



## **ACRONYMS**

The following terms are commonly used during regular business practices at Northwest Passage. All Board members will be required to familiarize themselves with these terms.

### **DCF**

Department of Children and Families (DCF), our programs that provide treatment and assessment to children are licensed and regulated by this department.

### **DPI**

Department of Public Instruction, because our programs provide education to children, we are eligible to receive funding for lunch programming. DPI also provides minimal oversight of our school program.

### **RCC**

Residential Caring Center (RCC), this is the label that the state gives our services. On the continuum of services only correctional facilities and locked psychiatric hospitals are considered a “higher” level of care.

### **WAFCA**

Wisconsin Association of Families and Children Agencies (WAFCA), is an association that advocates for social services policy at the state level. We are a member of WAFCA.

### **NATSAP**

National Association of Therapeutic Schools and Programs, represents a variety of organizations providing services across North America. Our membership with NATSAP is an important connection to our private pay clients and educational consultants.

### **ADVANCED**

AdvancED is an agency dedicated to reviewing educational institutions for accreditation. Northwest Passage’s educational program has been through a rigorous on-site review and has received accreditation, allowing us to offer our clients credit for their education while in our programs.

### **EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS**

Educational Consultants or Ed Consultants, provide assistance to families seeking appropriate services for their children (i.e. residential treatment programs, boarding schools, and so on). Ed Consultant services are paid for by the family directly.

### **DBT**

Dialectical Behavior Therapy is a therapeutic modality we use throughout our residential treatment programs. DBT is the cornerstone of skill building therapeutic treatment and transforms our work with kids everywhere from the classroom to the dining table. It serves as a common language throughout our programs

### **EXPERIENTIAL THERAPY**

Experiential Therapy focuses on engaging residents directly in their learning environment through genuine experiences. Northwest Passage programs allow kids to go on outdoor adventures, become accomplished photographers, traverse low ropes courses, indulge in the culinary arts, and master basic gardening skills. Programming focuses on building healthy peer to peer and staff to resident relationships, team building, and problem solving.

### **IANL**

In a New Light (IaNL) is a part of our Experiential Therapy programming. It is a strength based nature photography project developed at Northwest Passage which has gained national acclaim.