



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

January 29, 2007

Susan Walkama  
Director, Children's Outpatient Services  
Wheeler Clinic, Inc.  
91 Northwest Drive  
Plainville, CT 06062

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 07-30903-EXM  
Wheeler Clinic, Inc.  
CON Exemption Request Pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.  
Establish Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic for Children in Waterbury

Dear Ms. Walkama:

The Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") is in receipt of your request for exemption from the Certificate of Need ("CON") process, pursuant to Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S."), to establish an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children at 326 Highland Avenue in Waterbury.

Upon review of the information contained in the request, OHCA finds the following:

1. Wheeler Clinic, Inc. ("WCI") is a non-profit facility located at 91 Northwest Drive in Plainville, Connecticut.
2. WCI is proposing to establish an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children at 326 Highland Avenue in Waterbury.
3. This program funded by the Department of Children and Families Bureau of Behavioral Health provides parental substance abuse and psychiatric treatment and parenting intervention to post partum women and their families.

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*  
410 Capitol Ave., MS#13HCA, P.O.Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308  
Telephone: (860) 418-7001 Toll-Free: 1-800-797-9688  
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4. The Department of Children and Families (“DCF”), in a letter dated January 19, 2007, from Commissioner Darlene Dunbar, MSW, endorses the proposal and the waiver of the CON requirements, pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.
5. DCF states that these services are accessed through DCF child protection services for families involved with the agency due to child abuse and neglect related to parental substance abuse. The expansion of services of this program is consistent with DCF effort to develop appropriate mental health and behavioral services specific to this population.
6. DCF also states that a multidisciplinary team of substance abuse treatment clinicians, child and family therapists, a case manager and psychiatrist provide assessment and evaluation, substance abuse treatment, parenting/attachment intervention, psychiatric evaluation, medication management, crisis intervention and family treatment. These services are office, home, and community based. It is anticipated 8 families will be served in FY 2007 and 24 families in FY 2008.
7. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$0.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Wheeler Clinic, Inc.’s request to establish an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children at 326 Highland Avenue in Waterbury, Connecticut, meets the exemption requirements of Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes and, therefore, is exempt from OHCA’s CON process. Termination of these services would require CON approval, pursuant to Section 19a-638, C.G.S.

Thank you for providing information to OHCA regarding this proposal. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Paolo Fiducia, Associate Health Care Analyst, Certification, Financial Analysis and Forecasting, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

C: Honorable Darlene Dunbar, MSW, Commissioner, DCF  
Sandra Bauer, Health Processing Technician, DPH, DCBR

CAV:pf