



ECHO Residential Treatment Program

for adolescent males who have sexually abused

ECHO (Education, Change, Health, Opportunity) is a residential mental health treatment program for adolescent males who:

- are 13 to 17 years of age
- have sexually abused others, and
- are at high risk of sexually abusing again.

Our evidence-informed program offers:

- safe, accepting, supportive environment
- multi-disciplinary treatment team
- 24/7 staffing
- Section 23 classroom with Board-certified teacher
- preparation to reintegrate into a mainstream school
- extracurricular and social activities.

Treatment components include:

- identification and management of risk
- safety plans
- coping strategies
- healthy boundaries
- healthy sexuality
- emotional regulation
- social skills and behaviours
- family-focused therapy where appropriate.

The ECHO campus features:

- rural location in northern Peel Region
- spacious, comfortable residence
- private bedrooms
- school and recreational facilities on site.

Treatment outcomes:

All youth who participated in the ECHO Residential Treatment Program over the past 4 years demonstrated significant decreases in their overall risk for reoffending, as measured by the Juvenile Sex Offender Assessment Protocol II. They made significant changes in some or all the following areas:

- accepting responsibility for their offense(s)
- understanding their risk factors
- empathy, remorse and guilt
- quality of their peer relationships
- motivation for change
- cognitive distortions/beliefs about their sexual offending.

Functioning improved for 89% of youth who were treated at ECHO, as measured by the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale, an outcome measure used by mental health treatment programs in Canada and the U.S. to assess functioning in several life domains.

To make a referral:

- call the Clinical Supervisor, Sexual Abuse Treatment Program, at (905) 795-3500
- program is provided at no charge to Peel residents
- available to residents from outside Peel Region on a *per diem* basis.

