisis Intervention Meeting the next morning.

# Our Treatment Approach



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## PACT

How to Redirect after a Referral

- **P** - Practice a positive coping skill
- **A** - Apologize to the staff and ask to rejoin the dorm group
- **C** - Commit to positive behavior
- **T** - Take responsibility for your actions

Completing PACT = No loss of the referral point



# Impact of Crisis Intervention & Restraint Reduction Practices May–November 2023



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- **Self-Harm**
  - 85% decrease
- **Elopement**
  - 89% decrease
- **Safety Holds**
  - 67% decrease
- **Academics**
  - 77% increase in daily assignment completion
- **Student Progression**
  - Advancing phases an average of two weeks sooner
- **Staff Employment Satisfaction**
  - Increase from 76% to 91% job satisfaction in quarterly survey



# Thank you for your time!

We appreciate your time and interest in getting to know more about Aurora Center for Healing.

We value our stakeholder partnerships and strive to be contributors.

We are committed to providing the best sub-acute residential care in the Nevada.

**Restoring Hope, A New Beginning**



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