

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network Awarded Three-Year CARF Accreditation

Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network announced that it has once again received a Three-Year Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for its vocational assessment, job preparation and placement programs for youth and adults with limitations and disabilities. This is the fifth accreditation that the international commission has awarded to Dreamcatchers.

This outcome represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and shows that Dreamcatchers meets or exceeds the high standards established by CARF. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation outcome 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.

Dreamcatchers was recognized for the "stellar" relationship that the organization has with its main funder, the California State Department of Rehabilitation. Funders express a high degree of satisfaction with Dreamcatchers and believe that the services are well managed and greatly benefit clients. Funders are especially pleased that the organization's tenacity has resulted in many clients becoming more independent and self-sufficient. Dreamcatchers is highly respected in communities for its integrity, strong leadership, skilled and compassionate staff members and the quality of service results. The organization is known for its expertise, does not turn away the most challenging clients, and achieves remarkable job placements. Dreamcatchers was commended for having well-qualified and caring staff members that consistently show a high-level of dignity and respect towards clients. It is evident that the day-to-day interactions are person-centered and that they are committed to the enhancement of their clients' lives.

Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network provides support to recovering mental health clients and people with physical or learning disabilities as they transition to leading independent lives within their communities. The organization collaborates with numerous government agencies and local businesses throughout Butte, Contra Costa, Placer, Sacramento, Solano and Yolo counties to offer its diverse group of clients a complete support program.

Dreamcatchers takes a client-centered approach to providing services with respect and dignity, as well as educating the community on the benefits of employing people with limitations. The belief is that when an individual achieves meaningful employment, the community benefits from the exposure and contributions of individuals, who are frequently

marginalized. Dreamcatchers employment services are a key to fighting stigma and discrimination for individuals with limitations.

About Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network

The mission of Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network is to provide assessments, job preparation, job placement and job coaching to youth and adults with limitations and disabilities.

Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network is dedicated to serving individuals in a collaborative manner, with a network of other agencies. Dreamcatchers services are directed at assisting individuals to prepare for, choose, obtain, and retain employment. Services are tailored to an individual's strengths, resources, priorities, needs, abilities, interests and informed choices

For additional information, visit our website at <u>www.dreamcatch.us</u> or contact Regina Kaiser at 707-558-1775 or <u>rkaiser@dreamcatch.us</u>.

About CARF

CARF is an independent, not-for-profit 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. For more information about the accreditation process, please visit the CARF website at www.carf.org.