



YELLOWSTONE
Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation

2050 Overland Ave.
Billings, MT 59102
www.yellowstonefoundation.org



YBGR maintains nearly 100 acres of residential campus with plenty of room for both outdoor and indoor activities.



It Sure Makes A Difference When You Know Somebody Cares

YBGR Occupational Therapy

*A Rocky Mountain College and
Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Partnership*

For most, Activities of Daily Living (ADL's) don't require much thought. We get up each day, do our morning routine, eat when we need to, and go about our day. But for people who live with mental health problems, ADL's can be difficult. Those with physical, sensory, or cognitive impairments may struggle with getting dressed for the day, planning meals, or basic hygiene. Fortunately, occupational therapists can step in and help these individuals so that they can successfully navigate and manage ADL's.

Until recently, youth at YBGR needing Occupational Therapy (OT) services had to be taken to clinics in the community. Now, through a new partnership with Rocky Mountain College, youth receive these services right on the Ranch campus, and students in the RMC Occupational Therapy Doctorate program receive hands-on clinical experience.



ROCKY
MOUNTAIN
COLLEGE

"The Ranch campus is a dream for an occupational therapist, from the greenhouse to the kitchens, to bikes and basketball, to the pool and the horses. Everything that we need is right here on campus, and the experience that our students are getting is so much richer because it gets to be hands on," says Dr. Twylla Kirchen, Founding Director of the RMC Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program.

According to **Dr. Taylor Mayer, Executive Director of Residential Services**, *"Having OT on site is a better fit for our youth and our staff. Before, if a youth was having a rough day and didn't want to go, we would have to cancel appointments which wasn't good for the youth, staff, or the clinic. Now the therapist can go directly to the youth. Making use of the facilities that we have on campus is a definite bonus, and sessions can be done in groups as well, adding in more social and team building skills for youth."*



RMC OT Doctoral Candidate Taylor Clark (left) meets with YBGR residential treatment youth to assess their communication styles with Dr. Kirchen (right) observing.