

CHESTNUT PROGRAMS RECEIVE ACCREDITATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BLOOMINGTON – Chestnut Health Systems' programs that provide care for persons with mental health, substance use, and other illnesses – as well as low-income residents needing primary health care – have earned The Joint Commission's (TJC) Gold Seal of Approval[®]. Chestnut earned accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with TJC's performance standards. The Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to providing safe and effective care.

Chestnut has been continuously accredited by TJC since 1975.

Ambulatory Health Care Accreditation

Given to Chestnut's Family Health Center (CFHC), the accreditation recognizes compliance with standards for coordination of care, infection prevention, infection control, medication management, and patient education and training. CFHC has locations at 720 W. Chestnut St., Bloomington, III., and 50 Northgate Industrial Drive, Granite City, III.

Primary Care Medical Home Accreditation

Also awarded to the CFHC locations, this accreditation recognizes effective partnerships between health care providers and patients to provide care that is comprehensive, coordinated, and patient-centered.

Behavioral Health Care Accreditation

Chestnut's mental health and substance use disorder services earned this designation. It recognizes compliance with standards related to care, treatment and services; environment of care; leadership; and screening procedures for the early detection of imminent harm. Chestnut operates mental health and substance use disorder programs in Bloomington, Granite City, Maryville, and Belleville, III.

Chestnut underwent a rigorous, unannounced onsite survey by TJC surveyors in November 2018. Accreditation for all three program areas is effective beginning in November 2018 for a period of up to three years.

The Joint Commission

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than 21,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, nonprofit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Learn more about The Joint Commission at www.jointcommission.org

Chestnut Health Systems is a non-profit organization that has cared since 1975 for persons needing behavioral health services. Chestnut provides substance use disorder treatment, mental health counseling, primary health care, credit counseling, and housing and supportive services. It is a leader in substance use-related research. More at <u>www.chestnut.org</u>.