
EXTERNAL ACCREDITATION – An Achievable Goal for all Health Centers

**BPHC All-Grantee Meeting
Washington, D.C.
June 21 – 24, 2005**

**PEAK VISTA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO**

ABOUT PEAK VISTA

- Peak Vista Community Health Centers (PVCHC) established in 1971
 - BPHC FQHC Grantee - 330e and 330h
 - Pikes Peak Region of Colorado
 - Serve both urban and rural/frontier communities
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ABOUT PEAK VISTA

- 14 clinics; 7 sites; 2 counties
 - 30,500 patients served (UDS 04)
 - 141,000 visits (UDS 04)
 - Clinical Programs: Family Health, Senior Health (2), Pediatrics, Women's Health, Homeless, Integrated Behavioral Health, Dental Health (2)
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ACCREDITATION HISTORY

- PVCHC was first accredited in 1995 by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization (JCAHO)
 - 1st in Colorado
 - Original 5% of chc's accredited nationally
 - Maintained accreditation with JCAHO through February 2005
 - Accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) in February 2005
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WHY ACCREDITATION?

- Credibility
 - Enhanced competition
 - Governing body assurance of quality of care
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WHY CHANGE FROM JCAHO TO AAAHC?

- PVCHC closed inpatient birth center
 - AAAHC seemed better positioned to meet needs of operation as ambulatory only
 - Reviewers still in active practice
 - Cost review
 - PVCHC closed inpatient facility
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PROCESS FOR CHANGE

- Researched all options
 - Formed Process Action Team (PAT)
 - Standards of both AAAHC and JCAHO cross walked
 - Internal review and cost/benefit analysis
 - Provider review
 - Quality Improvement Committee of Board
 - Board approval
 - Notified BPHC and JCAHO
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BOTTOMLINE – KEY LESSONS

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- Accreditation important and valuable
- Improves quality of services & processes
- Choice in accreditation body is good for chc's

KEY LESSONS

- Annual, self administered mock surveys
 - Process Action Teams (PAT's)
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CONTACT INFORMATION

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