

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

September 23, 2009

IN THE MATTER OF:

An Application for a Certificate
of Need filed pursuant to
Section 19a-638, C.G.S. by:

Notice of Final Decision
Office of Health Care Access
Docket Number: 09-31343-CON

**Intercommunity, Mental Health
Group, Inc.**

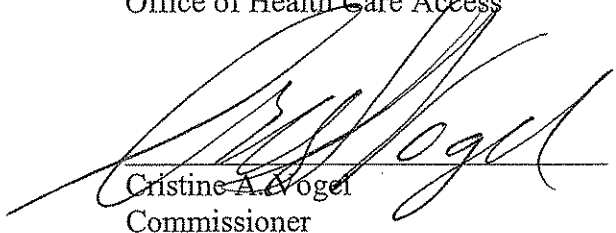
**Termination of Psychiatric Outpatient
Clinic for Adults in Wethersfield**

To: Kim Beauregard, CEO
InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc.
281 Main Street
East Hartford, CT 06118

Dear Ms. Beauregard:

This letter will serve as notice of the Final Decision of the Office of Health Care Access in the above matter, as provided by Section 19a-638, C.G.S. On September 23, 2009, the Final Decision was rendered as the finding and order of the Office of Health Care Access. A copy of the Final Decision is attached hereto for your information.

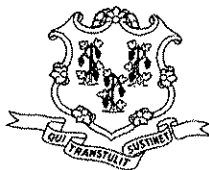
By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access



Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV: cgc

Enclosure



Office of Health Care Access Certificate of Need Application

Final Decision

Applicant: InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc.

Docket Number: 09-31343-CON

Project Title: Termination of Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic for Adults in Wethersfield

Statutory Reference: Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes

Filing Date: July 15, 2009

Decision Date: September 23, 2009

Default Date: October 14, 2009

Staff: Carmen Cotto

Project Description: InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc. ("Applicant") is proposing to terminate a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults in Wethersfield with no associated capital expenditure.

Nature of Proceedings: On July 15, 2009, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received a Certificate of Need ("CON") application from the Applicant regarding a proposal to terminate a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults in Wethersfield with no associated capital expenditure.

A notice to the public concerning OHCA's receipt of the Applicant's Letter of Intent was published on April 6, 2009, in *The Hartford Courant*. OHCA received no response from the public concerning the Applicant's proposal. Pursuant to Section 19a-639 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.") three individuals or an individual representing an entity with five

or more people had until August 4, 2009, the twenty-first calendar day following the filing of the Applicant's CON application, to request that OHCA hold a public hearing on the Applicant's proposal. OHCA received no hearing requests from the public.

OHCA's authority to review, 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

Impact of the Proposal on the Applicant's Current Utilization Statistics Proposal's Contribution to the Quality of Health Care Delivery in the Region Proposal's Contribution to the Accessibility of Health Care Delivery in the Region

1. It is found that InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc. ("Applicant") has an adult outpatient facility located at 281 Main Street in East Hartford and two additional locations also in East Hartford at 287 Main Street and 160 School Street. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)*

Table 1: Applicant's Locations, Services and Client Capacity

Location	Services	Capacity of clients
281 Main Street	a. Medical and clinical services b. Vocational services c. Client run clubhouse	a. 900 b. 42 c. no capacity
287 Main Street	a. Community Support services w/case managers and b. Children's Outpatient clinical services	a. 200 b. 125
160 School Street	a. Housing program	a. 33

(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)

2. The Applicant proposes to terminate a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults located at the town hall at 505 Silas Dean Highway in Wethersfield. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 2)*
3. The Applicant ceased operations of the outpatient clinic in Wethersfield and returned the psychiatric outpatient clinic's license to the Department of Public Health on November 30, 2008. A Board of Directors vote was not required to cease operations. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)*
4. The Applicant contends that the services at the Wethersfield location were performed on a limited part-time basis, never more than ½ day per month and at most only two clients per month were seen during this time. When their clinical staff was not present, the room was used for other functions by the town. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)*

5. The Applicant contends that there have been no services performed at the Wethersfield location for a number of years, and closing the service was done to eliminate operating inefficiency. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)*
6. The Applicant contends that Wethersfield is part of the Applicant's catchment area through its DHMAS contract, and any clients from Wethersfield are now seen at 281 Main Street in East Hartford usually on a weekly basis. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)*
7. The Applicant contends that most clients have private transportation to come to the East Hartford location. It is easily accessible from Route 3 and Route 2. The Applicant employs a driver and uses its van to pick up those few clients who need transportation to its outpatient facilities. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 13)*
8. The Applicant indicates that at most it had 24 visits per year. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)*
9. The Applicant contends that the termination of the service did not have an effect on existing providers and created no barriers to access in the region. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 13)*
10. The Applicant contends that services were offered on a limited basis and the same services are offered at the Applicant's location at 281 Main Street in East Hartford. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 13)*
11. The Applicant contends that there is no impact on the consumer's health care services or on the payer's for the services. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 13)*

**Financial Feasibility of the Proposal and its Impact on the Applicant's Rates
and Financial Condition
Rates Sufficient to Cover Proposed Capital and Operating Costs
Impact of the Proposal on the Interests of Consumers of Health Care Services
and Payers for Such Services
Consideration of Other Section 19a-637, C.G.S. Principles and Guidelines**

12. The Applicant contends that it was not able to provide OHCA with audited or unaudited financial statements and financial and statistical projections because there have been no services provided at the Wethersfield location. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 14)*
13. The Applicant contends that any billing to insurers used the Applicant's location at 281 Main Street as the location of service. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 12)*
14. The Applicant indicates that there are no capital expenditures associated with the implementation of this proposal. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 2)*
15. There is no State Health Plan in existence at this time. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 3)*
16. The Applicant has improved productivity and contained costs through the application of technology. *(July 15, 2009, Initial CON Application, page 7)*

Rationale

The Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) approaches community and regional need for Certificate of Need (“CON”) proposals on a case by case basis. CON applications do not lend themselves to general applicability due to a variety of factors, which may affect any given proposal; e.g. the characteristics of the population to be served, the nature of the existing services, the specific types of services proposed to be offered, the current utilization of services and the financial feasibility of the proposal.

InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc. (“Applicant”) has an adult outpatient facility located at 281 Main Street in East Hartford and two additional locations also in East Hartford at 287 Main Street and 160 School Street. At these locations, the Applicant provides a client run clubhouse, a housing program, and medical, clinical, vocational, community support and children’s outpatient services. The Applicant proposes to terminate a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults located at the town hall at 505 Silas Dean Highway in Wethersfield due to the lack of utilization of the services provided at this location by the public.

The psychiatric outpatient clinic in Wethersfield is part of the Applicant’s catchment area through its Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services contract. The services at the Wethersfield location were performed on a limited part-time basis, never more than ½ day per month and at most only two clients per month were seen during this time. The Applicant indicates that at most it had only 24 visits per year.

The Applicant ceased operations of the psychiatric outpatient clinic on November 30, 2008 and has not provided services at this location for a number of years. Patients living in Wethersfield have access to the same services at the Applicant’s location at 281 Main Street in East Hartford on a weekly basis. Therefore, OHCA concludes that termination of services at the Wethersfield location did not impact access, as similar services are maintained at the Applicant’s location at 281 Main Street in East Hartford.

The Applicant’s proposal to terminate services at its Wethersfield location has no associated capital expenditure. The Applicant was not able to provide OHCA with audited or unaudited financial statements and financial and statistical projections because there have been no services provided at the Wethersfield location, and patient billing to insurers for patients seen at the Wethersfield location used the Applicant’s location at 281 Main Street as the location of service.

Order

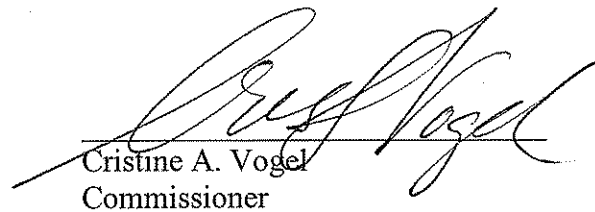
The proposal of InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc. to terminate a psychiatric outpatient clinic for adults located at the town hall at 505 Silas Dean Highway in Wethersfield with no associated capital expenditure is hereby APPROVED.

InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc. shall hereafter notify OHCA of any and all proposed termination of services prior to finalizing any decision to terminate any services or programs. Failure to notify OHCA in advance of any proposed termination of services may be considered as not filing required information and subject InterCommunity, Mental Health Group, Inc. to civil penalties pursuant to Section 19a-653, C.G.S.

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

9-23-09
Date


Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV: cgc