

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

May 18, 2009

IN THE MATTER OF:

An Application for a Certificate of Need
filed pursuant to Section 19a-638, C.G.S. by

**Jewish Family Services of Greater
Hartford**

Notice of Final Decision
Office of Health Care Access
Docket Number: 08-31245-CON

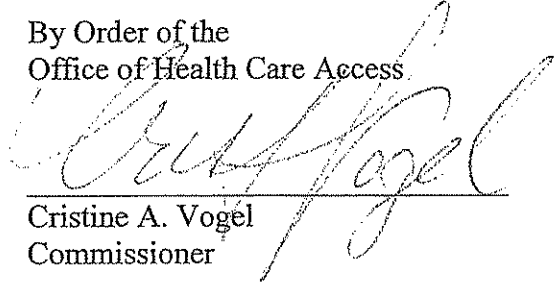
**Terminate Psychiatric Services at the
Behavioral Health Outpatient Clinic in
Avon**

To: Joan Margolis
Director of Operations and Community Programs
Jewish Family Services
333 Bloomfield Avenue, Suite A
West Hartford, CT 06117

Dear Ms. Margolis:

This letter will serve as notice of the Final Decision of the Office of Health Care Access in the above matter, as provided by Section 19a-638, C.G.S. On May 18, 2009, the Final Decision was rendered as the finding and order of the Office of Health Care Access. A copy of the Final Decision is attached hereto for your information.

By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access


Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

Enclosure

CAV: pf



Office of Health Care Access Certificate of Need Application

Final Decision

Applicant: Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford

Docket Number: 08-31245-CON

Project Title: Terminate Psychiatric Services at the Behavioral Health Outpatient Clinic in Avon

Statutory Reference: Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes

Filing Date: March 16, 2009

Decision Date: May 18, 2009

Default Date: June 14, 2009

Staff Assigned: Paolo Fiducia

Project Description: Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford (“Applicant”) is proposing the termination of outpatient psychiatric services for adults and children at 166 West Main Street, Avon, Connecticut, with no associated capital expenditure.

Nature of Proceedings: On March 16, 2009, the Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) received the Certificate of Need (“CON”) application of Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford seeking authorization to close its site in Avon, with no capital expenditure. The Applicant is a health care facility or institution as defined by Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”).

A notice to the public concerning OHCA’s receipt of the Applicant’s Letter of Intent was published in *The Hartford Courant*, on October 11, 2008. Pursuant to 19a-639 (C) (3), C.G.S., three individuals or an individual representing an entity with five or more people had until April 6, 2009 the twenty-first calendar day following the filing of the Applicant’s CON Application, to request that OHCA hold a public hearing on the Applicant’s proposal. OHCA received no hearing requests from the public by April 6, 2009.

OHCA's authority to review and approve, modify or deny the CON application is established by Section 19a-638, C.G.S. The provisions of this section as well as the principles and guidelines set forth in Section 19a-637, C.G.S., were fully considered by OHCA in its review.

Findings of Fact

Clear Public Need

Impact of the Proposal on the Applicant's Current Utilization Statistics Proposal's Contribution to the Quality of Health Care Delivery in the Region Proposal's Contribution to the Accessibility of Health Care Delivery in the Region

1. Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford ("JFSGH or Applicant") is a non-profit health care provider that provides outpatient psychiatric treatment for adults and children at 166 West Main Street, Avon, Connecticut. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application Submission, pages 34 & 35)*
2. The Applicant currently holds the following Department of Public Health ("DPH") and Department of Children and Families ("DCF") licenses at the following locations:

Table 1: Applicant's service locations

Name of Program	Location	DPH and DCF License Category
Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford, Farmington Office	166 West Main Street Avon, CT 06001	Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic for Adults, Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic for Children*
Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford	333 Bloomfield Avenue West Hartford, CT 06117	Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic for Adults, Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic for Children*

*Note *DCF License Category*

(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application Submission, pages 34 & 35)

3. The Applicant indicates that the Avon service location was a satellite office of Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford, located at 333 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application Submission, page 34)*
4. The Applicant provided the following services at the Avon location:
 - Mental health counseling/therapy for children, adults and older adults;
 - Groups and workshops;
 - Jewish Family Services at Home (caregivers for elderly clients);
 - Geriatric Care Management;
 - Parent Education Program (court mandated for divorcing parents);
 - Focus on Kids (court mandated, high-conflict divorced parents);
 - Empowering People for Success (state welfare-to-work initiative);
 - Kosher Food Pantry;
 - Program for Special Needs;
 - Volunteer Program, and
 - Programs for Holocaust Survivors

(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application Submission, page 2)

5. On February 24, 2005, under Docket Number: 04-30403-EXM, the Applicant received CON authorization from OHCA to establish a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults at 166 West Main Street in Avon, at a total capital expenditure of \$500.00. *(July 30, 2008, CON Determination Responses, page 2 and February 24, 2005, CON Exemption under DN: 04-30403-EXM)*
6. The Applicant indicates that The Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford is a 501 (c)(3), not for profit institution. The Federation fulfills its mission through annual campaign fundraising, financial resource development, planning, community relations efforts and by working in partnership with local, national and international Jewish charitable organizations, social service agencies, educational institutions and synagogues. The Federation raises the funds necessary to allocate each year to local agencies, such as Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford. *(May 7, 2009, Supplemental Information, page 2)*
7. In June 2008, with only 1-2 weeks' notice, the landlord (the Jewish Federation) informed the Applicant they were closing the location. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 3)*
8. The Applicant indicates that it terminated psychiatric outpatient services for adults and children at the Avon location in June of 2008, and returned its Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic for Adults license to the DPH on July 8, 2008. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 3 & March 16, 2009, CON Completeness Responses, page 53)*
9. The Applicant indicates that on July 8, 2008 it notified DCF to be issued a new license that would no longer include the Avon satellite location, and for the return of the existing license that covered both locations. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 3 & March 16, 2009, CON Completeness Responses, page 53)*
10. The Applicant indicates that any client who previously utilized the Avon location may access the same service, or any other service that the agency offers, at the West Hartford facility. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 6)*
11. The Applicant indicates that from July 2005 through June 2008 had 4 admissions, one patient each from Avon, Canton, West Simsbury and Winsted. Also stated that it never provided services for any children. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 5 & March 16, 2009, CON Completeness Responses, page 52)*

12. The following table shows the existing providers of psychiatric outpatient services for adults in the Applicant's total service area:

Table 2: Existing providers of psychiatric outpatient services for adults

Catholic Charities, Inc. 90 Franklin Square, New Britain
Catholic Charities, Inc. 132 Grove Street, Torrington
Catholic Charities, Inc. 440C N. Main Street, Bristol
Christian Counseling Connection, Inc. 42 Church Street, Torrington
Community Health Center of New Britain 1 Washington Square, New Britain
Community Health Resources 995 Day Hill Road, Windsor
Community Mental Health Affiliates 5 Hart Street, New Britain
Community Mental Health Affiliates 81 N. Main Street, Bristol
Family Services of New Britain 92 Vine Street, New Britain
Family Services of Terryville 58 Main Street, Terryville
Hartford Dispensary New Britain Clinic 19 Rockwell Ave, New Britain
Hartford Dispensary Bristol Clinic 1098 Farmington Ave, Bristol
Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford 333 Bloomfield Ave, West Hartford
McCall Foundation 58 High Street, Torrington
McCall Foundation 231 N. Main Street, Winsted
North Central Counseling Services 693 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield
Northwest Center for mental Health 100 Commercial Blvd, Torrington
Northwest Center for Mental Health 115 Spencer Street, Winsted
Wheeler Clinic 91 Northwest Drive, Plainville
Wheeler Clinic 36 Russell Street, New Britain
Wheeler Clinic 75 North mountain Road, New Britain

(March 16, 2009, CON Completeness Responses, page 50)

13. The following table shows the existing providers of psychiatric outpatient services for children in the Applicant's total service area:

Table 3: Existing providers of psychiatric outpatient services for children

Bridge Family Center 1022 Farmington Ave, West Hartford
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital 540 Litchfield Street, Torrington
Community Health Resources 995 Day Hill Road, Windsor
Community Mental Health Affiliates 29 Russell Street, New Britain
Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford 333 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford
Klingberg Comprehensive Family Services 370 Linwood Street, New Britain
Wheeler Clinic 91 Northwest Drive, Plainville

(March 16, 2009, CON Completeness Responses, pages 52 & 53)

14. The Applicant's payer mix for the Avon service location is as follows: *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 10)*

Table 4: Payer mix for Meriden location

Payer Mix	Percentage
Medicare	20%
Medicaid	40%
TriCare (CHAMPUS)	0%
Total Government	60%
Commercial Insurers	15%
Self-Pay	1%
Workers Compensation	1%
Total Non-Government	17%
Uncompensated Care	23%
Total Payer Mix	100%

**Financial Feasibility and Cost Effectiveness of the Proposal and its Impact on the Applicant's Rates and Financial Condition
 Impact of the Proposal on the Interests of Consumers of Health Care Services and the Payers for Such Services
 Consideration of Other Section 19a-637, C.G.S. Principles and Guidelines**

15. The project has no associated capital expenditure. *(September 23, 2008, Letter of Intent, page 4)*

16. The Applicant indicated that the actual year-end deficit on June 30, 2008 was (\$31,289). This loss was due to a reduction of \$30,000 in the Applicant annual allocation from the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford. *(May 7, 2009, Supplemental Information, page 1)*

17. There is no State Health Plan in existence at this time. *(January 20, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 2)*

Rationale

The Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) approaches community and regional need for Certificate of Need (“CON”) proposals on a case by case basis. CON applications do not lend themselves to general applicability due to a variety of factors, which may affect any given proposal; e.g. the characteristics of the population to be served, the nature of the existing services, the specific types of services proposed to be offered, the current utilization of services and the financial feasibility of the proposal.

Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford (“Applicant”) located at 166 West Main Street, Avon, Connecticut, is a not-for-profit provider licensed as an outpatient psychiatric clinic for adults and as an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children. The Applicant is proposing to terminate outpatient psychiatric services at the Avon location.

The Avon service location provided a range of outpatient clinical and counseling services, including comprehensive assessment and psychiatric evaluation for children and adults. The Avon service location was a satellite office of Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford, located at 333 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford. The West Hartford location offers the same services as the Avon facility. The Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford is a not for profit institution is the entity that raises the funds necessary to allocate each year to local agencies, such as Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford

In June 2008, with only 1-2 weeks’ notice, the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford informed the Applicant of the decision to close the Avon location. On July 8, 2008, the Applicant returned its Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic for Adults license to DPH. Also on the same day, DCF was notified to reissue a new license that would no longer include the Avon satellite location. The Applicant indicates that it has treated 4 adults since it opened in 2005, but has never provided services for any children.

Since OHCA was deprived of the opportunity to review the information prior to closure, it is unable to determine whether patient access was adversely impacted at the time of closing.

Based upon the information provided by the Applicant, it appears that the Avon service location was closed primarily due to lack of funds and utilization. The Applicant proposal to terminate its Avon service location has no associated capital expenditure. In FY 2008, the Applicant had an operating loss of (\$31,289) caused by funding reduction.

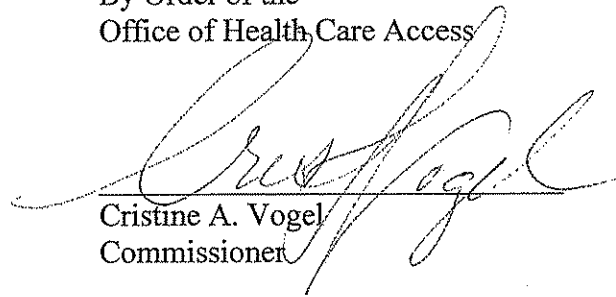
Order

The proposal of Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford to terminate its outpatient psychiatric services for adults and children at 166 West Main Street, Avon, with no associated capital expenditure is hereby GRANTED.

Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford shall hereafter notify OHCA of any and all proposed termination of services prior to finalizing any decision to terminate any services or programs. Failure to notify OHCA in advance of any proposed termination of services may be considered as not filing required information and subject Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford to civil penalties pursuant to Section 19a-653, C.G.S.

All of the foregoing constitutes the final order of the Office of Health Care Access in this matter.

By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access



Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

5-18-09
Date

CAV: pf