



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

October 9, 2007

Carmen E. Marcano
CEO
Helping Hand Center, Inc.
1124 Iranistan Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605

RE: Certificate of Need Determination Report Number: 07-31022-EXM
Helping Hand Center, Inc.
CON Exemption Pursuant to Section 17a-678, C.G.S.
Termination of 15 Intermediate and Long Term Treatment and Rehabilitation Beds for
Substance Abuse Clients in Bridgeport

Dear Ms. Marcano:

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 17a-678 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S."), to terminate its residential long term care license for substance abuse clients at 1124 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT.

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

1. Helping Hand Center, Inc. ("HHC") is a non-profit facility providing clinical, intermediate service level III.3 substance abuse residential long term treatment at 1124 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. HHC receives funds from The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.
2. HHC is proposing to terminate its residential long term care license for substance abuse clients at 1124 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT, and become a Recovery House.
3. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services ("DMHAS"), in a letter received October 3, 2007, from Deputy Commissioner Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W., grants an exemption under CGS Section 17a-678 to allow Helping Hand Center, Inc. to terminate its residential long term care license for substance abuse clients at 1124 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, serving the Southwest region.

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

4. DMHAS states that the termination of this program will not adversely affect service access to residential care in the region as there exists excess capacity within residential levels of care in the geographic region. Additionally most of Helping Hand Center's client population would more appropriately be served through stable outpatient services and transitional housing. Currently there are no Recovery Houses serving the Southwest Region.
5. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$250,000.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Helping Hand Center, Inc.'s request to terminate its 15 intermediate and long term treatment and rehabilitation beds for substance abuse clients at 1124 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport meets the exemption requirements of Section 17a-678 of the Connecticut General Statutes and, therefore, is exempt from OHCA's CON process.

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 Commissioner Vogel on October 9, 2007

Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

C: Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W., Deputy Commissioner, DMHAS
Sandra Bauer, Licensing Examination Assistant, DPH, FLIS
Al Bidorini, Director, OPAS, DMHAS
Donna C. Stimpson, Planning Specialist, DMHAS

CAV:pf