



Family Services, Inc.

*An affiliate of Sheppard & Enoch Pratt Foundation*

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**For Immediate Release**

**FAMILY SERVICES' PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION PROGRAM BECOMES FIRST  
CARF ACCREDITED PROGRAM IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

(Gaithersburg, MD) – (December 15, 2009) – CARF International announced that Family Services, Inc. (FSI) has been accredited for a period of three years for its Montgomery Station Psychiatric Rehabilitation programs. This award makes Montgomery Station the first psychiatric rehabilitation program in Montgomery County to receive this accreditation.

This accreditation decision represents the highest level that can be awarded to an organization and shows the organization's substantial conformance to the CARF Standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process and has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit that its programs and services are of the highest quality, measurable, and accountable.

"I believe that all of our programs should strive to reach the highest possible standards and that having an independent review, along with client feedback, is the best way to measure your work and plan your future direction," said Thomas Harr, Executive Director for Family Services, Inc. "Beyond that, I am enormously proud of the clients, staff and Board members who make this a wonderful program."

The CARF accreditation comes on the heels of another noteworthy achievement for Montgomery Station. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded Family Services a \$1.4 Million HUD Grant to rehabilitate homes for people with mental illness.

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known as CARF, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services.

“I am extremely proud that Family Services’ Montgomery Station program has been awarded a three-year accreditation, making us the first psychiatric rehabilitation program in Montgomery County to be accredited by CARF,” said Lisa Barnum, Director of Family Services’ Montgomery Station. “We have a great program and I believe that our decision to become more recovery-oriented and to embrace evidence-based practices has served us well and is in the best interest of the individuals we serve.”

Family Services, Inc. is the oldest private nonprofit social service organization in Montgomery County, providing an array of child and family support programs, as well as a wide range of mental health services to the Montgomery County area since 1908. Offices are located at 610 East Diamond Avenue, Suite 100, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877.

For additional information, contact Wendy Enderson at 301-840-3208 or visit [www.fs-inc.org](http://www.fs-inc.org).