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PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S VILLAGE ACCREDITED... AGAIN

(Rosemont, PA) Presbyterian Children's Village (PCV), with locations in **Rosemont and Philadelphia**, recently received re-accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). The certification, which customarily lasts for a three-year cycle, is nationally recognized as the "Gold Seal" of approval in behavioral healthcare. The accreditation applies to all programs on both campuses.

"Our dedication to obtaining and continually maintaining JCAHO accreditation reflects our strong public commitment to delivering the highest quality care that meets and exceeds all national safety guidelines," said Darlene Hewett, CEO & President of the Village. She further stated that "the payoff is for the clients we are serving. It is a process in which we are honestly looking at ourselves to make on-going improvements."

The survey is an unannounced, intensive, interactive process that involves not only documentation review, but involvement of staff at all levels of the organization. Evidence of accreditation standards compliance must be met in client focused and operational functions including:

- **Client Focused Functions:** Ethics, Rights and Responsibilities; Provision of Care/Treatment/Services; Medication Management; and Surveillance, Prevention, and Control of Infection.
- **Operational Functions:** Improving Organizational Performance; Leadership; Management of the Environment of Care; Management of Human Resources; Management of Information and Foster Care.

PCV's Residential Treatment Program, a focus of the accreditation process, serves adolescent boys and girls with serious mental health and behavioral challenges. The program includes:

- **Clinical Treatment Services** consist of individual, family and group therapy as well as comprehensive case management
- **A Cottage-Life Program** with 24-hour supervision of residents
- **A state-licensed secondary school** for students with emotional, social and special learning needs

- **A Therapeutic Activities Program (TAP)** of structured activities for both on-campus and in the local community
- **Pastoral Care Services** providing voluntary religious counseling, values groups and worship services sensitive to and supportive of all religious affiliations
- **Psychotherapy and Psychiatry Services** include diagnostic evaluations, medication management and counseling

In addition to Residential Treatment, the Rosemont campus is also home to a Semi-Independent Living Program which provides a transitional living experience for older adolescents preparing for independence. Participants live in apartments on the Rosemont campus or in the community. Residents receive educational assistance, social work counseling, and life-skills education.

The Village's Southwest Philadelphia Center provides a wide array of **Child Welfare, Prevention and Outpatient Behavioral Health Services**. These include Foster Family Care, Adoption, Counseling, After School Programs, and Case Management Services.

Presbyterian Children's Village initially received JCAHO accreditation in 1998 and was re-accredited in 2001 and 2004. JCAHO accreditation, however, is not automatically renewed at the end of three years. Organizations must reapply, participate in a survey and demonstrate compliance with Joint Commission standards.

Founded as an orphanage in 1877, Presbyterian Children's Village today is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the healing of the spirits of children, families and communities broken by violence, addiction, poverty, mental illness, racism and other serious societal problems. The Village serves more than 10,000 children each year in communities in Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Lancaster, Luzerne, and York Counties.

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