



Behavioral Health Care Accreditation: An Introduction to the Basics

March 7, 2008

Mary Cesare-Murphy, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Behavioral Health Accreditation Program

&

Peggy Lavin, LCSW

Associate Director

Behavioral Health Accreditation Program



Behavioral Health Care Accreditation Program

Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care

- ▶ **Community-based Mental Health Services.**
- ▶ **Services for Children and Youth.**
- ▶ **Substance Abuse Treatment Services.**
- ▶ **Opioid Treatment Programs.**
- ▶ **Accrediting Behavioral Health Organizations since 1969.**
- ▶ **Over 1,800 Behavioral Health Care Organizations.**
- ▶ **Accredited Organizations range from small single service to multiple services/programs providers.**



Complex Organization Accreditation

- ▶ Provide services that are addressed in two or more accreditation manuals
- ▶ Examples:
 - Psychiatric hospital and residential treatment program
 - General hospital with partial hospitalization program
 - Primary ambulatory care clinic with mental health care
- ▶ Single accreditation decision



Behavioral Health Care Accreditation Standards for Specific Programs and Settings

- Addictions
- Case management
- Corrections
- Crisis stabilization
- Family pres./wraparound
- Forensics
- Foster care
- Therapeutic foster care
- 24 Therapeutic Schools
- Therapeutic Day Schools
- Residential/Group Homes
- Out-patient
- Day Programs
- Transitional/supervised living
- Vocation Rehab.
- Outdoor/Wilderness
- Technology-based
- Opioid Treatment



Behavioral Health Care Accreditation Standards for Specific Populations

- ▶ Children and Youth
- ▶ Persons with Developmental Disabilities
- ▶ Persons receiving Addiction Treatment or Services



Joint Commission Behavioral Health Care Surveyors

- ▶ Behavioral Health Professionals
- ▶ Training and Experience matched to the services provided by the organization
- ▶ Social Workers, Psychologists, and Behavioral Health Administrators



Joint Commission

Behavioral Health Care Standards Development

- ▶ Standards Represent National Consensus
- ▶ Expert Panels
- ▶ Professional and Technical Advisory Committee
- ▶ Web-based field reviews for all stakeholders
- ▶ Advisory Councils



Joint Commission Behavioral Health Care Standards Organization

► Standards

- **Client-Focused Functions**
- **Organization-Focused Functions**

Joint Commission Behavioral Health Care Standards



▶ Client-Focused Functions

- Ethics, Rights, and Responsibilities
- Provision of Care, Treatment and Services
- Medication Management
- Infection Control

Joint Commission Behavioral Health Care Standards



► Organization-Focused Functions

- Improving Organization Performance
- Leadership
- Management of the Environment of Care
- Management of Human Resources
- Management of Information



Joint Commission

Behavioral Health Care Standards Organization

- ▶ Standards
- ▶ Elements of Performance



Tracer Methodology

- ▶ Method used by surveyors during on-site survey
- ▶ Follow course of care, treatment and services provided to a client
- ▶ Assess relationships among staff and functions
- ▶ Evaluate performance of processes relevant to the client



Resources for Accredited Organizations and Organizations Working Toward Accreditation

- ▶ Standards interpretation & applicability
- ▶ Introduction to mentor organizations
- ▶ Complementary conference calls
- ▶ Education programs
- ▶ Publications

Joint Commission

Behavioral Health Care Accreditation

What will it do for your organization?

- ▶ Demonstrates to the community the organization's commitment to quality and safety
- ▶ Provides an outline for leadership to set goals, plan services, determine staffing, distribute resources, and manage risk
- ▶ Supports a culture of excellence
- ▶ Integrates data use into daily operations
- ▶ Support board members in meeting their fiduciary responsibilities



Behavioral Health Care Accreditation: How to Apply for Accreditation

1. Request an Application for Accreditation.
2. Receive access to The Joint Commission's electronic application.
3. Complete the application.
4. Indicate in the application which month during the next 6 months you would like your initial on site survey to be scheduled.
5. Electronically submit your application.
6. Make a deposit of \$1700 toward your accreditation fees.

For an estimate of survey fees, contact Peggy Lavin.

For a login/password, contact Evelyn Choi.



The Gold Seal of Approval™



Joint Commission Behavioral Health Care Accreditation

Mary Cesare-Murphy, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Behavioral Health Accreditation Program

mcesaremurphy@jointcommission.org

630/792-5790

Peggy Lavin, LCSW

Associate Director Behavioral Health Accreditation

plavin@jointcommission.org

630/792-5411

Evelyn Choi

Accreditation Specialist

echoi@jointcommission.org

630/792-5866