



Office of Health Care Access Certificate of Need Application

Final Decision

Applicant: Kevin's Community Center, Inc.

Docket Number: 03-30035-CON

Project Title: Establishment of an Outpatient Primary Care Clinic

Statutory Reference: Section 19a-638, Connecticut General Statutes

Filing Date: June 18, 2003

Hearing Date: Not Applicable

Decision Date: June 27, 2003

Default Date: September 16, 2003

Staff: Kim Martone

Project Description: Kevin's Community Center, Inc. ("Applicant") proposes to establish a licensed, outpatient primary care clinic located at 5 Prospect Drive in Newtown, Connecticut. The proposed total capital expenditure for the outpatient primary care center is \$19,175.

Nature of Proceeding: On June 18, 2003, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received the Applicant's Certificate of Need ("CON") application seeking authorization to establish a licensed, outpatient primary care clinic located at 5 Prospect Drive in Newtown, Connecticut. The proposed total capital expenditure for the establishment of the outpatient primary care center is \$19,175. The Applicant is a health care facility or institution as defined by Section 19a-630, of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.").

OHCA's authority to review and approve, modify or deny this proposal is established by Section 19a-638, C.G.S. The provisions of this section, as well as the principles and guidelines set forth in Section 19a-637, C.G.S., were fully considered by OHCA in its review.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Clear Public Need

Contribution of the Proposal to the Quality and Accessibility of Health Care Delivery in the Region

Impact on the Applicant's Current Utilization Statistics

1. Kevin's Community Center, Inc. ("KCC") is a non-profit corporation, which has as its purpose the provision of free primary medical services to the uninsured residents of Newtown, Connecticut. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 1)*
2. KCC proposes to establish a free outpatient primary care clinic for eligible Newtown residents over the age of 16 years. The clinic will be located in offices of the Newtown Health District in Canaan House on the grounds of the old Fairfield Hills Hospital. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 1)*
3. KCC will provide free primary medical care to the underinsured and uninsured residents of Newtown to prevent illness through health education, reinforcement of good health and nutrition practices, and the early diagnosis and treatment of chronic illness. Adult walk-in clinic sessions, continuity or disease specialty clinics, and physical examinations will be provided. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, Policies and Procedures Manual)*
4. Individuals are eligible for free medical services at KCC if they have household incomes between 100% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Level ("FPL"). Individuals are restricted or possibly eligible on a case-by-case review if their household income is between 200%-300% of the FPL. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, pages 1&2)*
5. The need for the proposal is based on the following:
 - Number of eligible and restricted families meeting the FPL
 - Lack of internists accepting Medicaid patients
 - Improvement in local access for the uninsured and low-income residents*(June 18, 2003, CON Application, pages 1-4)*
6. The Applicant estimates an eligible and restricted population pool in Newtown of 2,572 individuals from families of 3 persons based on the 2000 National Census. The potential pool increases dramatically when families of 4,5,6,7, and 8 are factored in. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 2)*

7. Dr. Ziad Michael Taweh, the Medical Director of KCC, treated approximately 200 patients who lived in Newtown from the years 2000 to 2002 who did not have medical insurance and did not have the financial means to obtain it. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 3)*
8. The Applicant surveyed each primary care internal medical practitioner in Newtown and indicated that none of the practicing internists in Newtown accept Medicaid patients. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 3)*
9. The Newtown Department of Social Services, the Newtown Health District, the Visiting Nurses Association of Newtown, Inc. and AmeriCares Free Clinics, Inc. support the establishment of the proposed free clinic to serve the uninsured Newtown population. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 4)*
10. The Applicant stated that various local and regional health care providers have agreed to accept referrals of eligible patients for free specialized medical care. Danbury Hospital has agreed to provide free laboratory and some radiology services for eligible patients. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 1)*
11. The proposed outpatient primary care clinic will operate four hours, one day a week for 48 weeks a year. The Applicant may consider expanding its hours if the census is exceeded. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, pages 1&5)*
12. The Applicant projects to treat 12, 13, and 15 patients per 4-hour session or 240, 624, and 720 patient examinations for Fiscal Years ("FYs") 2003 (August-December), 2004, and 2005, respectively. The Applicant projects a commencement date of operation of August 2003. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, Financial Projections)*
13. One volunteer physician, one volunteer registered nurse, a receptionist/screener, and the Clinic Director or his/her designee will staff each clinic session. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, Policies and Procedures Manual)*

**Financial Feasibility of the Proposal and its Impact on the Applicant's Rates and
Financial Condition
Impact of the Proposal on the Interests of Consumers of Health Care Services and
Payers for Such Services**

14. The proposed total capital expenditure for the outpatient primary care clinic is \$19,175 for equipment, which will be funded through operations and contributions. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 5)*
15. The Applicant's payer mix consists of 100% free care. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 6)*

16. The Applicant projects excess revenues of \$5,440, \$6,400, and \$6,040 for FYs 2003 (August-September), 2004, and 2005 with the project due to donations increasing 5% per year. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, Financial Projections)*

Consideration of Other 19a-637, C.G.S. Principles and Guidelines

The following findings are made pursuant to other principles and guidelines set forth in Section 19a-637, C.G.S.:

17. There is no State Health Plan in existence at this time. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 2)*
18. The Applicant has adduced evidence that this proposal is consistent with the Applicant's long-range plan. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 2)*
19. The Applicant has improved productivity and contained costs by applications of technology, specifically computer systems. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 3)*
20. The Applicant currently does not have teaching or research responsibilities. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 3)*
21. There are no unique characteristics of the Applicant's patient/physician mix. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, page 3)*
22. The Applicant has sufficient technical, financial and managerial competence to provide efficient and adequate services to the public. *(June 18, 2003, CON Application, Attachment)*

Rationale

Kevin's Community Center, Inc. ("KCC") proposes to establish a free outpatient primary care clinic for eligible Newtown residents over the age of 16. Individuals are eligible for free medical services at KCC if they have household incomes between 100% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Level ("FPL"). Individuals are restricted or possibly eligible on a case-by-case review if their household income is between 200%-300% of the FPL. The need for the proposal is based on the number of eligible and restricted families meeting the FPL, the lack of internists accepting Medicaid patients, and improvement in local access for the uninsured and low-income residents of Newtown. The clinic will operate four hours, one day a week and will be located in offices of the Newtown Health District in Canaan House on the grounds of the old Fairfield Hills Hospital.

The Applicant estimates an eligible and restricted population pool in Newtown of 2,572 individuals from families of 3 persons based on the 2000 National Census. The potential pool increases dramatically when families of 4,5,6,7, and 8 are factored in. Dr. Ziad Michael Taweh, the Medical Director of KCC, treated approximately 200 patients who lived in Newtown from the years 2000 to 2002 who did not have medical insurance and did not have the financial means to obtain it. The Applicant surveyed each primary care internal medical practitioner in Newtown and indicated that none of the practicing internists in Newtown accept Medicaid patients.

The proposal will contribute in a favorable way to the quality and accessibility of health care delivery in the region by improving local access to free primary medical care for the underinsured and uninsured residents of Newtown. The Applicant projects to treat 12, 13, and 15 patients per 4-hour session or 240, 624, and 720 patient examinations in FYs 2003 (only five months), 2004, and 2005, respectively. The Applicant projects a commencement date of operation of August 2003. The Applicant stated that various local and regional health care providers have agreed to accept referrals of eligible patients for free specialized medical care. Danbury Hospital has agreed to provide free laboratory and some radiology services for eligible patients.

The proposal is financially feasible. There is a minimal capital expenditure associated with the proposal. KCC is a free primary care clinic staffed by volunteer physicians, nurses, and other administrative positions. The Applicant's payer mix consists of 100% free care. The Applicant projects excess revenues of \$5,440, \$6,400, and \$6,040 for FYs 2003 (August-September), 2004, and 2005 with the project due to a 5% increase in donations. Based on the above, OHCA concludes that the CON proposal is cost-effective and in the best interests of consumers and payers.

Based upon the forgoing Findings of Fact and Rationale the Certificate of Need application of Kevin's Community Center, Inc. to establish a licensed, outpatient primary care clinic located at 5 Prospect Drive in Newtown, Connecticut, at a total capital expenditure of \$19,175, is hereby GRANTED.

ORDER

Kevin's Community Center, Inc. is hereby approved to establish a licensed, outpatient primary care clinic located at 5 Prospect Drive in Newtown, Connecticut, at a total capital expenditure of \$19,175.

All of the foregoing constitutes the final order of the Office of Health Care Access in this matter.

By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access

Date Signed:
June 27, 2003

Signed by:
Mary M. Heffernan
Commissioner

MMH/km