



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

JOHN G. ROWLAND
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

April 13, 2004

Robert P. Ritz, C.H.E.
President, Chief Executive Office
Saint Mary's Hospital
56 Franklin Street
Waterbury, CT 06706

RE: Saint Mary's Hospital
Transfer of Family Life Center to the Child Guidance Clinic of Greater Waterbury, Inc.
Certificate of Need Determination Report 04-30279-DTR

Dear Mr. Ritz:

On April 5, 2004, The Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received a request for a CON Determination from Saint Mary's Hospital for the transfer of its Family Life Center to the Child Guidance Clinic of Greater Waterbury, Inc. at no associated capital cost. OHCA has reviewed the information contained in the request and makes the following findings:

1. Saint Mary's Hospital ("SMH") is an acute care hospital located at 56 Franklin Street, Waterbury.
2. SMH is proposing to transfer its Family Life Center ("FLC") to the Child Guidance Clinic of Greater Waterbury, Inc. ("Clinic"). The Clinic is located at 70 Pine Street, Waterbury.
3. The Clinic is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that provides community mental health services to children in the greater Waterbury area.
4. The FLC provides child abuse prevention programs and services.
5. The FLC model is home-based and outreach oriented and serves Waterbury and the surrounding communities.

6. The programs of the FLC are staffed by paraprofessionals and their focus is primarily education and support.
7. The FLC provides child abuse prevention programs and services.
8. Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes defines a "health care facility or institution" as "any facility or institution engaged primarily in the providing services for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of human health conditions."
9. Section 19a-638, Connecticut General Statutes, states that each health care facility or institution which intends to terminate a health service must request approval from OHCA.

Based on these findings, OHCA has determined that the Family Life Center does not represent a health care service. Therefore, transfer of the Family Life Center to the Child Guidance Clinic of Greater Waterbury, Inc. is not a termination of a health service subject to review under Section 19a-638, Connecticut General Statutes. Certificate of Need approval is not required for this request.

Thank you for letting OHCA know of your plans. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Laurie Greci, Associate Research Analyst, at (860) 418-7032.

Sincerely,

Cristine A. Vogel, Commissioner

CAV/lkg