

Feb. 18, 2015

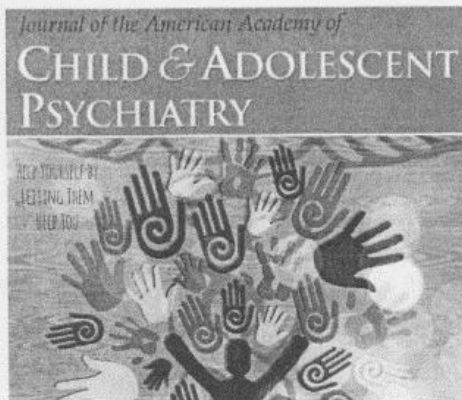
To whom it may concern,

As the medical director, I have seen RCH-Psychiatry use art therapy extensively and more in 2014-2015 than ever before. Our program is part of an integrated delivery network that values strategies that are humane and "Enhance patient experience"
There are a number of cases in which art therapy directly enhanced my patients assessment (key component of any QUALITY outcomes).

Our ability to access art therapy (**Innovative delivery model**) is allowing us to push "forward" in our "thinking" and has helped RCH-Psychiatry to offer "exceptional programs and services"
Building trusting, nurturing relationships
Provide a way to Communicate under stress and Stay focused
Creatively thinking outside the box
Thinking in terms of individual needs rather than group norms


My academy (AACAP) recently featured 'art therapy' on the cover of a 2015 monthly journal

"the use of artistic methods to promote mental health... fuses psychotherapy with the creative process to encourage increased engagement, active decision-making, and positive self-esteem in patients."



"Help Yourself," featured this month on the Journal's cover, was created by the artist, a teenage patient, as a representation of his healing process. Although he had been initially apprehensive about art therapy, the opportunity to explore artistic expression resulted in a positive change of perspective and a request for further art therapy sessions.

I would find it moralizing that Legacy (and specifically RCH) would equate art therapy with other existing strategies such as physical therapy, occupational therapy with a footing that included certification and medical necessity trajectories.


Sincerely, T. Shawn Crombie, MD
Medical Director of RCH-Psychiatry