



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

March 30, 2006

Holly E. Dreger, LSW  
Clinical Director  
Catholic Charities and Family Services, Diocese of Norwich, Inc.  
331 Main Street  
Norwich, CT 06360

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 06-30716-DTR  
Catholic Charities and Family Services, Diocese of Norwich, Inc.  
CON Exemption Pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.  
Establish a Substance Abuse Outpatient Clinic for Adolescents in New London

Dear Ms. Dreger:

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 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”), to establish a substance abuse outpatient treatment program for adolescents at 28 Masonic Street in New London.

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

1. Catholic Charities and Family Services, Diocese of Norwich (“CCFS”) is a non-profit facility providing adult outpatient psychiatric and substance abuse treatment at various locations in Connecticut.
2. CCFS is proposing to establish a substance abuse outpatient treatment program for adolescents at 28 Masonic Street in New London.
3. The Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment (“ASAT”) program meets twice per week and works with up to 10 adolescents in a group setting. Adolescents in Connecticut are in dire need of the assessments individual and group therapy, family therapy, and after care services which this program will provide. Current estimates run as high as 14, 000 youth who require this level of care.

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4. The Department of Children and Families (“DCF”), in a letter dated March 16, 2006, from Commissioner Darlene Dunbar, MSW, supports the proposal and the waiver of the CON requirements, pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.
5. DCF stated in its letter, “All of these youth come from low to moderate income families and they benefit from the program through the provision of easier access to substance abuse treatment. In a location where transportation provides a barrier, this is a valuable service and will result in an increase in successful outcomes to families and youth. The approach is consistent with the Department of Children and Families efforts to develop appropriate adolescents services”.
6. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$1,648.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Catholic Charities and Family Services, Diocese of Norwich, Inc.’s request to establish a substance abuse outpatient treatment program for adolescents at 28 Masonic Street in New London meets the exemption requirements of Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes and, therefore, is exempt from OHCA’s CON process. Termination of these services would require CON approval, pursuant to Section 19a-638, C.G.S.

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 Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

C: Honorable Darlene Dunbar, MSW, Commissioner, DCF  
Sandra Bauer, Health Processing Technician, DPH, DCBR

CAV:pf