



February 4, 2015

Lex Cole
Executive Director
South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.
140 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 350
Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Mr. Cole:

It is our great pleasure to inform you that the Council on Accreditation (COA) has approved the accreditation of **South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.** through **April 30, 2019**. Let me again say how significant this achievement is! It represents the fulfillment of countless hours of hard work and the dedication of many people—most notably your staff and the members of your board and/or leadership. Please extend my congratulations to them.

This formal notification includes a list of programs and services for which **South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.** is accredited, as well as your Final Accreditation Report (FAR). A plaque attesting to your agency's accredited status will be sent to you shortly.

Your Final Accreditation Report (FAR) is an important and incredibly valuable document. It contains the observations and recommendations of your Peer Reviewer colleagues based on your self-study and site visit. In essence, the FAR provides a unique view of your organization as seen through the eyes of highly experienced professionals. In it you will find a copy of the full accreditation ratings for all Purpose, Core, and Practice standards, identifying the Fundamental Practice standards. It may also contain any noted organizational strengths and areas for opportunities.

Please refer to the [Post Accreditation Outreach \(PAO\) Tool Kit web page](http://coanet.org/programs/private-organization-accreditation/post-accreditation-outreach/) (<http://coanet.org/programs/private-organization-accreditation/post-accreditation-outreach/>) to find resources that can assist you with leveraging your organization's COA accreditation to internal and external stakeholders. (note: for public agencies, these materials may need to be customized). At the very least, however, we recommend that you provide relevant excerpts to those members of your staff who are directly responsible for the respective findings. Should you do so, please explain that the report is intended to be *constructive*, and that the goal is to provide specific, tangible examples of how they can make your organization even stronger and even better.

Having said that, you should know that those ratings for which you did not demonstrate implementation should be addressed through your PQI process.

Richard Klarberg
President & Chief Executive Officer

Markus Trice
Chair, Board of Trustees

Sponsoring Organizations

Alliance for Children and Families
Association of Jewish Family and
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National Network for Youth
National Organization of State
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Council on Accreditation

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Even though they did not require correction in order to achieve accreditation, they will be made a part of your file and reviewed during your next accreditation cycle. Remember, COA accreditation is not an end in and of itself. Rather, it is a process by which your organization can consistently strive for and achieve new levels of excellence.

Finally, let me say that your relationship with COA does not end with this letter. Ours is a partnership. As such, I would ask that you feel free to share with me your ideas and concerns. Additionally, please feel free to contact Christina Byrne, Senior Director of Accreditation Programs, either by email at cbyrne@coanet.org or by telephone at 212-797-3000, extension 280, if you have any questions. Together we can enrich the lives of children, individuals, and families in need everywhere.

We are proud to be associated with you and your colleagues. We wish you the very best in your continuing service to persons in your community. *That is the power of accreditation.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Klarberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Klarberg" clearly distinguishable.

Richard Klarberg
President and Chief Executive Officer

Attachment



South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.
 Organization ID: 1647
 8th Edition Private Standards

Expiration date: April 30, 2019

The accreditation of South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc. includes the following services and associated programs:

Service(s)	Service Subsection(s)	Program Name	Address
Counseling Support & Education Svs (CSE)		Community Based Wrap Services	140 Stoneridge Dr. Suite 350, Columbia, SC 29210
Family Foster Care and Kinship Care (FKC)		Therapeutic Foster Care	140 Stoneridge Dr. Suite 350, Columbia, SC 29210
Family Foster Care and Kinship Care (FKC)		Therapeutic Foster Care	300 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Greenville, SC 29615
Family Foster Care and Kinship Care (FKC)		Therapeutic Foster Care	604-D Bladen Street, Beaufort, SC 29902
Family Foster Care and Kinship Care (FKC)		Therapeutic Foster Care	604 Gregg Ave., Florence, SC 29501
Family Foster Care and Kinship Care (FKC)		Therapeutic Foster Care	148 Elk Drive, Unit 4, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576
Family Foster Care and Kinship Care (FKC)		Therapeutic Foster Care	4995 LaCross Road, Suite 1075, North Charleston, SC 29406
Fam Preserv & Stabilization Svs (FPS)		Intensive Family Services	140 Stoneridge Dr. Suite 350, Columbia, SC 29210
Outpatient Mental Health Services (MH)		Mental Health Services	140 Stoneridge Dr. Suite 350, Columbia, SC 29210



Organizational Strengths

South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.
Organization ID# 1647

Administrative and Management Standards

Ethical Practice (ETH), Financial Management (FIN), Governance (GOV) or Administration & Management (AM) (for Public State Systems), Human Resources (HR), Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI), Risk Prevention and Management (RPM)

- ETH South Carolina Youth Advocacy Program has established comprehensive policies concerning ethics, and the staff reflect these policies in practice.
- FIN Financial policies and practices are comprehensive and very well implemented. The financial management of the organization has consistently resulted in end of year surpluses. Communication regarding financial management among the Board, CEO, and CFO is routine and effective in maintaining SCYAP's strong fiscal position.
- GOV The board is small but highly effective in executing its duties. A significant number of the board members have served for a number of years which aids in their understanding of the mission of the organization and in their oversight of both fiscal integrity and service performance. Newer board members are well oriented to their roles and responsibilities. The board maintains a close working relationship with the organization's CEO.
- HR Program managers, direct service providers and support staff are highly capable, highly motivated and work as a cohesive unit. The organization has several long term staff which speaks to the dedication of the staff and the large amount of support they receive from the organization's leadership.
- PQI Leadership demonstrates commitment and is significantly involved with the PQI plan and process. It is evident that PQI resonates throughout the organization. The organization uses PQI data to improve performance, they need to document their progress.
- RPM Leaders are attentive to any risks that may affect South Carolina Youth Advocacy Program's ability to carry out its mission. Review of potential risk is both annual and ongoing. Case records are well maintained with substantial safeguards in place to

prevent unauthorized access and release of information. IT has established robust safeguards for the organizations IT systems.

Service Delivery Administration Standards

Administrative and Service Environment (ASE), Behavior Support and Management (BSM), Client Rights (CR), Training and Supervision (TS)

- ASE South Carolina Youth Advocacy Program maintains attractive facilities that are well suited to the needs of the organization. Thorough emergency plans have been developed for every office location. Safety of both recipients and staff is fully addressed in policies and procedures and closely monitored in implementation.
- BSM The organization clearly provides a substantial amount of training to staff and foster parents on how to deal with a variety of behaviors.
- CR Services are delivered consistent with a guiding philosophy that connects client needs, activities and desired outcomes.
- TS Training program and supervisory content are appropriate and advance personnel knowledge and skills.

Service Standards

- CSE Service recipients are highly engaged with the Wrap Advocates and value their involvement. The diversity of services offered effectively meets the varied needs of the youth participating in the program. The advocates are well versed in the needs of the youth that they serve and have an in depth understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Many Advocates have extensive experience working with troubled youth. Staff supervision is frequent and collaborative.
- FKC The organization's service delivery practices and policies fully meet the standard and reflect a high level of capacity. All elements or requirements are evident with rare or no exceptions. Foster parents are extremely pleased with the support they receive from the organization's staff. In addition foster children have stated they feel safe, that their needs are met and they are better for having been a part of the foster family.
- FPS Services are considered by clients to be consistently of high quality. The program provides support in lots of areas but if there is an area they don't they actively seek assistance for that family. The organizational culture values high quality services that make a positive difference for service recipients.
- MH SCYAP's mental health services maintain a clear model of service provision. Comprehensive progress notes demonstrate the use of therapeutic strategies tailored to