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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Diamond Ranch Academy Earns Joint Commission Accreditation *Hurricane, Utah program expands professional development with latest certification*

Hurricane, Utah (March 22, 2021)-- Diamond Ranch Academy is pleased to announce it has received accreditation by the Joint Commission. The credential is the latest in a number of professional certifications awarded to the residential treatment program.

"The Joint Commission accreditation is yet another step in Diamond Ranch Academy's journey of continuous improvement. As a company, we have come a long way but there is still more to be done. We want to ensure the highest quality of care is provided to the families we work with," said Cody Wardle, Executive Director of DRA.

Joint Commission accreditation requires on-site inspection and assessment of established standards of care. The certification fosters additional parent trust that students are in a safe environment that maintains high quality ideals. Additionally, the Joint Commission provides a framework to not only maintain but advance professional standards across the school, resulting in advancement of staff education and student outcomes.

Ephraim Hanks, Psy.D., LMFT, LCSW, is a clinical specialist and therapist at Diamond Ranch Academy and has worked with struggling adolescents since 1997. A fellow of the American Academy of Marriage and Family Therapy, he finds that the accreditation is further acknowledgement of the high level of care provided to students. "I am pleased that the Joint Commission has confirmed, through accreditation, our collective pursuit to provide the highest quality services to adolescents and their families," said Hanks.

### **About Diamond Ranch Academy:**

Founded in 1999, Diamond Ranch Academy prides itself on offering six treatment programs designed to meet specific student needs. DRA knows the challenges you are facing with your child do not need to limit their future potential. With that in mind, students are encouraged to learn, earn, work hard, and play hard. Throughout their stay, students participate in a variety of therapy programs ranging from cognitive behavioral and substance abuse to equine therapy and rational emotive behavior; each therapy program is customized to the student. This approach has impacted thousands of families from around the world, and set over 1,700 students on the road to a college degree.

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