



# NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

## **Seasons Center for Behavioral Health Accelerates Efforts in Evidence-Based Client Care**

**Spencer, IA** – Seasons Center for Behavioral Health has renewed its status as a Certified Evidence-Based Organization (CEBO) issued by the Society of Evidence-Based Organizations and Professions (EBP Society). Upon completing an organizational self-evaluations to become re-certified, Seasons has entered its third year as a CEBO.

In 2015 the agency leadership participated in a week long capacity building, strategic and action planning session which revolved around "becoming an evidence-based organization and practitioner". Then in 2016, the agency and staff engaged in months of internal and external self-assessment, which included hosting and attending trainings and implementing evidence-based approaches in a concerted effort to enhance care and services.

Certified Evidence-Based Organizations (CEBO) are recognized for abilities and accomplishments they demonstrate in the area of evidence based policies, programs, and practices. The re-certification process examines five areas at these organizations:

- Building knowledge and use of evidence-based policies, programs, and practices;
- Demonstrating effective organizational leadership;
- Gaining an understanding of organizational culture through the use of organizational assessment;
- Enhancing its use of strategic planning, performance measurement, and program evaluation; and
- Developing organizations capacity and sustainability

This certification is **Effective September 22, 2018 through September 21, 2020.**

Sobem Nwoko, President, Joyfields Institute and Founder of the EBP Society, congratulates the team on its continued efforts to build staff and organizational capacity in proven methods that are needed to help their clients achieve success.

In a statement Seasons Center for Behavioral Health CEO/President, Kim Scorza said, "We have been working diligently over the last few years to ensure that those who come to our agency receive the best care possible and that they leave with a positive experience. Part of our process has been on having an outside entity, Joyfields Institute, review the work we are doing and have us make necessary changes so that employees are well-trained and educated on **evidence-based** care."

Mr. Nwoko further stated, "...employees and their clients seeking supports and services, voluntarily or otherwise, must have confidence the organization is sound, and practices in a way that produces desired outcomes. Every organization must aspire to make that the standard."

Scorza continued, "We believe the work we are doing now will have a positive impact on our patients, employees, and our overall region for many years to come."

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#### **About Joyfields Institute for Professional Development**

Joyfields Institute standardized Evidence based & Strength-centered programs and supports training and performance **evaluation** through its workshops, conferences and webcasts. Later it created EBP Society, the community of professionals and organizations committed to the **evidence-based** movement.

In 2015 the institute introduced EvalMeasures Software, designed to help professionals gather, evaluate and report data to sustain work they do. Learn more at [www.joyfields.org](http://www.joyfields.org)

#### **About Seasons Center and Autumn's Center**

Autumn's Center, the first of its kind regional children's center, houses rooms and offices designated to care for children's behavioral health, including areas for psychiatric services, outpatient therapy, psychological testing, behavioral health intervention services, substance abuse counseling, parent education, and care coordination services. The center offers a child-friendly and healing environment throughout the building.

Founded in 1959, Seasons Center for Behavioral Health continues to be a leading, comprehensive behavioral health center in the northwest region of Iowa. Offering a broad range of behavioral health Services, Seasons recognizes that investing in behavioral health is investing in a community's economic, education, health and human services systems. Seasons strives to empower individuals so they might become active, contributing members of their communities. For more information on Seasons' services, please visit [www.seasonscenter.org](http://www.seasonscenter.org) or call 1-800-242-5101.

Avera is a regional partnership of health professionals who share support services to provide excellent care at 300 locations in 100 communities in eastern South Dakota and surrounding states. Our ministry, our people and our superior values distinguish Avera. We carry on the health care legacy of the Benedictine and Presentation Sisters, delivering care in an environment guided by our values of compassion, hospitality and stewardship. Avera employs more than 13,500. Inpatient, outpatient and clinic visits totaled nearly 2.5 million in the last year, a number equal to more than twice the population of the Avera service area. For more information please visit [www.aver.org](http://www.aver.org).