

CONVERSION PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT: Cedar Ridge Academy in UT  
By Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE (<https://www.cope.church> ) Dated: 3/9/22

The HEAL Mission of COPE has received 26 separate complaints from individuals and families alleging verbal abuse, bullying, coercive thought reform/confrontation therapy, forced uncompensated labor (labor trafficking?), physical abuse, communication restrictions/censorship/monitoring/blackouts, humiliation, one survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "I was sent there at 16 and am almost 22, and that place still haunts me. I was victim to multiple abuses methods including having my first amendment right taken away. I feel I was also falsely imprisoned. I committed no crime, yet was I was forced to stay there against my will with no access to the outside world. I was not allowed to talk to my parents until I had convinced my overseers that I was "on-board with the program". Once contact was allowed with my parents, it was monitored, and i was threatened that if I "complained" about anything I would be punished ( forced to shovel poop in the snow) and that i would not be allowed to talk to my parents anymore. I was never once allowed to call my parents unmonitored. Every letter was read. I was not allowed to send letters expect to my parents. I was also forced to participate in hypnosis. My therapist would put me in an unconscious like state and feed me lies about the world. Alot had to do with men and how they were evil. I was told that men masturbating was wrong and I should never date a man who masturbates from my therapist. My therapist was constantly imposing his mormon beliefs on me, constantly pressuring me to join his faith. I feel that what my therapist did was very wrong and illegal, as i should have the right to practice my own religion", and another survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "I had bones broken and afterwards diagnosed wity my brain rain suffered a frontal cortex dysfunction from being hit in the head so many times there" at Cedar Ridge Academy. Some of these complaints are referenced online and others remain confidential and on file with the church. With the intention of providing an opportunity for closure, clarification, and potentially peace, on 3/1/22 Rev. Angela Smith invited Cedar Ridge Academy victims (families and survivors) as well as staff whistleblowers to provide a guest sermon. That invitation read thus:

"Dear Cedar Ridge Academy Survivors and Families,

Cedar Ridge Academy is on the HEAL Mission watch-list (of fraudulent and abusive programs) and enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program based on your reports to the HEAL Mission alleging fraud, abuse, and/or other violations. You can learn more or refresh your memory at <https://www.heal-online.org/thelist.htm> and/or <https://www.heal-online.org/cedarridge.htm> .

The HEAL Mission and COPE Conversion Program (for Conversion Programs) has updated our protocols to provide entities populating the watch-list and/or enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program three ways off the watch-list or out of the program. Death and/or closure remains one way after which they will be buried at <http://www.beyondbusiness.net/youarenext.htm> with the others who didn't make it off the list or reform in time. Programs enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program/placed on the watch-list are also eligible for graduation if they meet the minimum Honesty In

Marketing Standards described and/or provided via hypertext link at <https://www.cope.church/standards.htm> . The third option is merciful release. Merciful releases are determined by date of last directly reported to the HEAL Mission complaint (date of incident(s) of abuse), whether those incidents occurred prior to when by custom or law the requirement to retain such records has expired, and whether Sponsors (you) are actively participating or maintaining interest in holding your program accountable.

The most recent complaint the mission received on Cedar Ridge Academy occurred in 2017 (if you were abused later than that then you did not include the dates of your enrollment when you contacted the HEAL Mission). The custom is to retain such records for 7 years in Utah. So, the requirements for merciful release have not been met. This is an invitation for you to provide a guest sermon no later than Wednesday, March 9th, 2022 at 8pm Pacific otherwise a progress report will be posted in lieu of your sermon. The progress report will remain up until December 31st, 2024 after which, if there are no new complaints and no guest sermon by the 2024 deadline, Cedar Ridge Academy will receive a merciful release and be removed from the watch-list. For guest sermons and progress reports see <https://www.heal-online.org> . Here's how to participate:

1. In the body of an e-mail message write out your complete sermon and include answers to the following questions:

Did you report fraud or other unlawful actions to the proper authorities? If not, why? If so, what happened with the reports? (So, 2 part question)

Why do you believe Cedar Ridge Academy should remain enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program?

2. Send that guest sermon to me at [rev@cope.church](mailto:rev@cope.church) with your first and last name (full) and notify me if you wish for your contact information to be included or for all feedback to be handled by the mission and/or church. Your full first and last name will be shared along with your sermon as written and provided by you. It will be posted as a Guest Sermon at <https://www.heal-online.org> , <https://www.heal-online.org/cedaridge.htm> , and <https://www.cope.church/sermons.htm> .

If no one provides a guest sermon and there are no new complaints received by the HEAL Mission of COPE by December 31st, 2024, Cedar Ridge Academy will be mercifully released.

Thank you in advance for participating. And, please learn more about how to value your contributions at <https://www.cope.church/givetoday.pdf>.

In Solidarity,

Rev. Angela Smith  
HEAL Mission National Coordinator/Founding Mother of COPE"

Now, there was a vote on whether Cedar Ridge Academy should remain on the watch-list initiated on April 9th, 2020 where all Sponsors of that program's placement in the COPE Conversion Program were invited to participate. The majority voted against merciful release or the equivalent at that time. HEAL Mission and the COPE Conversion Program recognize participation in the vote in April as recent enough participation even if Sponsors prefer more time to consider, write, and/or provide any guest sermon. While we understand this may be disappointing for Cedar Ridge Academy, it is the hope that this progress report helps explain the reasons for the continued enrollment/placement in the COPE Conversion Program. Additional or continued participation by Sponsors, including providing guest sermons or participating in future votes will impact whether or not the program qualifies for merciful release or remains enrolled. Lack of participation by Sponsors where all other criteria for merciful release are met, will result in merciful release of the program.

Similar invitations will be going out to all survivor/victim/whistleblower e-mail lists and their respective programs placed on the watch-list. It may take some time to get through the entire list especially if enrollments pick up. But, we are working on it and everyone can submit Feedback at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> at any time regardless of position regarding program placement or enrollment.

To close, I remind everyone that there are remedies at law. Labor trafficking, rape, fraud (misleading marketing/false advertising), false imprisonment, kidnapping, battery, assault, and any crime or tort you could name are actionable at law. The HEAL Mission of COPE is prepared to assist all victims by providing reporting resources and information for the sake of justice and we appreciate all Sponsors who selflessly contribute content for the sake of informing the public to help those exercising due diligence avoid becoming a victim. Reporting Guide Available at: <https://www.heal-online.org/report.htm> and <https://www.heal-online.org/cedarridge.htm> .