

CONVERSION PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT: Diamond Ranch Academy in UT
By Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE (<https://www.cope.church>) Dated: 3/30/22

The HEAL Mission of COPE has received 52 separate complaints from individuals and families alleging abuse, false advertising/misleading marketing, labor trafficking (coerced/forced uncompensated labor), level system, caused traumatic stress/chronic night terrors (PTSD), sexual assault (student on student), coercive thought reform, one survivor reported via e-mail (and federal declaration) to the HEAL Mission "There I am torn from reality into a pseudo-society which my dog gets better treatment than these people. I have eaten out of a bright metal bowl on the ground while Utah thunderstorms shed ounces of water into my 16 oz of barely thawed out rice. Slowly and slowly I started to realize how much I had changed from a hard drug addict to a Brainwashed cult member. Being locked in a 450 square foot white cinderblock room hopeless while I am seriously wishing I was in jail where I can be myself. Everywhere I went they went single file without a word being spoken. Many nights I remember crawling in my bed with drops of urine on my sheets from a top bunk that had a teenager with a bladder issue. I found myself at times in a shower that had feces in it from a teen in my family of 10 who did not belong at a tough love facility... Adding to the issue there where a lack of nursing for anything. All types and sorts were sent to this tough love camp, anywhere between children dealing with family loss to gang members Aged 12-17 ½. I didn't see my parents for 7 months at a time," rape (staff on student, perpetrator reportedly no longer works at DRA and last known to be in Kansas), emotional abuse, physical abuse/restraints, held incommunicado (communication blackouts/restrictions/censorship/monitoring), torture, one parent reported to the HEAL mission via e-mail "During this period of time, our Son was tortured in various ways beyond belief!!! He was only thirteen years old at the time; one of the youngest children there. If anyone believes in inhumanity, the Diamond Ranch Academy would be the best place to start! Initially, he was placed in the first "stage" of the Program which was called the Homeless Stage. This began with being strip searched, he wore an orange uniform similar to the jumpsuit of a prisoner, was forced to do manual labor from morning until night, pushing a wheelbarrow around, digging holes, picking tumbleweed with his bare hands until they bled, doing excessive calisthenics such as frog hops which tore the ligaments in his knees, Saigon squats where he had to hold a bent position for a long time, a "Pretty Boy," which put an enormous amount of pressure on his knees as well. He was forced to do excruciating military push-ups for as long as Staff demanded him to do them. Then, there was the infamous "bent wrist control," whereby Staff took his hand and cranked it into his wrist almost breaking his wrist. The pain was the most excruciating of all the DRA's illegal, inhumane practices of real TORTURE!!!", humiliation, one survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "I speak not only for myself. 20-60 other kids at any given time went through some of the same sickening and humiliating torture around me every day. Years have passed, but a lot of the pain has not. In fact, I still keep contact with about five people I went to "DRA" with, and we all feel the same way. Some still have nightmares to this day related to this program", sleep deprivation, inadequate nutrition/food deprivation, wrongful death (resulting from medical neglect/negligence--James Shirey, see: <http://memorialwebsites.legacy.com/ourjamesshirey/Subpage.aspx?mod=1>) and strip

searches at Diamond Ranch 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 3/22/22 Rev. Angela Smith invited Diamond Ranch Academy victims (families and survivors) as well as staff whistleblowers to provide a guest sermon. That invitation read thus:

"Dear Diamond Ranch Academy Survivors and Families,

Diamond Ranch 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/dra.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 Diamond Ranch Academy occurred in 2021 (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 30th, 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, 2028 after which, if there are no new complaints and no guest sermon by the 2028 deadline, Diamond Ranch 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 Diamond Ranch Academy should remain enrolled in the COPE

Conversion Program?

2. Send that guest sermon to me at 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/dra.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, 2028, Diamond Ranch 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 Diamond Ranch 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 Diamond Ranch 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/dra.htm> .