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BILL WILLIS CENTER RECOGNIZED WITH NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

Bill Willis Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Center, based in Tahlequah with satellite facilities in Sallisaw, Stilwell and Wagoner, has been recognized for outstanding services with a three-year accreditation from the national Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

A three-year accreditation is the highest level of accreditation a service provider can be awarded and shows substantial fulfillment of CARF standards. CARF's mission is to promote the quality, value and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of those served.

Connie Schlittler, Bill Willis CMHC executive director, said she is honored and pleased the facility has been awarded this distinction.

“As service providers to people suffering from mental health and/or substance abuse issues, our staff works hard to promote high standards,” she said. “CARF has exacting standards, with an emphasis on these core values: All people should have the right to be treated with dignity and respect; all people should have access to needed services that achieve optimum outcomes; and all people should be empowered to exercise informed choice. Our values are in line with those, as well.”

(more)

CARF reviewed a number of programs at Bill Willis CMHC, including: mental health case management and services coordination for adults, as well as for children and adolescents; community-based mental health rehabilitation for adults; integrated substance abuse/mental health outpatient programs for adults, as well as for children and adolescents; and adult residential substance abuse treatment.

In its multi-page report, CARF was especially complimentary of the facility's leadership, management, collection and analysis of data, dedication to the needs of those served, process for maintaining financial stability, and substance abuse screening advancements. The report also noted that people served by the facility spoke highly of the organization's emphasis on community integration.

Bill Willis CMHC is a facility of the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. For more information, call 918-207-3000.

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