



# Clubhouse International

Creating Community: Changing the World of Mental Health

## Memorandum

**Date:** December 4, 2018

**To:** The Clubhouse International Community

**From:** Joel D. Corcoran  
Executive Director

**Subject:** **Standards Review 2017-2018**

The 2017-2018 Standards Review Process is nearly completed. The current two-year process to amend the International Standards for Clubhouse Programs involved the consideration and discussion of more than fifty proposals received from our global community. We are grateful to the hundreds of Clubhouses and individuals that have participated in the process to date with written and oral feedback.

We are now at the final stage of the review process and we are sending you the proposals that have been reviewed and discussed by the Clubhouse International community and have shown to have widespread support. In our consensus building process we have distributed these proposals to you on two occasions, reviewed them at an open hearing at our World Seminar in 2017, discussed them at the Clubhouse International Faculty meeting, the Training Base Group and the Clubhouse Advisory Council.

We are now sending you the four proposals for change that have had consensual support from our community. (see below) Unless there is a new widespread and significant negative response these proposed changes will be included in next edition of the International Standards for Clubhouse Programs™. Please send any comments your Clubhouse wishes to be considered to the Standards Review Committee at the email address below before December 28, 2018.

[Standardsreview@independencecenter.org](mailto:Standardsreview@independencecenter.org)

Thank You!

## Proposals to amend the International Standards Final Review

### A) Proposal to amend Standard #6

#### Standard #6 currently reads:

Members have a right to immediate re-entry into the Clubhouse community after any length of absence, unless their return poses a threat to the Clubhouse community.

#### Proposed change:

Members have a right to immediate re-entry into the Clubhouse community after any length of absence, unless their return poses a **significant and current** threat to the Clubhouse community.

#### Rationale for the change:

“Significant and current” is added to ensure equality. Criteria for entry must be the same for new and returning members.

### B) Proposal to amend Standard #24

#### Standard #24 currently reads:

Members who are working independently continue to have available all Clubhouse supports and opportunities including advocacy for entitlements, and assistance with housing, clinical, legal, financial and personal issues, as well as participation in evening and weekend programs.

#### Proposed change:

Members who are working independently continue to have available all Clubhouse supports and opportunities ~~including advocacy or entitlements, and assistance with housing, clinical, legal, financial and personal issues,~~ as well as participation in evening and weekend programs.

#### Rationale for the change:

1. By removing specific examples of supports and opportunities, provided by Clubhouse, it broadens the supports available to those members working independently.
2. Standard #27 already lists available supports and opportunities that all members have access to. Furthermore, if a list of specific supports and opportunities is to be included in Standard 24 we believe that lists should be all inclusive with possible supports and opportunities rather than some.

3. We believe the Standard is more concise and understandable with this edit

### **C) Proposal to amend Standard #30**

#### **Standard #30 currently reads:**

The Clubhouse conducts an objective evaluation of its effectiveness, including Clubhouse International Accreditation.

#### **Proposed change:**

**On a regular basis**, the Clubhouse conducts an objective evaluation of its effectiveness, including Clubhouse International Accreditation.

#### **Rationale for the change:**

It is important that people get the idea that the effectiveness of the Clubhouse is followed and evaluated regularly and, say, not once in five years, for example.

### **D) Proposal to amend the Preamble**

#### **The Preamble currently reads:**

The principles expressed in these Standards are at the heart of the Clubhouse community's success in helping people with mental illness to stay out of the hospitals while achieving social, financial, educational and vocational goals.

#### **Proposed change:**

The principles expressed in these Standards are at the heart of the Clubhouse community's success in helping people with mental illness to ~~stay out of the hospitals while achieving~~ **achieve** social, financial, educational and vocational goals.

#### **Rationale for the change:**

In other words, eliminate the reference to hospitals in the Preamble. The revised sentence states what we do succinctly. (Of course to help people stay out of hospitals, out of jail and out of trouble generally!) However, access to hospitalization when it is needed remains important to members throughout the world. And sometimes it is the Clubhouse community that has to advocate for members who would benefit from it.

NOTE: The proposals and rationales were submitted by member Clubhouses.