

## **Joint Commission accredits Buffalo Psychiatric Center**

Buffalo Psychiatric Center has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for accreditation by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety in hospital and behavioral healthcare. The accreditation award recognizes BPC's dedication to continuous compliance with The Joint Commission's state-of-the-art standards.

Buffalo Psychiatric Center underwent a rigorous unannounced on-site survey in August. A team of Joint Commission expert surveyors evaluated Inpatient Services, Outpatient Recovery and Treatment Centers, and the ACT Team (Assertive Community Treatment) for compliance with standards of care specific to the needs of patients, including infection prevention and control, leadership and medication management.

"With Joint Commission accreditation, we are making a significant investment in quality on a day-to-day basis from the top down. Joint Commission accreditation helps create a culture of excellence," says Executive Director Thomas Dodson. "Achieving Joint Commission accreditation, for our organization, is a major step toward maintaining excellence and continually improving the care we provide."

The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 20,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including more than 10,600 hospitals and home care organizations, and more than 6,600 other health care organizations that provide long term care, behavioral health care, laboratory and ambulatory care services.

Buffalo Psychiatric Center is operated by the New York State Office of Mental Health and has been identified as one of the state's mental health facilities scheduled to become a Regional Center of Excellence. Currently, the center provides Inpatient Services, Outpatient Services, Residential Services, Wellness Services, Assertive Community Treatment, and a variety of peer services to residents of Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua Counties.

The facility's website is: <http://www.omh.ny.gov/omhweb/facilities/bupc/>.



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