



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

October 7, 2008

David A. Whitehead
Administrator
CONNCare, Inc.
112 Lafayette Street
Norwich, CT 06360

Re: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number: 08-31235-DTR
CONNCare, Inc.
Continuation of an Established Primary Care Practice in Plainfield, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Whitehead:

On September 16, 2008, the Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) received your Certificate of Need (“CON”) Determination request from CONNCare, Inc., regarding the continuation of an established primary care practice at the Plainfield Medical Center in Plainfield, Connecticut.

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

1. The William W. Backus Hospital System (“System”) is governed by Backus Corporation, the parent corporation of all licensed and unlicensed entities of the System and the sole member of Backus Health Care, Inc., a Connecticut nonstock corporation. The legal chart of organization of the Backus Corporation is presented in Attachment I of this CON determination report.
2. CONNCare, Inc. (“Petitioner”) is currently licensed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health as an outpatient clinic and provides occupational therapy services as well as dialysis services through the auspices of the Backus Dialysis Corporation. The sole corporate member of CONNCare, Inc., a Connecticut nonstick corporation, is Backus Health Care, Inc.

3. The Petitioner is a health care facility pursuant to Section 19a-630(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”). Section C.G.S. 19a-630(1) provides in relevant part:

(1) "Health care facility or institution" means any facility or institution engaged primarily in providing services for the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of human health conditions, including, ... outpatient surgical facilities.....". "Health care facility or institution" includes any parent company, subsidiary, affiliate or joint venture, or any combination thereof, of any such facility or institution ..."

4. The Petitioner proposes to assume the provisions of providing primary care services at the Plainfield Medical Center, located at 120-122 Plainfield Road, Plainfield, Connecticut.
5. Primary care services are currently being offered at the aforementioned address by Dr. Savador Aromin, a private practitioner, who will be retiring in the near future.
6. The towns that have been served and that will continue to be serve by the complement of primary care services are as follows: Plainfield, Canterbury, Sterling, Griswold Lisbon and Voluntown.
7. The Petitioner indicates it is pursuing this proposal due to the following factors:
 - a. Difficulty in finding a physician to locate a private practice at the existing location; and
 - b. To ensure continued access to quality primary care services for the greater Plainfield community, which has been designated as a Primary Health Professional Shortage Area as well as a Medically Underserved Area.
8. CONNCare, Inc. will lease the outfitted space, measuring approximately 2,100 square feet, currently occupied by Dr. Aromin. The facility, which houses the Plainfield Medical Center, is owned by Backus Properties, Inc., specifically for the purpose of providing medical services to the greater Plainfield community.
9. Pursuant to Section 19a-638 (2) of the Connecticut General Statutes each health care facility or institution or state health care facility or institution, which intends to introduce any additional function or service into its program of health care shall submit to the office, prior to the proposed date of the institution of such function or service, a request for permission to undertake such function or service.
10. There is no capital expenditure associated with the proposal.

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Based on the above findings, OHCA determines that CONNCare, Inc. is a health-care facility and that the proposal to assume a primary care practice at the Plainfield Medical Center, 120-122 Plainfield Road, Plainfield, Connecticut, represents the establishment of a new service in a new location. Therefore, CONNCare's proposal to assume an existing primary care practice at the Plainfield Medical Center, 120-122 Plainfield Road, Plainfield, Connecticut requires Certificate of Need authorization by OHCA pursuant to Section 19a-638 (2) of the Connecticut General Statutes. CONNCare, Inc. must file a Letter of Intent with OHCA at its earliest convenience related to this project.

If you have any questions regarding this CON determination matter, please contact Jack Huber, OHCA analyst at (860) 418-7034. If you have any questions regarding the Letter of Intent or Certificate of Need process, please contact Kimberly Martone, Supervisor of the CON process at (860) 418-7029.

Sincerely,

Signed by Commissioner Vogel on October 7, 2008

Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

Cc: Rose McLellan, Licensing Examination Assistant, BHSE, DPH

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