

# CARF Scores Center

After many months of preparation and anticipation, the Center staff breathe a sigh of relief after the CARF visit on Sept 13-15. Since 1997, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, also known as CARF, has served as the Center's accrediting body. The Center has always received the highest accreditation level from CARF.

CARF Committee Co-Chair Tracy Pennartz has been through all four CARF visits. "Each year since 1997, the Center has always received the highest CARF accreditation," Tracy emphasized, "We have prepared for the CARF survey and are hopeful that we will receive the highest level of accreditation for the fourth time."

The visit began with a rousing introduction exchange between the Survey Team and Committee members and a "Welcome" from President/CEO Pete Kennemer. Pete gave an overview of the Center's history, service area and broad range of programs.

In his opening remarks CARF Survey Team Coordinator Wayde Washburn said, "You [*The Center*] have been through the CARF survey before and it is obvious that you are aware of what the standards are." He encouraged the committee by saying, "Think of us a group of consultants coming into your organization. We are here to help you."

The Survey Team visited all of the Center facilities and spent a good deal of time interviewing clients and staff members. B.J. Cobb, CARF Committee Member, commented that "The survey team was very professional and they seemed very impressed with our staff."

In addition to reviewing files and documentation, they spent a morning learning about the new Essentia clinical program. Dr. Mitch Durham, VP/CCO demonstrated the system's features and capabilities. The team seemed very interested in the possibilities of the new software.

The survey visit ended at a Friday afternoon meeting where the Survey Team reviewed recommendations and consultative remarks. This information is forwarded to the CARF Board of Directors who make the final accreditation decision. The Center should receive the accreditation report sometime in mid-November.



*At the beginning of the first day, the Survey CARF team Mary Melton, Wayde Washburn, Sylvia Kyle and Connie Schlittler introduce themselves.*



## *Special Thanks to Our CARF Committee*

*B.J. Cobb*

*Rob Covington*

*Linda Corkern*

*Shanna Davis*

*Mitchell Durham*

*John Foster*

*James Gattis*

*Linda Hamilton*

*Gary Luedloff*

*Clay Mitchell*

*Tracy Pennartz*

*Jackie Scarborough*

*Sharon Strawn*

*Steve Washington*

*Wayne Winkle*

