



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

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

June 28, 2007

Raymond J. Gorman  
Senior Advisor  
Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. and  
Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health, Inc.  
29 Russell Street  
New Britain, CT 06052

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 07-30948-EXM  
Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. and  
Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health, Inc.  
CON Exemption Pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.  
Merger between Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. and Northwest Center for  
Family Service & Mental Health, Inc.

Dear Mr. Gorman:

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."), for the merger between Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. and Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health, Inc.

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

1. Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. ("CMHA") is a non-profit facility providing outpatient psychiatric and substance abuse treatment for adults at four locations: 5 Hart Street, 55 Winthrop Street, and 26 Russell Street, in New Britain, CT, as well as 81 North Main Street in Bristol, CT. CMHA's administrative office is located at 29 Russell Street in New Britain.

*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  
Fax: (860) 418-7053

2. Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health, Inc. (“NWCFS & MH”) is a non-profit facility providing outpatient psychiatric treatment for adults and adolescents at four locations: 315 Main Street in Lakeville, CT; 100 Commercial Blvd in Torrington, CT; 35 Park Lane Road in New Milford, CT; and 115 Spencer Street in Winsted, CT. NWCFS & MH’s administrative office is located at 315 Main Street in Lakeville, CT.
3. This proposal is for the merger of NWCFS & MH with CMHA, and CMHA, Inc. will be the surviving corporation. The services currently provided by NWCFS & MH will be maintained at their current locations. The merger will not result in the addition or termination of any current services by NWCFS & MH or CMHA.
4. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (“DMHAS”), in a letter received by OHCA on June 5, 2007, from Deputy Commissioner Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W. recommends an exemption be granted under CGS Section 19a-639b for the change in ownership between Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. and Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health, Inc. This action will provide administrative efficiencies while assuring continued and increased access to psychiatric and/or substance abuse outpatient services for adults. The mental health outpatient programs in the Northwest region serving adults currently funded by DMHAS and operated by NWCFS & MH include:
  - 315 Main Street, Lakeville (Salisbury);
  - 115 Spencer Street, Winsted; and
  - 100 Commercial Boulevard, Torrington.
5. The Department of Children and Families (“DCF”), in a letter received by OHCA on June 25, 2007, from Deputy Commissioner Heidi D. McIntosh, M.S.W. recommends an exemption be granted under CGS Section 19a-639b for the change in ownership between Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. and Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health, Inc. The mental health outpatient programs in the Northwest region serving children currently funded by DCF and operated by NWCFS & MH include:
  - 315 Main Street, Lakeville (Salisbury);
  - 115 Spencer Street, Winsted;
  - 100 Commercial Boulevard, Torrington; and
  - 35 Park Lane Road, New Milford.
6. DMHAS states that it will transfer funds currently under contract with NWCFS & MH to CMHA for the purpose of continuing mental health services for adults residing in the Northwest region in programs indicated above.
7. DCF states the merger of these programs will allow for the continuous, uninterrupted behavioral health care to be available to a broad geographic area in an economical fashion and is consistent with DCF efforts to provide such services within communities. DCF currently licenses CMHA and contracts with the provider for all services stated.

8. The capital expenditure associated with programs start-up is \$15,000.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that the merger between Community Mental Health Associates, Inc. and Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health, Inc. meets the exemption requirements of Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes and, therefore, is exempt from OHCA's CON process. Termination of any of these services at any location 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 Diane Duran, PPT Health Care Analyst, or Paolo Fiducia, Associate Health Care Analyst, Certification, Financial Analysis and Forecasting, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

C: Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W., Deputy Commissioner, DMHAS  
Heidi D. McIntosh, M.S.W., Deputy Commissioner, DCF  
Sandra Bauer, Health Processing Technician, DPH, DCBR  
Al Bidorini, Director, OPAS, DMHAS  
Donna C. Stimpson, Planning Specialist, DMHAS

CAV:dd