



## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **New psychiatric hospital accredited by Joint Commission**

**(May 23, 2023)** — The recently opened Rhode Island State Psychiatric Hospital (RISPH) has been accredited by The Joint Commission, following a two-day survey during which the facility demonstrated compliance with all standards for psychiatric hospitals.

Joint Commission representatives assessed the hospital's adherence to standards that address 19 areas, including life safety, environment of care, medication management and emergency management.

"I want to extend my sincere gratitude to all of our staff for their hard work, collaboration, and assistance to ensure that our Joint Commission survey would go well," said RISPH CEO Irina Beyder. "The surveyors were impressed, saying the hospital was clean, that we were very well prepared and organized, that the nursing, pharmacy and the medical staff work closely together, that the medication units were clean and organized, and the environment of care documentation was very organized and well prepared. This is a credit to our hard-working staff."

The hospital, which opened on Oct. 25, 2022, is now accredited for three years, with its next review expected in 2026.

"The results of this survey by The Joint Commission point to the dedication of the hospital's staff, and their commitment to care for our patients. Because of their efforts, we now have a fully accredited hospital," said Richard Charest, Director of the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, which oversees the RISPH. "We are also deeply appreciative of the work of others, including the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance and the staff of Eleanor Slater Hospital, for helping the new hospital to earn accreditation only seven months after it was licensed."

The RISPH, located in the Roosevelt Benton facility, treats patients who have severe and persistent mental illness and are incompetent to stand trial, as well as those who have been found not guilty by reason of insanity and deemed too dangerous for current release, and those who are serving

prison sentences and require specialized treatment not available at the Adult Correctional Institutions.

Licensing the new hospital last year was just one piece of a long-term plan to invest in Rhode Island's state hospital system. This year's state budget contains several long-term capital investments, including funding for a new facility at Eleanor Slater Hospital's Burrillville campus, renovations at Eleanor Slater Hospital's Regan building on the Cranston campus, and the procurement of an electronic medical records system for both state hospitals.

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