



May 9, 2019

Lex Cole  
Executive Director  
South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.  
140 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 350  
Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Mr. Lex Cole:

It is our great pleasure to inform you that the Council on Accreditation (COA) has approved the accreditation of **South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.** through **April 30, 2023**. Let me again say how significant this achievement is! It represents the fulfillment of countless hours of hard work and the dedication of many people—most notably your staff and the members of your board and/or leadership. Please extend my congratulations to them.

This formal notification includes a list of programs and services for which **South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, Inc.** is accredited, as well as your Final Accreditation Report (FAR). A plaque attesting to your agency's accredited status will be sent to you shortly.

Your Final Accreditation Report (FAR) is an important and incredibly valuable document. It contains the observations and recommendations of your Peer Reviewer colleagues based on your self-study and site visit. In essence, the FAR provides a unique view of your organization as seen through the eyes of highly experienced professionals. In it you will find a copy of the full accreditation ratings for all Purpose, Core, and Practice standards, identifying the Fundamental Practice standards. It may also contain any noted organizational strengths and areas for opportunities.

Please refer to the Promotional Tool Kit web page to find resources that can assist you with leveraging your organization's COA accreditation to internal and external stakeholders.

Private: <http://coanet.org/accreditation/private-organization-accreditation/promote-your-accreditation/>

Public: <http://coanet.org/accreditation/public-agency-accreditation/promote-your-accreditation/>

Canadian: <http://coanet.org/accreditation/canadian-organisation-accreditation/promote-your-accreditation/>

At the very least, however, we recommend that you provide relevant excerpts to those members of your staff who are directly responsible for the respective findings. Should you do so, please explain that the report is intended to be *constructive*, and that the goal is to provide specific, tangible examples of how they can make your organization even stronger and even better.

**Jody Levison-Johnson**  
President & Chief Executive Officer

**Phillip H. Redmond Jr.**  
Chair, Board of Trustees

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#### Council on Accreditation

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212.797.3000  
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Having said that, you should know that those ratings for which you did not demonstrate implementation should be addressed through your PQI process.

Even though they did not require correction in order to achieve accreditation, they will be made a part of your file and reviewed during your next accreditation cycle. Remember, COA accreditation is not an end in and of itself. Rather, it is a process by which your organization can consistently strive for and achieve new levels of excellence.

Finally, let me say that your relationship with COA does not end with this letter. Ours is a partnership. As such, I would ask that you feel free to share with me your ideas and concerns. Additionally, please feel free to contact Tobi Murch, Director of Volunteer Engagement, either by email at [tmurch@coanet.org](mailto:tmurch@coanet.org) or by telephone at 212-797-3000, extension 272, if you have any questions. Together we can enrich the lives of children, individuals, and families in need everywhere.

We are proud to be associated with you and your colleagues. We wish you the very best in your continuing service to persons in your community. *That is the power of accreditation.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jody Levison-Johnson', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Jody Levison-Johnson  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Attachment