

**AOC**  
**Clinical/behavioral health committee**  
**Feb 12, 2009**

**In attendance:** Gordon Blue – SCPS; Andy Lee – YAS; David Voluck – YAS; Shyla – YAS; Annette Becker – YAS; Kelly Warren – SEARHC; Matthew & Kayla – AOC.

**Accreditation**

4 years down the road; state is requiring that all agencies get accredited by national agency, potential for losing Medicaid # if non-compliant. Unfunded mandate – no compensation for very expensive requirement.

JAYCO cheaper, traditionally more hospital-y, but starting a BH component  
CARF has best practices

Any coalitions in SE working advocacy angle? Trying to get state to take different approach – perhaps supporting the requirement by providing some funds toward achieving it?

Don't think anyone is rounding people up for that.

Andy and Gordon could lead a SE effort (Wrangell, POW, Metlakatla), get press involved, bring issue to the forefront

Shyla – AmeriCorps volunteer – looking into info about accreditation: Behavioral Health Standards manual from CARF is huge; there is also a children and youth manual for SCPS because of residential; enormous checklist to ensure compliance with all their standards.

CARF accreditation better for Raven's Way, more specific for behavioral health (not so much hospital care); CARF's process is a training seminar – one in NC in April, may be beneficial to send rep to get more information; 2 days \$455, get all the manuals; (Kelly says these trainings are excellent, come back with stuff that can be implemented)

Continuing ed offered to agencies after accreditation

Require annual conformance report, have to check in every year, even if accred is 3 or 5 years;

Fees: still unknown

There are freelance agents out there – good idea to bring someone up here?

SEARHC has templates that they can share

JAYCO may have new stuff worth looking into; SEARHC is switching to JAYCO (but SEARHC employees recommend CARF for their services)

As long as agencies are abiding by Medicaid standards, should be “good to go”

Agencies could begin by working on policy and procedure manuals – they are specific on what is needed in writing.

Suggestion: Contract Kayla to go to NC, help sift through details, update policy manuals

**Next steps:**

Open the box of advocacy – check in with other SE agencies, see if there's other interest in approaching legislature

CARF vs. JAYCO – need more formal analysis of the two; considering future of the agencies – will SEARHC set standard for the region? Really concerning to think we may choose the wrong tool and learn later we need the other.

SCPS and YAS will meet with boards and explore the possibility of contracting Kayla to go with NC for training and to align the agencies' policy manuals. Kayla will ballpark a fee.

Romee McAdams at SEARHC has been to the CARF training for years – she's in HR.