

TSCS Newsletter

Taylor's Special Care Services, Inc.

Volume 8, Issue 1

January 2013



Mr. Taylor congratulates staff members and persons served at the management meeting on Jan 30th for their tremendous help and support in our preparation for the CARF accreditation survey.

Employee Recognition Award *Raises, Incentives and Employee of the Month Awards*

Rubin Allen received the "Employee of the Month Award" in December 2012 for making significant contributions in the lives of persons served and going above and beyond the call of duty. The *Bond Home* received the "Home of the Month Award" for their dedication to the persons served and contribution to the advancement of TSCS mission, vision and values.

Persons Served Accomplishments: Appreciations

Eugenio Rodriguez has been awarded the *Resident of the Month* for December for significant

achievements in the quest for personal improvement and independence.

TSCS would like to thank all staff and persons served for their tremendous help and assistance in preparation for the CARF accreditation survey.

Particularly, *William Peeples*, *Shontelle Cavanaugh* and *Natalie Shaver* have done a great job assisting the office prepare for the survey.

They are all commended for a great job done!



2013 CARF Accreditation Survey



CARF International completed TSCS' 3rd accreditation survey on January 10 and 11, 2013 to evaluate how well our services meet international standards for quality. The survey team conducted site reviews, interviews, and observed and reviewed documentation and records to learn how TSCS demonstrates conformance to the CARF standards.

CARF International will make the accreditation decision and send the final survey report in approximately 6 to 8 weeks. Once we receive the report, we will be able to determine how from that point forward we want to make improvements and maintain conformance to the standards.
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Simon Pop, MBA
Chief Operating Officer

Apreciations (Cont'd)

Staff and Persons served



Mr. Taylor awards *Shontelle Cavanaugh* a *certificate of appreciation* at the managers' meeting on January 30th.



Mr. Taylor presents the *Resident and Home of the Month* certificates at the managers' meeting on January 30th.

HIPAA Mega Rule Breakdown

Major Changes

The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) released its biggest set of modifications to the HIPAA privacy

and security rules with the January 17 unveiling of its long-awaited "**HIPAA mega rule.**" The final omnibus rule enhances a patient's privacy protections, provides individuals' new rights to their health information, and strengthens the government's ability to enforce the law, according to an HHS press release. The rule is enforceable starting September 24. Some of the biggest changes include the elimination of the "harm threshold" provision from the breach notification rule and holding third-party subcontractors who use and disclose PHI accountable to HIPAA rules and penalties.

Stiffer Requirements for BAs

Effective September 24, subcontractors of business associates (BA) who use or disclose PHI on behalf of the BA (or the direct subcontractor of the BA) are now BAs by definition and will be subject to civil penalties, compliance

TSCS Mission:

Our commitment and goal is to provide the highest-quality services and supports to people with chronic mental illness and young adults to meet their individual needs.

The possible accreditation outcomes of the decision are these:

1. **A 3-Year Accreditation:** *the organization satisfies accreditation conditions; demonstrates substantial conformance to the standards; programs and services designed and operated to benefit the person served; establishes pattern of operation that is likely to be maintained and/or improved in the foreseeable future; demonstrates ongoing performance improvement and continuous conformance from any previous periods of CARF accreditation.*
2. **A 1-Year Accreditation:** *the organization satisfies accreditation conditions; demonstrates conformance to many of the standards; however, there are significant areas of non or partial conformance in relation to the standards; it appears that the organization has the capability to correct the deficiencies and a commitment to progress toward conformance; the services benefit those served, and the organization appears to protect their health, welfare, and safety.*
3. **Non-Accreditation:** *there are major deficiencies in several areas of the standards and there are questions as to the benefits of the services and the health, welfare, or safety of the persons served; the organization has failed to bring itself into substantial conformance to the standards; or failure to satisfy one or more of the accreditation conditions.*

Once we receive the CARF Survey Report, provided we are awarded a 3-year accreditation, we will be responsible to submit a **Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)** to CARF within 90 days addressing all issues noted in the report, and then on an annual basis after that we will have to submit an **Annual Conformance to Quality Report (ACQR)**.

requirements, etc., according to Chris Apgar, CISSP, CEO and president of Apgar & Associates, LLC, of Portland, OR.

Apgar also notes that Bas, covered entities and now those subcontractors of Bas who use and disclose PHI on behalf of Bas must update business associate contracts within 180 days from the date the rule is published in the *Federal Register* (January 25).

Before the HIPAA mega rule, if a healthcare provider contracted with a BA who handled the PHI, and that BA in turn hired a subcontractor who also used or disclosed PHI, that subcontractor would not be subject to HIPAA rules. However, previous provisions allowed “privacy and security protections for protected health information (PHI) to lapse once a subcontractor is enlisted to assist in performing a function, activity, or service for the covered entity, while at the same time potentially allowing certain primary business associates to avoid liability altogether for the protection of the information the covered entity has entrusted to the business associate,” according to the final rule.

HHS noted in its press release earlier this month that some of the largest breaches reported to HHS have involved BAs. In fact, the top three all included BAs. *Source:* HCPRO



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. **Did you know?**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a United States federal holiday marking the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is observed on the third Monday of January each year, which is around the time of King’s birthday, January 15.

The floating holiday is similar to holidays set under the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, though the act predated the establishment of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day by 15 years. King was the chief spokesman for nonviolent activism in the civil rights movement, which successfully protested racial discrimination in federal and state law.

The campaign for a federal holiday in King’s honor began soon after his assassination in 1968. Ronald Reagan signed the holiday into law in 1983 and it was first observed on January 20, 1986. At first, some states resisted observing the holiday as such, giving it alternative names or combining it with other holidays. It was officially observed in all 50 states for the first time in 2000.



“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

Outside the USA

One place outside the United States where Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is observed with equal importance is in the Japanese city of Hiroshima under mayor Tadatashi Akiba, who holds a special banquet at the mayor’s office as an act of unifying his city’s call for peace with King’s message of human rights.

The city of Toronto, Canada, is another city that has officially recognized Martin Luther King Jr., Day, although it is not a paid holiday in Toronto, and all government services and businesses

remain open. In 1984, during a visit by the U.S. Sixth Fleet, Navy chaplain Rabbi Arnold Resnicoff conducted the first Israeli Presidential ceremony in commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, held in the President’s Residence, Jerusalem. Mrs. Aura Herzog, wife of Israel’s then-President Chaim Herzog, noted that she was especially proud to host this special event, because Israel had a national forest in honor of Dr. King, and that Israel and Dr. King shared the idea of “dreams”. Resnicoff continued this theme in his remarks during the ceremony, quoting the verse from Genesis, spoken by the brothers of Joseph when they saw their brother approach, “Behold the dreamer comes; let us slay him and throw him into the pit, and see what becomes of his dreams.”

Resnicoff noted that, from time immemorial, there have been those who thought they could kill the dream by slaying the dreamer, but – as the example of Dr. King’s life shows – such people are always wrong.



Artist: Marion S. Trikosko

Title: Martin Luther King press conference

Date: 26 March 1964

Current Location: Library of Congress

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Source: Wikipedia