



Press Release

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Natchaug Hospital Awarded Joint Commission Accreditation

MANSFIELD, Conn. - After undergoing a rigorous on-site survey, Natchaug Hospital has received accreditation from The Joint Commission for meeting national standards in health care quality and safety. Accreditation was awarded in both the areas of Behavior Health Care and Hospitals.

"In achieving Joint Commission accreditation, Natchaug Hospital has demonstrated its commitment to the highest level of care for the people they serve," said Mary Cesare-Murphy, Ph.D., executive director, Behavioral Health Care Accreditation, The Joint Commission. "Joint Commission accreditation is a voluntary process and I commend Natchaug for successfully undertaking this challenge to elevate its standard of care and instill confidence in the community it serves."

A team of Joint Commission expert surveyors visited Natchaug Hospital from July 12-15, 2011 and evaluated it for compliance with standards of care specific to the needs of individuals served and families, including infection prevention and control, leadership, and medication management.

Natchaug Hospital voluntarily participated in the assessment and earned The Joint Commission's *Gold Seal of Approval™*, which is valid for up to three years.

The Joint Commission's standards are developed in consultation with health care experts, providers, measurement experts, individuals served and their families. The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.

"With Joint Commission accreditation, we are making a significant investment in quality on a day-to-day basis from the top down and bottom up," said Dr. Stephen Larcen, President and CEO of Natchaug. "Achieving Joint Commission accreditation is a major step toward maintaining excellence and continually improving the care we provide."

For more information on Natchaug Hospital, please visit Natchaug.org.

A member of Hartford Healthcare, Natchaug Hospital is a Joint Commission-accredited, non-profit organization providing special education, mental health and addiction treatment for children, adolescents and adults through a network of community-based programs in Danielson, Dayville, Enfield, Groton, Mansfield, Montville, Norwich, Old Saybrook, Vernon and Windham.