

# Southwest Counseling Solutions Earns Three-Year CARF Accreditation



Florys Gonzalez-Meridith, a therapist at Child, Youth and Family Services, counsels Barbie

Southwest Counseling Solutions has earned a three-year accreditation for its seven major mental health counseling programs, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) announced.

The latest accreditation is the sixth consecutive Three-Year Accreditation that the international accrediting body has awarded to Southwest Counseling Solutions (SWCS).

This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation 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 onsite visit that its programs and services are of the highest quality, measurable, and accountable.

"SWCS is a premier provider of community-based behavioral services," the CARF survey report stated. "The clinical staff members are well qualified and demonstrate a strong focus on the provision of high quality services and supports. Coupled with a strong and long-tenured leadership and management, this supports a consistent service delivery system and ability to address the needs of the persons served."

"We have achieved the highest level of CARF accreditation since 1993," said Joseph Tardella, executive director of SWCS. "This accomplishment is a tribute to our

talented and dedicated staff and our resolute commitment to our core values of respect, responsibility and recovery."

The CARF report gave exemplary marks to SWCS programs in these areas: Integrated Assertive Community Treatment (Adults); Mental Health Case Management/Services Coordination (Adults); Integrated Outpatient Treatment (Adults); Mental Health Outpatient Treatment (Children and Adolescents); Mental Health Supported Living (Adults); and Psychosocial Rehabilitation Supported Living (Adults).

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.