

CARF...Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities

What is it and Why is it Important to Me?

Newsletter #1



Together.....we CAN do it!

CARF Quote of the Month:

The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result! - Albert Einstein

Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of human service providers in the areas of aging services, behavioral health, child and youth services, employment and community services, medical rehabilitation, and opioid treatment program. CARF currently accredits more than 5,000 providers at more than 18,000 locations in the United States, Canada, Western Europe, and South America. Close to 6 million persons of all ages are served annually by CARF-accredited providers.

What is Accreditation? You probably already know the idea of accreditation. You may have gone to an accredited school or received medical treatment from an accredited hospital or clinic. Also, many of the products and services you buy every day have been evaluated by an impartial group for quality and safety. For example, you may have looked at *Consumer Reports* before buying a car or household appliance. A CARF-accredited organization shows commitment to continually improving its services. When a service or program is CARF-accredited, it means the organization has passed an in-depth review. The organization has met the rigorous CARF guidelines for service and quality. Currently, Universal MH/DD/SAS is working toward accreditation with CARF. The next few months will be a time of assessment, change, and improvement. All staff will play a role in the accreditation process.



NEXT MONTH: What are the accreditation areas? What are the next steps?