

BREAKING NEWS

Wilderness Odyssey Corpus Christi, Texas

Wilderness Odyssey's Affordable Solution

Contact:

Seaver Baruch

Program Supervisor

877-834-4430

seaverbaruch@yahoo.com

www.wildernessodyssey.com

March 17, 2009

Wilderness Odyssey is changing the field of Wilderness and Adventure Based Therapy. Previously to get a struggling teen into a wilderness therapy program the average cost was \$28,000. At such an immense price only the wealthy could sign their children up for this effective and innovative approach to creating positive change in the lives of teenagers. As we all know the demographic of "struggling teens" does not limit itself to class, race, or any other confined population. Wilderness Odyssey is taking charge to offer Adventure Based Therapy to any youth or family in need, starting at one third the price of most other programs. Wilderness Odyssey does not stop at simply lowering tuition costs, recognizing that many families living on a tight budget simply cannot afford any program at any price. As a branch of the non-profit organization, Youth Odyssey, all employees, board members, and volunteers actively and aggressively work to raise money in order to offer as many scholarships as possible.

One may ask, "If Wilderness Odyssey is offering this service at one third the price, am I getting one third the service?" This couldn't be further from the truth; in fact it is quite the opposite. Many programs are structured with only one outdoor activity; hiking. Wilderness Odyssey progressively integrates three adventure activities into the program. At the start of their journey the struggling teens complete a backpacking expedition as a part of the "Self Phase" of the program. While facing the physical and

mental challenges of hiking through the mountains the students learn basic outdoor living skills, primitive fire starting techniques, wilderness first aid, personal accountability, problem solving, and communication skills. Once the students have demonstrated the physical and emotional skills needed to advance in the program they embark on a river expedition, and move into the "Family Phase" of the program. While paddling through a pristine canyon wilderness the students learn basic river safety, Swift Water Rescue, teamwork, conflict resolution, and continue to build self-confidence. Finally, during the "Community Phase" of the program the students take on the challenge of rock climbing and rappelling. In addition to facing their fears on the rock, the students also participate in a community service project, as well as an overnight vigil and two day (supervised) solo, led by a local native medicine man. One will definitely ask, "Is it safe?" Wilderness Odyssey and Youth Odyssey have worked with over 5000 young men and women with an impeccable safety record. All Field Staff are required to have a minimum of a Wilderness First Responder certification. In addition to required certifications and background checks, Field Staff are selected only after participating in a rigorous Instructor Course. Wilderness Odyssey guides are dedicated to not only safely facilitating the activity, but also to process the experience in order to bridge the gap from outdoor activity to emotional growth.

For more information regarding Wilderness Odyssey's affordable wilderness programs and therapeutic adventures visit www.wildernessodyssey.com. As always we accept charitable donations to aid in our efforts to help struggling teens; donation information is also available on our website.