



Nature Based Services and Animal Assisted Education with Green Chimneys as Case Study



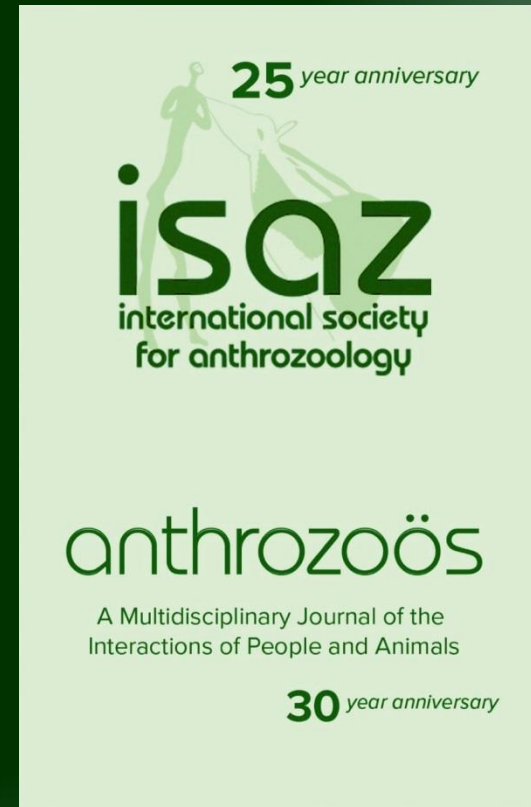


DR. ROSS AND HIS VISION



We are a Residential Treatment Center and Therapeutic Day School that is a leading model of how **integrated nature based services** can enhance our special education setting.

The Sam and Myra Ross Institute at Green Chimneys



anthrozoös

A Multidisciplinary Journal of the Interactions of People and Animals

30 year anniversary



Equine Services for Heroes™



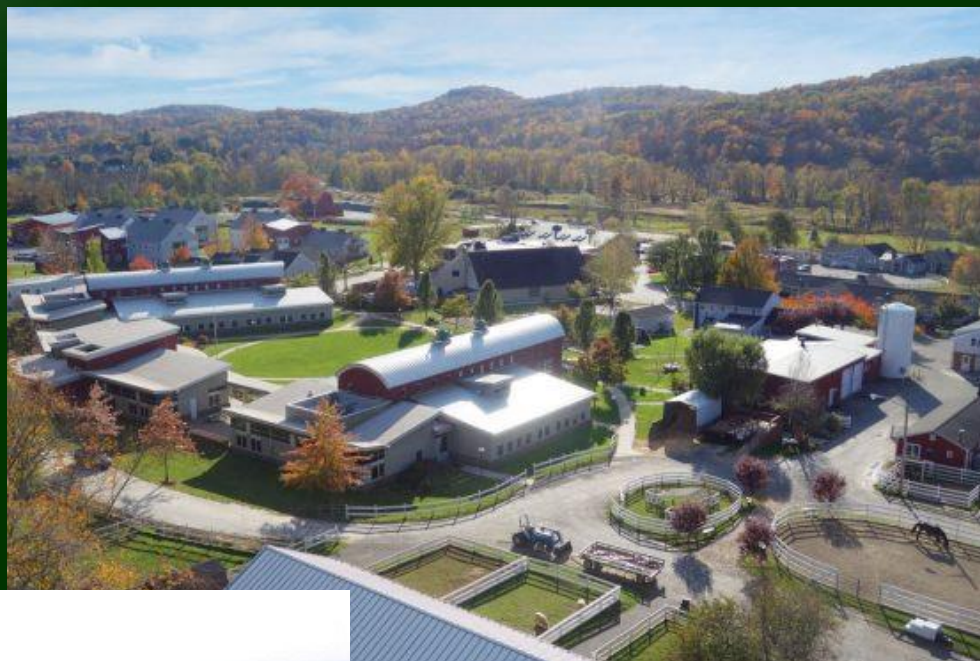


The Green Chimneys Mission & Philosophy

Helping young people to maximize their potential by providing residential, educational, clinical and recreational services, in a safe and supportive environment that nurtures connections with their families, the community, **animals and nature.**



We are School/Treatment Center



200 Students
with Psychiatric
Conditions

Nursery School

Summer Camp

Community
Based Services

600 Staff

Common Challenges of our Students

At home, at public school and at GC

- Emotionally fragile
- Easily upset
- Anxious
- Oppositional
- School avoidance
- Neurodiverse
- Socially isolated/depressed
- Explosive
- Self-harming
- Elopement
- Easily Frustrated
- Rigid and inflexible
- Medication



A Therapeutic Community A Treatment Team Approach

**Nature-Based &
Animal-Assisted
Services** are
part of a larger
system of care



Trauma Informed and Family Centered Care

Building a RELATIONSHIP with real animals and nature



Sunday, July 17 2022
Alumni Day Moment
That's when we see the impact of our work



Our Nature-Based Areas

- **WILDLIFE CENTER**
- **CAMPUS STAFF DOG PROGRAM**
- **FARM ANIMALS**
- **EQUINE PROGRAM**
- **GARDENS**
- **ANIMALS IN OTHER PLACES (AVIARY,FISH,ETC.)**
- **GREAT SWAMP**
- **MODEL FOREST**

A Strong Commitment to Animal Care and Well-Being!



Building a Relationship is about respecting them for who they really are - not just who we need (or want) them to be!

Michael Kaufmann

THE IMPACT OF ANIMAL ASSISTED/NATURE BASED INTERVENTIONS



Nature-Based area access for Students

- **School classes – M-F**
- **Farm “Job”- individual therapeutic activities with animals, seven days a week**
- **Social workers, OT, Speech as part of a therapy session**
- **Evening Programs with Child Care/Other Staff for recreation**

No child is forced to interact with nature areas - the children are introduced to all areas and then can choose areas of special interest

AAE domain

- Leadership/inter-personal
- Social-emotional
- Learning and sensory integration
- Academic learning
- Developing positive character traits
- Helping with self-regulation in classroom



5 traits of Positive Youth Development



Making Academics Accessible

- Providing sensory rich, regulating environment
- Making topics more tangible and relatable
- Hand-on learning to encourage participation and kinesthetic learning
- Practice without knowing
- Individualize and differentiate







Learning about Life and Death



Thank you

