



Release of the 2011 Edition of the Child, Youth and Family Standards Manual

CAC is pleased to announce the release of the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards

In the 2008 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards, CAC underwent a significant change within the framework of our standards and adopted a broader base of services that traditionally were not a part of the organizations we have accredited in the past. With the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards our committees and stakeholders established a clear mandate:

1. Work within the current framework – minimize the impact of change
2. Re-alignment of standards – improve the grouping of standards
3. Increase the focus on the clarity of the Accreditation Process and the wording of the Standards

The changes in the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards improve clarity and minimize disruptions to the organizations. Based on research and stakeholder consultation, changes were made in areas that demanded greater accountability, such as medication administration and the support of individual choice. For your convenience a comparison chart of the 2008 Edition with 2010 Revisions to the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards has been added to our appendices. Please refer to Appendix B, C and D for a complete list of the changes that have been made.

The effective date of the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards will be staggered in order to provide organizations with enough time to adapt to the changes.

- **Organizations with current accreditation status with CAC:** Compliance with the new standards will be required by April of 2012. The Annual Declaration of Compliance will include a new document to be filled out, listing the new standards that have been added and an area for you to indicate if your organization is now compliant. If your organization is not compliant, you will be asked to provide an action plan detailing your process for moving towards compliance.
- **Organizations which are currently in the process of accreditation:** Organization that are currently in the process will continue to use the 2008 Edition with 2010 Revisions until the process has been completed. Those organizations will still be required to complete the action plan as to how they will meet the new standards in the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards at the time of the Annual Declaration of Compliance.
- **Organization applying for accreditation between August 1 and October 31, 2011:** Organizations applying for accreditation will have the choice of which standards they would like to utilize until October 31, 2011. As of November 1, 2011 all organizations will be required to use the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards. *Please be advised that we strongly encourage all organizations applying to use the latest edition of standards when apply for accreditation services.*

In order to make the transition to our new edition of standards as smooth as possible for everyone who is involved with CAC, we will be providing information sessions for Organizations, Reviewers and Team Leads in October and November of 2011. These sessions will review the changes that have been made to the standards and process as well as allow you to ask us any questions you may have about the new standards. More information about these sessions will be available later in August, so please continue to check our website and your email for updates.

An electronic copy of the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards has been attached to this email for your use and a hard copy will be available for purchase in August. For those who have purchased a hard copy of the 2008 Edition with 2010 Revisions of the Child, Youth and Family Standards, you can trade in your copy and purchase a new version for a reduced rate of \$25 plus applicable taxes for each previous edition you trade in. The regular price of the books is \$50 plus applicable taxes. If you would like to reserve your copy, please email Amanda at aellis@cacohs.com. As well as being attached to this email, the 2011 Edition of Child, Youth and Family Standards will be available on the Accreditation Support Network (ASN). If you do not have access to the ASN, please contact Amanda at the email address above.

The release of the 2011 Edition of the Child, Youth and Family Standards is the first step in the release of our new standards collection. In addition to the Child, Youth and Family Standards, CAC is releasing the Adult-Based Standards which are built on the same framework but with program standards that are specific to adult based services. The decision to create the two volumes of standards was to improve clarity and to provide a better fit for the evaluation of services. The 2011 Edition of the Adult Based Standards will be available in August.

If you have any questions about these changes, please don't hesitate to call the office at 780-424-4498 or toll-free at 1-888-222-1248. Thank you very much and I hope you have a wonderful day!