

**REPORT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH,
MENTAL RETARDATION AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES ON**

**Efforts to Assure Accreditation
and Certification of
State Mental Health and
Mental Retardation Facilities**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



House Document No. 26

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
1988**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF
EFFORTS TO ASSURE THE
ACCREDITATION & CERTIFICATION
OF
STATE MENTAL HEALTH AND
MENTAL RETARDATION FACILITIES**

**Response to HJR 301
1987 Session of the Virginia General Assembly**

**Howard M. Cullum
Commissioner
Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and
Substance Abuse Services**

December 18, 1987

Annual Report of Efforts to Assure the Accreditation/Certification of State Mental Health and Mental Retardation Facilities

I. Accreditation/Certification Policy:

A longstanding goal of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services has been the accreditation or certification of its eleven mental health and five mental retardation facilities, using nationally recognized standards of quality. In 1986, the State Board adopted a policy (86-15) on accreditation/certification. This policy recognized that the assurance of high quality care and treatment is an important function of the Department. It called for the accreditation of each adult psychiatric, psychogeriatric and children's psychiatric facility operated by the Department to be accredited by the nationally recognized by July 1, 1990. Additionally, it stated that each facility with qualifying areas be certified by Medicaid and/or Medicare. Finally, it stated that all mental retardation facilities shall pursue Medicaid certification.

This policy was updated at the December 16, 1987 meeting of the State Board, as follows:

It is the policy of State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board that each mental health facility and mental retardation training center operated by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services be accredited or certified through compliance with recognized standards such as the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), the Accreditation Council for the Developmentally Disabled (ACDD), Medicaid or Medicare as appropriate. Each facility with qualifying areas (i.e., intensive psychiatric, skilled nursing, medical/surgical, chronic disease or intermediate care) shall be certified by Medicaid and/or Medicare. All facilities shall maintain accreditation or certification by ongoing monitoring of the quality of services by the facility and the Department.

Through the adoption of this policy, the State Board intends for all state operated mental health and mental retardation facilities to realize the following benefits of accreditation/certification:

- Compliance with established standards of health care;
- Assurance of patient/resident care monitoring processes;
- Objective review and unbiased assessment of the quality of care through an external survey process;
- Assurance that facilities are eligible for maximum reimbursement from potential public and private insurers; and
- Assurance of credibility and confidence that comes with accreditation/certification by a nationally recognized organization.

II. Accreditation/Certification Status:

House Joint Resolution 301 stated that the following plan of accreditation be realized by 1992:

- A. *The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation should have all institutions for the mentally retarded in the Commonwealth accredited by the Accreditation Council on Developmental Disabilities, or be Medicaid certified;*
- B. *The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation should have all state mental hospitals in the Commonwealth accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals; and*
- C. *Community services boards should have all community housing programs for the mentally disabled accredited by the Accreditation Council on Developmental Disabilities, or in compliance with departmental licensing regulations.*

The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services is currently in full compliance with each of these three requirements.

Mental Retardation Training Centers:

All mental retardation facilities are either accredited by the Accreditation Council for Developmental Disabilities (ACDD) or are Medicaid/ Medicare certified. Accredited facilities include the Northern Virginia Training Center, the Southeastern Virginia Training Center, and the Southwestern Virginia Training Center. The above facilities are also Medicaid certified, as are the Central Virginia Training Center and the Southside Virginia Training Center. The following table provides the accreditation/certification status of each training center:

Facility Name	Last Full ACDD Survey	Next Full ACDD Survey	Accreditation Status
Northern Virginia Training Center	1986	February, 1988	ACDD & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Southeastern Virginia Training Center	1987	March, 1988	ACDD & Medicaid Certification
Southwestern Virginia Training Center	1987	April, 1988	ACDD & Medicaid Certification
Central Virginia Training Center	1986	Not Scheduled*	Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Southside Virginia Training Center	---	Not Scheduled*	Medicare/Medicaid Certification

* The Department has determined to continue to maintain Medicare/Medicaid certification rather than ACDD accreditation -- where standards are geared more toward smaller facilities.

Mental Hospitals:

Effective July, 1987, all eleven DMHMRSAS mental health facilities were accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). Central State Hospital, Eastern State Hospital and Southwestern State Hospital have accreditation status contingent upon increasing staffing, complying with life safety renovations or completion of construction projects. Additionally, each mental health facility, except Central State Hospital, is Medicaid and/or Medicare certified. The accreditation/certification status of each mental hospital follows:

Facility Name	Last Full JCAHO Survey	Next Full JCAHO Survey	Accreditation Status
Catawba Hospital	1985	September, 1988	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Central State Hospital	1987	April, 1990	JCAHO (HMDC Provides Medicare/Medicaid Services to CSH Patients)
DeJarnette Center	1984	December, 1987	JCAHO & Medicaid Certification
Eastern State Hospital	1986	August, 1989	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Hiran Davis Medical Center	1986	October, 1989	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute	1985	May, 1988	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Piedmont Geriatric Hospital	1985	September, 1988	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute	1987	July, 1990	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Southwestern State Hospital	1986	July, 1989	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification
Virginia Treatment Center for Children	1986	September, 1989	JCAHO & Medicaid Certification
Western State Hospital	1985	September, 1988	JCAHO & Medicare/Medicaid Certification

Attached to this report is a matrix of each facility's Medicaid/Medicare certification status.

Community Housing Programs:

In the community services board system, residential treatment programs serving persons with mental disabilities fall under the jurisdiction of the licensing rules and regulations promulgated by the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board. These programs must be licensed by the Department's Licensure Office to operate. Routinely, if a residential treatment program is non-compliant with the licensing rules and regulations, it is issued a provisional license and must implement a plan of correction that is monitored until compliance is achieved. Excluded from these licensing requirements are housing programs licensed by the Department of Social Services, the Department of Rehabilitative Services and shelters for the homeless. The State Board will adopt in February, 1988 -- for July 1, 1988 implementation -- a revised and upgraded licensing program for all community residential programs.

III. Conclusions:

In conclusion, while the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services has made considerable progress in responding to the requirements of HJR 301, it should be recognized that such compliance is part of an ongoing process for maintaining quality care. Once facilities are accredited or certified, they must continue efforts to assure compliance with new standards and stricter interpretations.

National accreditation or certification is a key benchmark of quality care. The Commonwealth must continue its efforts to maintain its current status of having its entire public facility system accredited or certified.

Attachment A

House Joint Resolution 301 1987 General Assembly Session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 1987 SESSION HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 301

Requesting the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to establish a policy and time table for the accreditation of certain facilities.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 6, 1987
Agreed to by the Senate, February 24, 1987

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has a tradition of quality in the services that it provides to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, housing and associated services are provided by the Commonwealth to its mentally disabled citizens in institutions for the mentally retarded, state mental hospitals and community housing programs funded through the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and community services boards throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth desires to provide the highest quality of care to its mentally disabled citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That it is the sense of the General Assembly that it should be the policy of the Commonwealth of Virginia that housing and associated services provided to the mentally disabled should be accredited by the highest professional standard in the field.

The following plan of accreditation should be realized by 1992:

A. The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation should have all institutions for the mentally retarded in the Commonwealth accredited by the Accreditation Council on Developmental Disabilities, or be Medicaid certified;

B. The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation should have all state mental hospitals in the Commonwealth accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals; and

C. Community services boards should have all community housing programs for the mentally disabled accredited by the Accreditation Council on Developmental Disabilities, or in compliance with departmental licensing regulations.

Beginning in 1988, the Department shall make an annual report of its program to the General Assembly.

Attachment B

Medicare/Medicaid Certification Status

December, 1987

Mental Hospitals	Level of Care Participating Status	Medicare	Medicaid
Catawba Hospital	Chronic Disease	●	●
Central State Hospital	See Hiram Davis Medical Center		
DeJarnette Center	Outpatient		●
Eastern State Hospital	Medical/Surgical Skilled Nursing ICF (General) Dental	● ●	● ● ● ●
Hiram Davis Medical Center	Medical/Surgical Skilled Nursing Dental ICF (General)	● ●	● ● ● ●
Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute	Intensive Psych.	●	●
Piedmont Geriatric Hospital	Chronic Disease	●	●
Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute	Intensive Psych. Outpatient	●	● ●
Southwestern State Hospital	Medical/Surgical ICF (General) Dental	●	● ● ●
Virginia Treatment Center for Children	Outpatient		●
Western State Hospital	Medical/Surgical Intensive Psych. ICF (General) Dental	● ●	● ● ● ●

MR Training Centers	Level of Care Participating Status	Medicare	Medicaid
Central Virginia Training Center	Medical/Surgical. Skilled Nursing ICF - MR ICF (General)	• •	• • • • •
Northern Virginia Training Center	ICF - MR Dental		• •
Southside Virginia Training Center	Skilled Nursing ICF - MR	•	• •
Southeastern Virginia Training Center	ICF - MR Dental		• •
Southwestern Virginia Training Center	ICF - MR Dental		• •