

## **What CARF Surveyors had to say about A.F. Whitsitt Center**

Kent County Health Department/A.F. Whitsitt Center (the Center) is recognized as a longstanding short-term treatment center for persons with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders.

Patients express deep appreciation and satisfaction with the program and especially with the relationships they develop with the dedicated and caring staff members. One patient stated that, when he needed to return to treatment, he chose to come back to the Center because of the relationship he had in the past and the support and dedication of the staff members.

Referral sources applaud the work of the Center's staff members. They noted the ability of the staff members to do the work that is done with the limited resources that are available.

Therapists and community coordinators work closely with the referring county health departments, mental health services, and substance use services to ensure that patients have a well-planned transition back in to their own community if they choose to return. Much emphasis is placed on preparing the patient to have alternative, healthy activities and options when leaving the treatment program. Basis housing, job possibilities, an ongoing follow-up treatment and support are planned to provide opportunities for success for the patients.

The Center focuses on ensuring that patients are closely monitored for their educational, physical, emotional, psychiatric, and leisure activities. Staff members are kind, compassionate, dedicated, skilled, and nurturing to the patients.

Staff members are encouraged to continue in their education and training to continually enhance their skills in co-occurring disorders. Many staff members have had experience and training in mental health services, and others have had experience in substance use treatment, so the merging of skills and knowledge is an ongoing process that is a commitment of the organization.