



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TRANSITIONS-MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
AWARDED THREE-YEAR CARF ACCREDITATION**

San Luis Obispo, CA – CARF International announced that Transitions-Mental Health Association has been accredited for a period of three years for Employment Services provided by the Supported Employment Program (SEP).

SEP provides on-going job support services necessary for individuals with mental illnesses to choose, get and keep competitive employment, while working in jobs and environments they prefer and with the level of professional support they desire. Services are designed to be client-driven and take into consideration each person's skills, interests, and abilities. SEP serves approximately 200 individuals per year and partners with a wide variety of businesses and community agencies throughout San Luis Obispo and Northern Santa Barbara Counties.

According to CARF 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 the 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.

"This accomplishment is a feather in SEP's cap," said Barry Johnson, Division Director of Adult Rehab & Advocacy for THMA. "Local employers and other community partners can be assured that the employment services provided by TMHA's SEP program reflect the best practices in the industry, practices that bring the greatest benefit to the clients we serve and the employers that hire them."

This latest accreditation is the first consecutive Three-Year Accreditation that the international accrediting body has awarded to Transitions-Mental Health Association since the reinstatement of the Supported Employment Program in 2006.

Examples of identified strengths from the CARF report include:

- TMHA administrative and program staff evidenced a true passion and commitment to delivering quality services to persons served and other stakeholders.
- Consumers reported a high level of satisfaction with services provided by TMHA.
- Employers are pleased with the assistance received from TMHA and state they are willing to give other consumers opportunities they might not have considered before.

### **About Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities - CARF International**

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 person-focused standards to help organization measure and improve the quality of the programs and services. For more information, visit [www.carf.org](http://www.carf.org).

### **About T-MHA**

Transitions-Mental Health Association is a non-profit organization that helps children and adults live, work and grow in our community. TMHA operates 27 programs at over 35 locations that reach over 2,000 people and 1,500 families in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. The emphasis of TMHA's many services is to teach vital independent living skills, and build a framework for community re-entry through personal empowerment and hands on experience. For over 30 years, T-MHA has been dedicated to providing housing, employment, case management and life-skills support to teens and adults with mental illness; and support, resources and education for their loved ones. For more information, visit [www.T-MHA.org](http://www.T-MHA.org).

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