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## **Hazel D. Plant Women's Treatment Facility Accredited by ACA**

An audit of the Hazel D. Plant Women's Treatment Facility (HDPWTF) was conducted on November 6-7, 2017, by the American Correctional Association (ACA) and accreditation was awarded at the ACA Winter Conference on January 6, 2018. ACA is a private, non-profit, trade association and accrediting body for the corrections industry. The organization was founded in 1870 and is one of the preeminent correctional organizations in the United States.

ACA accredits prisons, jails, community residential centers (halfway houses), probation departments, correctional treatment communities, and various other corrections facilities in the U.S. and internationally, using their independently published standards manuals.

The standards created and refined by the American Correctional Association represent fundamental correctional practices that ensure staff and inmate safety and security; enhance staff morale; improve record maintenance and data management capabilities; assist in protecting the agency against litigation; and improve the function of the facility or agency at all levels.

During the audit at HDPWTF, independent ACA auditors reviewed policy, security and sanitation practices, food service delivery, and provision of medical and treatment services at the facility. Of the 250 standards in the community residential standards manual, auditors found HDPWTF to be compliant with all 32 mandatory standards, and 201 of the non-mandatory standards. Seventeen standards were deemed not applicable to the facility.

HDPWTF has received ACA accreditation which will last for three years. At the end of that period, the facility will seek reaccreditation. During the next three years, the facility will continue to work toward maintaining the policy and practices accredited during the audit.

HDPWTF joins nine other Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) facilities and units which have received accreditation status.



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