

About **carf** INTERNATIONAL

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Founded in 1966, CARF is an international, independent, non-profit accreditor of human service providers and networks. The CARF group of companies includes CARF International, CARF Canada, and CARF Europe.

CARF's mission

CARF's mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of persons served.

What is Accreditation?

When a program or service is CARF-accredited, it means your organization has passed an in-depth review and meets rigorous CARF guidelines for service and quality—a qualified endorsement that it conforms to internationally-recognized service standards and is focused on delivering the most favorable results for the persons it serves.

Accreditation promotes active, dynamic planning that is focused on outcomes and impact to stakeholders.



Accreditation areas

CARF accredits child and youth services in the following program areas:

- Adoption
- Assessment and Referral
- Behavioral Consultation
- Call Centers
- Case Management/Services Coordination
- Child/Youth Day Care
- Child/Youth Protection
- Community Housing and Shelters
- Community Transition
- Community Youth Development
- Counseling/Outpatient
- Crisis Intervention
- Day Treatment
- Detoxification/Withdrawal Support
- Diversion/Intervention
- Early Childhood Development
- Foster Family and Kinship Care
- Group Home
- Health Home
- Home and Community Services
- Intensive Family-Based Services
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Promotion/Prevention
- Residential Treatment
- Respite
- Specialized or Treatment Foster Care
- Support and Facilitation

The following specific population designations may be added to a program:

- Juvenile Justice
- Medically Complex

Full program descriptions available at:
www.carf.org/Programs/CYS/



Why Choose CARF?

CARF accreditation is a partnership between CARF and the service provider. The survey process is consultative rather than prescriptive and is a valuable resource to address many of the challenges facing providers. In addition to standards for programming and service delivery, CARF has robust standards for business practices. Known as ASPIRE to Excellence[®], these standards support organizations' efforts to build their foundation and sustain and grow their business.

Organizations that have participated in a CARF accreditation survey demonstrate:

- A higher degree of internal quality.
- Greater involvement of persons served in their services.
- Increased cohesion among staff members at all levels within the organization.
- Enhanced status of the accredited programs/services within the community.

