

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **DECEMBER 10 TELEPHONE TRAINING ON “SAFETY AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT” WILL HELP BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS STAY UP TO THE MINUTE ON STANDARDS**

(Washington, D.C., November 19, 2008)...Maintaining a safe physical environment is a high priority for clinical and administrative leaders in behavioral healthcare organizations, and this is an area receiving increasing regulatory and licensure oversight.

To help leaders in psychiatric and addiction treatment settings think through the best strategies for reviewing, maintaining, and enhancing the safety of their facilities, the National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) has organized a special two-hour telephone conference on “**Safety and the Built Environment: Helping Behavioral Healthcare Organizations Stay Up to the Minute.**” The training will be held **Wednesday, December 10, 2008, from 2pm to 4pm Eastern.**

The training brings together national experts – including a Joint Commission leader, a former Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surveyor, and the co-author of the popular *Design Guide for the Built Environment of Behavioral Health Facilities* – to help behavioral healthcare leaders understand current policies. For example, Joint Commission policy now requires a survey of the built environment in onsite surveys. The American Institute of Architects (AIA) draft 2010 hospital standards, which are now out for comment, include behavioral health standards. The faculty features:

- **David M. Sine, CSP, ARM, CPHRM**, president and founder, SafetyLogic Systems, Austin, TX; co-author of the *Design Guide for the Built Environment of Behavioral Health Facilities: Edition 2.1*
- **George Mills, MBA, FASHE, CEM, CHFM**, senior engineer, Standards Interpretation Group, The Joint Commission, Oakbrook Terrace, IL
- **Mary Frances Colvin, RN, MSN**, nurse consultant, San Francisco, CA; former Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surveyor from Region X
- Moderator: **Kathleen McCann, RN, PhD**, director of clinical and regulatory affairs, National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems, Washington, DC

### **HOW TO REGISTER**

The teleconference format is designed to enable maximum participation at minimal cost. Because registration fees are per incoming line (not per participant), registered sites can have as many people listen in on speakerphone as they wish. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. The cost of the two-hour teleconference is \$250 (or \$175 for NAPHS members). American Express, MasterCard, and Visa are accepted.

To register online, go to [www.naphs.org](http://www.naphs.org) or call 202/393-6700, ext. 106. A compact disc will also be available after the teleconferences for \$250 (or \$175 for NAPHS members).

### **ABOUT NAPHS**

NAPHS advocates for behavioral health and represents provider systems that are committed to the delivery of responsive, accountable, and clinically effective prevention, treatment, and care for children, adolescents, adults, and older adults with mental and substance use disorders. Its members are behavioral healthcare provider organizations that own or manage more than 600 specialty psychiatric hospitals, general hospital psychiatric and addiction treatment units and behavioral healthcare divisions, residential treatment facilities, youth services organizations, and extensive outpatient networks. The association was founded in 1933.

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