



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

February 9, 2007

Margaret Flinter, APRN
Vice President and Clinical Director
Community Health Center, Inc.
635 Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457

Re: Certificate of Need Determination Report Number: 06-30854-EXM
Community Health Center, Inc. d/b/a Norwalk Smiles at 49 Day Street
Establish Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic for Adults and Children in Norwalk

Dear Ms. Flinter:

On November 2, 2006, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your application for exemption from the Certificate of Need ("CON") process for the establishment of a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults and children located at 49 Day Street, Norwalk, Connecticut.

Please be advised that OHCA has reviewed the information submitted in your request and makes the following findings:

1. Community Health Center, Inc. ("CHC") is a private, non-profit, Federally Qualified Health Center ("FQHC").
2. Community Health Center, Inc. is proposing to establish a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults and children at 49 Day Street in Norwalk, CT.
3. Community Health Center, Inc. receives funds from the Department of Public Health.
4. CHC site is located in a designated medically underserved population area or derives more than half of its patients from a designated medically underserved population area.
5. CHC is planning to deliver dental and behavioral health services at 49 Day Street in Norwalk.

An Equal Opportunity Employer
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6. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (“DMHAS”), in a letter dated January 18, 2007, from Deputy Commissioner Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W., recommends an exemption under CGS Section 19a-639b for Community Health Center, Inc. to provide outpatient psychiatric services for adults at 49 Day Street in Norwalk.
7. DMHAS states that CHC is targeting low income, minority, uninsured and publicly insured residents of Norwalk with a focus on Medically Underserved Population (MUP) and plans to deliver 1,170 mental health visits to 240 patients (190 adults and 50 children).
8. The Department of Children and Families (“DCF”), in a letter received December 21, 2006, from Commissioner Darlene Dunbar, MSW, endorses the proposal and the waiver of the CON requirements, pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.
9. DCF states that CHC will provide dental and behavioral health services in Norwalk targeting HIV/AIDS patients, low income, minority, uninsured, and publicly insured residents of Norwalk with a focus on Medically Underserved Population (MUP). The proposed site is in the center of MUP designation area, which provides ideal physical accessibility to the targeted population. Many supportive services such as Advanced Access, Outreach/Eligibility, transportation, and multi-lingual translation services will also be provided at this new facility.. The expansion of services of this program is consistent with DCF effort to develop appropriate mental health and behavioral services specific to this population.
10. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$973,627.

Based on the above findings, OHCA determines that the proposal of the Community Health Center, Inc. to establish a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults and children located at 49 Day Street, Norwalk, Connecticut meets the requirements of Section 19a-639(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and, therefore, is exempt from OHCA’s Certificate of Need process. Termination of these services would require CON approval, pursuant to Section 19a-638, C.G.S.

Thank you for advising OHCA of your plans. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Paolo Fiducia, Associate Health Care Analyst at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel,
Commissioner

Cc: Honorable Thomas A. Kirk, Jr., Ph.D., Commissioner, DMHAS
Honorable Darlene Dunbar, MSW, Commissioner, DCF
Sandra Bauer, Licensing Examination Assistant, DPH
Al Bidorini, Director, OPAS, DMHAS
Donna C. Stimpson, Planning Specialist, DMHAS
Rose McLellan, DPH

CAV:pf