## STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS



M. JODI RELL GOVERNOR July 8, 2005 CRISTINE A. VOGEL COMMISSIONER

Richard Bilangi, MS Executive Director, President Connecticut Counseling Centers, Inc. 984 Southford Road Middlebury, CT 06762

Re: Certificate of Need Determination, Report Number 05-30489-DTR Connecticut Counseling Centers, Inc.

CON Exemption Request Pursuant to Section 17a-678, C.G.S.

Establishment of a Methadone Maintenance Program in Danbury

## Dear Mr.Bilangi:

The Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") is in receipt of your application for exemption from the Certificate of Need ("CON") process, pursuant to Section 17a-678 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.") for the establishment of a methadone maintenance program at 60 Beaverbrook Road, Danbury, Connecticut. OHCA has reviewed the information submitted and makes the following findings:

- 1. Connecticut Counseling Centers, Inc. ("CCC") is a nonprofit facility that provides substance abuse services and is funded by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services ("DMHAS").
- 2. CCC is licensed to provide the following substance abuse programs in Connecticut:
  - Ambulatory Chemical Detoxification Treatment, Chemical Maintenance Treatment, and Outpatient Treatment at 20 North Main Street, Norwalk; and
  - Ambulatory Chemical Detoxification Treatment, Day and Evening Treatment, Chemical Maintenance Treatment, and Outpatient Treatment at 4 Midland Road, Waterbury.
- 3. CCC proposes the establishment of a methadone maintenance program and an ambulatory detoxification program at 60 Beaverbrook Road in Danbury. The proposal is intended to serve Danbury and its surrounding municipalities.

- 4. As the third methadone program to be operated by CCC, it will reduce the administrative overhead for the provisions of these services by CCC.
- 5. DMHAS, in a letter dated June 30, 2005, from Commissioner Thomas A. Kirk, Jr., Ph.D., supports the proposal and grants the exemption of the CON requirements, pursuant to Section 17a-678, C.G.S.
- 6. DMHAS stated in its letter that it grants the exemption due to the proposed closure of the methadone maintenance program at Danbury Hospital.
- 7. Programs which plan to use opioid drugs in the maintenance and detoxification treatment of opiate addiction must achieve and maintain accreditation from a Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration approved accreditation organization as a condition of national certification.
- 8. The estimated capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$453,573.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that the proposal to establish a methadone maintenance program and an ambulatory detoxification program at 60 Beaverbrook Road, Danbury, Connecticut, meets the exemption requirements of Section 17a-678, C.G.S. and, therefore, is exempt from OHCA's Certificate of Need process.

Thank you for keeping OHCA informed of your plans regarding the proposal. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Laurie Greci, Associate Research Analyst, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel Commissioner

c: Honorable Thomas A. Kirk, Jr., Ph.D., Commissioner, DMHAS Al Bidorini, Assistant Director, DMHAS Donna Stimpson, Planning Specialist, DMHAS Sandra Bauer, Health Processing Technician, DPH, DCBR

CAV:lkg