

## Overview

”The biggest problem in the world could have been solved while it was small” – Witter Bynner. Many programs have been developed to help teenagers with specific problems, some programs deal with anger, some deal with substance abuse, some deal with low self-esteem and others deal with failure in Secondary Schools. A great deal of research on the factors contributing to the development of these problems reveals that most have common origins. Turning Winds Academic Institute is a licensed residential treatment facility located in Northern Montana. Our goal is to help adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17 find the root of their negative actions and help give them the necessary tools which will enable them to move past their behaviors and rise above the obstacles in their lives. Each adolescent can rediscover their potential through insightful activities, individual counseling and academic guidance. Adolescents are given the opportunity to become leaders among their peers and provide a positive influence on them. To ensure the success of each child families are given an opportunity to participate through letter writing and weekly contact with staff members. J.A. Shedd said, “It is the sick oyster which possesses the pearl.” We are committed to help each adolescent discover the greatness which lies within each one of them. To learn more about our program visit us on the web [www.turningwinds.com/program.htm](http://www.turningwinds.com/program.htm)

## Therapy

Any successful journey must have a clear destination. Our Ph.D. led therapy department helps provide each adolescent with the direction they need to safely traverse the roads of life. This is done through weekly counseling sessions with a counselor to set goals and discuss the challenges faced by each adolescent. Each adolescent will also be part of a regularly scheduled bi-monthly meeting involving staff members, at which time the resident’s progress challenges and areas of behavior that need improvement will be discussed in depth. This combined input and feedback from staff provides “Direction” or goals for each adolescent to work toward in the upcoming weeks. In the evenings, all residents at Turning Winds meet together, under the guidance of staff members, to evaluate their own individual progress as well as that of the other group members. Writing Assignments are a form of narrative therapy used to provoke thought on past behavior and future changes that need to be made. Assignments consist of a daily journal, issue letters, disclosure letters and many others. To learn more about our therapeutic program visit us on the web. [www.turningwinds.com/therapeutic\\_program.htm](http://www.turningwinds.com/therapeutic_program.htm).

## **Academics**

“Education is not filling a bucket but lighting a fire.” Our graduating high school students graduate on average above 70% of all graduating high school seniors in the nation. We believe that it is through education that adolescents are strengthened and given the necessary tools to attain success. Turning Winds offers educational opportunities for all students. Students enrolled in Turning Winds Academic Institute are given the opportunity to finish high school, obtain a GED or HSE or further their education through early college entry. Our education leaders at Turning Winds Academic Institute provide structure and the knowledge to help our students to excel personally and academically. Our unique curriculum helps adolescents to develop:

- Organizational Skills
- Life Skills
- Positive Study Skills
- Leadership Skills
- Problem Solving Skills
- Communication Skills

Through individualized and group tutoring, students are able to realize their strengths and make strides to improve upon their weaknesses. To learn more visit [www.turningwinds.com/adademics.htm](http://www.turningwinds.com/adademics.htm)

## **Activities**

“It is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving.” Another way Turning Winds offers direction to our students is through various uplifting and educational activities. Students enrolled at Turning Winds are constantly engaged in activities which provide rewarding learning experiences. Some of our activities include:

- Community service projects
- Educational field trips
- Hiking
- Camping
- Backpacking
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Building projects
- Gardening
- Winter Skiing
- Snowshoeing

These experiences allow for growth, enjoyment and healing to take place. To learn more visit us at [www.turningwinds.com/aboutus.htm](http://www.turningwinds.com/aboutus.htm)