



Research-based
Standards for
Recovery Housing

What is NARR Accreditation?

The National Alliance for Recovery Residences is America's largest accreditor of recovery housing. The NARR accreditation standards are utilized in 36 U.S. states, 72% of the U.S.



34 States have active or emerging NARR affiliates that credential and monitor recovery housing.

2 States have adopted the NARR standards for their state driven licensing process.

14 States have little to no standards.

The NARR Standard provides guidance for certifying effective recovery residences and incorporates the collaborative values of acute care and social models of recovery. The Standard is built on, research-based practices, the lived experience of operators and residents, and not the decisions of an external accreditation body. Resident wellness and opportunities to enhance recovery are at the forefront of the Standard.

Since the inception of the first edition of the NARR standards in 2011, affiliates across the country have been certifying safe, ethical, and quality residences. As these criteria reach a broader audience, their content has become recognized as the industry standard.

Four Domains of the NARR Standard:

- Administrative and Operational Accountability
- Physical Environment Ensuring Health and Safety
- Recovery Support Capitalizing on the Social Model of Recovery
- Good Neighbor Policies & Practices



Social Model of Recovery



Policies & research-based best practices that facilitate resident governance, empowerment, and mutual recovery support!

Overview of Accreditation Metrics

- Use mission and vision as guides for decision making
- Adhere to legal and ethical codes and use best business practices
- Be financially honest and forthright
- Collect data for continuous quality improvement
- Communicate rights and requirements before agreements are signed
- Protect resident information
- Involve residents in governance
- Promote resident involvement in a developmental approach to recovery
- Staff model and teach recovery skills and behaviors
- Ensure potential and current staff are trained or credentialed appropriate to the residence level
- Staff are culturally responsive and competent
- All staff positions are guided by written job descriptions that reflect recovery
- Provide Social Model-oriented supervision of staff
- The residence is comfortable, inviting, and meets residents' needs

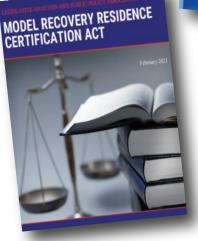
- The living space is conducive to building community
- Provide an alcohol and illicit drug free environment
- Promote home safety
- Promote health
- Plan for emergencies including intoxication, withdrawal and overdose
- Promote meaningful activities
- Engage residents in recovery planning and development of recovery capital
- Promote access to community supports
- Provide mutually beneficial peer recovery support
- Provide recovery support and life skills development
- Provide clinical services in accordance with state law
- Maintain a respectful environment
- Sustain a "functionally equivalent family" within the residence
- Foster ethical, peer-based mutually supportive relationships among residents and staff
- Connect residents to the local community
- Be responsive to neighbor concerns
- Have neighborhood courtesy rules

Industry Standard

The NARR Accreditation standards are recommended for states building a publicly funded housing continuum that includes; Housing First, Housing Choice, and Abstinence-based Recovery Housing.

NARR Accreditation is supported by the National Council on Behavioral Health, who have published a guide for building state infrastructure including NARR accredited recovery housing.





NARR Accreditation is supported by the Legislative Analysis and Public Policy Association and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, in their recently released model legislation for states.

MHACBO: Oregon's National NARR Affiliate

MHACBO, the Mental Health and Addiction Certification Board of Oregon is the national affiliate for NARR accreditation in Oregon. MHACBO is one of Oregon's oldest PROs (Peer Run Organizations), who's primary function is certification of Oregon's unlicensed behavioral health workforce. MHACBO has over 10,000 certified members. MHACBO implements accreditation of Oregon recovery homes, processes complaints, upholds standards of member recovery homes, implements investigations and initiates sanctions.

MHACBO is a contractor and/or affiliate of:

- The National Alliance for Recovery Residences
- The National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors
- The International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium
- Comprehensive Examination Services
- The National Council on Problem Gambling
- The Professional Testing Corporation of New York
- Examsoft
- Kryterion Global Testing Solutions
- Prometric SMT Testing
- Certemy
- Oregon Health Authority
- The Oregon Council on Behavioral Health
- Insight Reporting & Pacific Screening Background Check Services

For more information go to MHACBO.org or call 503-231-8164