THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENT

TH.1
The organization establishes an environment that enhances the positive self-image of individuals served and preserves their human dignity.

TH.2
The organization’s grounds have adequate space for the organization to carry out its stated goals.

TH.2.1 When needs of individuals served or organization goals involve outdoor activities, areas appropriate to the ages and clinical needs of the individuals served are provided.

TH.3
The organization’s facilities are accessible to handicapped individuals, or it has written policies and procedures that describe how handicapped individuals can gain access to the organization for necessary services.

TH.4
Waiting or reception areas are comfortable, and their design, location, and furnishings accommodate the characteristics of visitors and individuals served, the anticipated waiting time, the need for privacy and/or support from staff, and the goals of the organization.

TH.4.1 Appropriate staff are available in waiting or reception areas to address the needs of individuals served and visitors.

TH.4.2 Restrooms are available for individuals served and their visitors.

TH.5
Organizations that do not have emergency medical care resources have first-aid kits readily available.

TH.5.1 Staff are familiar with the locations, contents, and use of the first-aid kits.

TH.6
The organization provides an environment appropriate to the needs of individuals served.

TH.6.1 The design, structure, furnishings, and lighting of the individual environment promote clear perceptions of people and functions.

TH.6.2 When appropriate, lighting is controlled by individuals served.
TH.6.3 Where possible, the environment provides views of the outdoors.

TH.6.4 Appropriate mirrors that distort as little as possible are placed at reasonable heights in appropriate places to aid in grooming and to enhance the self-awareness of individuals served.

TH.6.5 Clocks and calendars are provided in at least major use areas to promote awareness of time and season.

TH.6.6 A telephone is available for private conversations.

TH.6.7 Ventilation contributes to the habitability of the environment.

TH.6.8 All areas and surfaces are free of undesirable odors.

TH.6.9 Door locks and other structural restraints are used in accordance with the organization’s mission and program goals.

TH.6.10 Suitable furnished areas are available to accommodate a full range of social activities, from two-person conversations to group activities.

TH.6.11 Furnishings and equipment suitable to the population served are available.

TH.6.12 Furnishings are clean and in good repair.

TH.6.13 Broken furnishings and equipment are repaired promptly.

TH.7
Dining areas are comfortable, attractive, and conducive to pleasant living.

TH.7.1 Dining arrangements are based on logical plan that meets the needs of individuals served and the organization’s requirements.

TH.7.2 When staff members do not eat with the individuals served, the dining rooms are adequately supervised and staffed to provide assistance to individuals when needed and to assure that each individual served receives an adequate amount and variety of food.

TH.8
Sleeping areas have doors for privacy unless contraindicated in forensic setting.

TH.8.1 In rooms containing more than four individuals, privacy is provided by partitioning or by furniture placement.
TH.8.2 The number of individuals in a room is appropriate to the goals of the organization and to the ages, developmental levels, and clinical needs of individuals served.

TH.8.3 Except when clinically justified in writing on the basis of program requirements, no more than eight individuals sleep in a room.

TH.8.4 Sleeping areas are assigned on the basis of individual needs for group support, privacy, or independence.

TH.8.4.1 Individuals who need extra sleep, whose sleep is easily disturbed, or who need greater privacy because of age, emotional disturbance, or adjustment problems are assigned to bedrooms in which no more than two persons sleep.

TH.9 In accordance with the needs of individuals served, good standards of personal hygiene and grooming are taught and maintained, particularly in regard to bathing, brushing teeth, caring for hair and nails, and using the toilet.

TH.9.1 Individuals served have the personal help needed to perform these activities and, when indicated, to assume responsibility for self-care.

TH.9.2 Incontinent individuals are cleaned and/or bathed immediately upon voiding or soiling, with due regard for privacy.

TH.9.3 The services of a barber and/or beautician are available to individuals served either in the organization or in the community.

TH.10 Articles for grooming and personal hygiene that are appropriate to the individual’s age, developmental level, and clinical status are readily available in a space reserved near his/her sleeping area.

TH.10.1 If clinically indicated, an individual’s personal articles may be kept under lock and key by staff.

TH.10.2 If access to potentially dangerous grooming aids or other personal articles is contraindicated for clinical reasons, a member of the professional staff explains to the individual served the conditions under which the articles may be used.

TH.10.2.1 The clinical rational for these conditions is documented in the clinical record.

TH.11
Closets and drawer space are provided for storing personal property and property provided for use by individuals served.

TH.11.1  Lockable storage space is provided.

TH.12  Individuals served are allowed to keep and display appropriate personal belongings and to add suitable personal touches to their surroundings.

TH.12.1  If the hanging of pictures on walls and similar activities are privileges to be earned for treatment purposes, a professional staff member explains to individuals served the conditions under which the privileges may be granted.

TH.13  Individuals served are encouraged to take responsibility for maintaining their own living quarters and for day-to-day housekeeping activities of the program, as appropriate to their clinical status.

TH.14  Individuals served wear suitable clothing.

TH.15  Individuals served have convenient access to laundry facilities.

TH.16  The use and locations of noise-producing equipment and appliances, such as televisions, radios, or stereos, does not interfere with other therapeutic activities.

TH.17  A place and equipment are provided for table games and individual hobbies.

TH.17.1  Toys, equipment and games are stored on shelves that are accessible to individuals served.

TH.18  Books, magazines, and arts and crafts material are available in accordance with the recreational, cultural, and educational backgrounds and needs of individuals served.

TH.19  The organization formulates its own policy regarding the availability and care of pets and other animals, consistent with the goals of the organization and good health and sanitation requirements.
TH.20
Depending on the program goals, facilities are available for serving snacks and preparing meals for special occasions and recreational activities.

TH.20.1 The facilities for serving snacks and preparing meals and for recreational activities permit participation by individuals served.

TH.21
Unless contraindicated for therapeutic reasons, the organization accommodates the needs of individuals to be outdoors through the use of nearby parks and playgrounds, adjacent countryside, and organization grounds.