

---

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

---



Bunch & Associates, Inc.  
3500 Reynolds Road  
Lakeland, Florida 33803  
(863) 669-0861  
[www.bunchcare.com](http://www.bunchcare.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Bunch & Associates, Inc. Earns URAC Accreditation**

Lakeland, Florida  
March 13, 2006

If you check the listing of URAC-accredited organizations, you will see a new listing among several other highly-qualified managed care service providers. On March 7, 2006, Bunch & Associates received confirmation from URAC that the accreditation process was completed successfully. With this confirmation, Bunch & Associates is now recognized nationally as a URAC- accredited managed care company. The certification, effective April 1, 2006, categorizes Bunch & Associates as an organization which ascribes to the highest industry standards for managed care services.

URAC is an independent, nonprofit organization, well-known as a leader in promoting health care quality through its accreditation and certification programs. Originally, URAC was incorporated under the name "Utilization Review Accreditation Commission". However, that name was shortened to just the acronym "URAC" in 1996 when URAC began accrediting other types of organizations such as health plans and preferred provider organizations. Today, URAC offers a wide range of quality benchmarking programs and services that keep pace with the rapid changes in the health care system, and provide a symbol of excellence for organizations to validate their commitment to quality and accountability. Through its broad-based governance structure and an inclusive standards development process, URAC ensures that all stakeholders are represented in establishing meaningful quality measures for the entire health care industry." (Source: <http://www.urac.org>)

All departments within Bunch & Associates were directly involved and contributed to making this goal a reality; however, the heaviest responsibility rested on the Managed Care Department. Throughout the accreditation process, this department never lacked for teamwork, enthusiasm and creativity. Special recognition and appreciation go to Kay Baltzer, Vice President of Special Initiatives, who brought URAC accreditation to light and initiated the process. Kay built momentum and enthusiasm within the leadership team to commit to the application process. Mary Ellen Zoerner, Special Projects, coordinated the overall process, ensuring URAC received every element required for Bunch to qualify for accreditation. Donna Hill, Director of Nursing, was responsible for all the quality and training aspects, and MC Olson, Vice President of Managed Care, readily accepted the responsibility to see the accreditation through to completion.

While Bunch has operated in compliance with URAC standards for many years, the validation of full accreditation is an important accomplishment. Bunch & Associates is excited to explore new paths, and looks forward to further enhancing its services in all areas. As clients and partners know, at Bunch "there's no such thing as status quo".

**About Bunch & Associates, Inc.**

*Bunch & Associates is recognized by many employers as a preferred partner because it truly delivers service beyond expectations. As a national disability management company, serving many Fortune 1,000 companies, Bunch & Associates has sustained consistent, dynamic growth for the past several years, on a mission to "make the world a better place one life at a time". Integrating technology, service and value, Bunch & Associates' multi-disciplinary approach acts as an extension of the employer's Risk Management Department.*

Contact:

Kathy Sergi, Acting COO

Bunch & Associates, Inc.

(863) 669-0861, Extension 1217 (phone)

(863) 669-2017 (fax)

[Kathy.Sergi@bunchcare.com](mailto:Kathy.Sergi@bunchcare.com)

###