Facility Guidelines Institute Is New Publisher for Design Guide for Behavioral Health Facilities

Updated 7.0 edition now available on the FGI website

(May 12, 2015). . . The National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) and the Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI) are pleased to announce a transfer of the Internet home for the Design Guide for the Built Environment of Behavioral Health Facilities. Formerly housed on the NAPHS website, the Design Guide is now available on the FGI website at www.fgiguidelines.org/beyond. The Design Guide authors are James M. Hunt, AIA, NCARB, and David M. Sine, DrBE, ARM, CSP, CPHRM.

“Relocation of this popular reference document to the FGI website makes good sense as FGI is the national organization known for establishing consensus standards for health and residential care facilities, and the Design Guide is a great supplement to their work,” stated NAPHS President and CEO Mark Covall.

“We at FGI are expanding our mission to publish documents that go beyond the fundamental facility design requirements we are known for,” said Douglas Erickson, CEO of FGI. “We are pleased to have been asked to publish this valuable document, which provides information based on the authors’ long experience in the field that will help those in behavioral health develop safe and effective care environments for patients and staff.”

Whether you are designing a new facility, renovating existing space, or maintaining a facility, the Design Guide is intended to help you think through how the physical environment affects patient and staff safety. Keeping a behavioral health environment safe is an ongoing endeavor and requires a continuous process of review and evaluation.

NAPHS and FGI hope this edition of the Design Guide will prove useful to the designers, operators, and clinicians entrusted with the care of behavioral health patients and the environment of care in which that care is provided.

About FGI: The Facility Guidelines Institute is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1998 to provide leadership and continuity to the revision process of the Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities. FGI functions as the coordinating entity for development of what is now the Guidelines series of documents using a multidisciplinary, consensus-based process and for provision of ancillary services that encourage and improve the application and use of the Guidelines. FGI invests revenue from sales of the Guidelines documents to fund the activities of the next revision cycle and research that can inform the Guidelines development process.

About NAPHS: The National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) advocates for behavioral health and represents provider systems that are committed to the delivery of responsive, accountable, and clinically effective prevention, treatment, and care for children, adolescents, adults, and older adults with mental and substance use disorders. Its members are behavioral health care provider organizations that own or manage more than 800 specialty psychiatric hospitals, general hospital psychiatric and addiction treatment units and behavioral health care divisions, residential treatment facilities, youth services organizations, and extensive outpatient networks. The association was founded in 1933.