



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

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

August 22, 2007

Joan M. Pesce  
President/CEO  
Morris Foundation, Inc.  
402 East Main Street  
Waterbury, CT 06702

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 07-31002-EXM  
Morris Foundation, Inc.  
CON Exemption Pursuant to Section 17a-678, C.G.S.  
Termination of Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Ansonia and  
Establishment of the Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Shelton

Dear Ms. Pesce:

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 17a-678 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”), for the termination of Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Ansonia and establishment of the Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Shelton, CT.

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

1. Morris Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit facility providing mental health and substance abuse treatment for adults at 75 Liberty Street, Ansonia, CT.
2. Morris Foundation, Inc. is the parent corporation of Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services located at 75 Liberty Street, Ansonia, CT.
3. This proposal is for the Morris Foundation, Inc. to terminate Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Ansonia and establish Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (“LCMHS”) at 30 Controls Drive, Shelton, CT.

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*  
410 Capitol Ave., MS#13HCA, P.O.Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308  
Telephone: (860) 418-7001 Toll-Free: 1-800-797-9688  
Fax: (860) 418-7053

4. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$50,000.
5. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (“DMHAS”), in a letter dated August 2, 2007, from Deputy Commissioner Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W., states the following:
  - DMHAS grants an exemption under CGS Section 17a-678 to allow Morris Foundation, Inc. to terminate a license for the facility in the care or treatment of substance abuse or dependent persons-outpatient treatment for adults at 75 Liberty Street, Ansonia, CT.
  - DMHAS also grants an exemption under CGS Section 17a-678 to allow Morris Foundation, Inc. to obtain a license for the facility in the care or treatment of substance abusive or dependent persons-outpatient treatment for adults at 30 Controls Drive, Shelton, CT.
  - DMHAS states that LCMHS expects to continue to serve annually approximately 404 individuals with substance abuse/dependency and secondary mental health disorders. The agency will serve the Valley towns of Ansonia, Derby, Seymour and Shelton. The level of care, types of clients, geographic area served and the number of clients will remain the same.
6. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (“DMHAS”), in a letter dated July 20, 2007, from Deputy Commissioner Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W., states that the CON exemption request for Morris Foundation, Inc. to relocate services by terminating outpatient mental health treatment service in Ansonia and opening a new outpatient mental health treatment service in Shelton, CT., is not eligible under CGS Section 19a-639b, as amended by PA 06-64, DMHAS states the following:
  - DMHAS states that it may only consider a CON exemption request by applicants that are currently under contract with DMHAS.
  - DMHAS also stated that although Morris Foundation, Inc. is currently under contract for substance abuse services with DMHAS at the 75 Liberty Street site, it is not under contract for mental health services at the same site. Accordingly, Morris Foundation is not eligible for consideration for a DMHAS CON exemption for mental health services.
7. Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”) states, in part, that the introduction of any additional function or services and the termination of a health care function or service require authorization from OHCA.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that the Morris Foundation, Inc. request to terminate a license for the facility in the care or treatment of substance abuse or dependent persons-outpatient treatment for adults at 75 Liberty Street, Ansonia, CT., and to obtain a license for the facility in the care or treatment of substance abusive or dependent persons-outpatient treatment for adults at 30 Controls Drive, Shelton, CT., meets the exemption requirements of

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

410 Capitol Ave., MS#13HCA, P.O.Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Telephone: (860) 418-7001 Toll-Free: 1-800-797-9688

Fax: (860) 418-7053

Section 17a-678 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.

As such, Certificate of Need authorization from OHCA is required for the termination of Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Ansonia and an establishment of the Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Shelton.

If the Petitioner is agreeable, OHCA will consider the submission of information received on August 9, 2007 as the Letter of Intent for the termination of Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Ansonia and establishment of the Liberty Center Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in Shelton. Therefore Morris Foundation, Inc. may file a completed CON application with OHCA between October 19, 2007 and December 18, 2007. The CON application is being mailed to your attention separately.

**If the Petitioner is not agreeable with this process and wishes to secure CON authorization for the proposed transaction, Morris Foundation, Inc. must immediately notify OHCA in writing of its position and submit a Letter of Intent to OHCA regarding its proposal.**

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Diane Duran PPT Health Care Analyst, or Paolo Fiducia, Associate Health Care Analyst, Certification, Financial Analysis and Forecasting, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

*Signed by Commissioner Vogel on August 22, 2007*

Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

C: Peter B. Rockholz, M.S.S.W., Deputy Commissioner, DMHAS  
Sandra Bauer, Health Processing Technician, DPH, DCBR  
Al Bidorini, Director, OPAS, DMHAS  
Donna C. Stimpson, Planning Specialist, DMHAS

CAV:dd