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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SWFAS AWARDED THREE-YEAR
CARF ACCREDITATION**

FORT MYERS, FLA., June 22, 2010 – CARF announced that Southwest Florida Addiction Services (SWFAS) has been accredited for a period of three years for 15 of its substance abuse treatment and prevention programs.

The latest accreditation is the fourth consecutive three-year accreditation that the international accrediting commission has awarded to SWFAS. The accreditation decision from CARF represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and shows the organization’s substantial conformance to the CARF standards.

“An organization receiving a three-year accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process and has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit that its programs and services are of the highest quality, measurable, and accountable,” said Dr. Brian J. Boon, CARF president and CEO.

The following programs received accreditation for both children and adults: residential treatment, day treatment, outpatient treatment, prevention services, and the Employee Assistance Program. The Detoxification Center, Intensive Outpatient Program, and Halfway House also were accredited for adults.

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In addition, four Adult Drug Court programs and one Juvenile Drug Court Program operated by SWFAS were accredited.

“We are very pleased to receive our fourth three-year accreditation from CARF. This recognizes the hard work of our staff in providing treatment and prevention programs that meet international standards for excellence, and our efforts to improve services for our patients and community,” said SWFAS CEO Kevin B. Lewis.

SWFAS is celebrating its 30th anniversary of providing the most comprehensive substance abuse treatment and prevention programs in Southwest Florida. More than 6,000 people are served per year from ages 9 to 90. SWFAS provides services from five locations in Lee County and two locations in Glades and Hendry counties. Partially funded by the State of Florida and Lee County, SWFAS also is a United Way agency.

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known as CARF, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services.

For additional information, call (239) 931-9688 or visit www.swfas.org.