

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL GOVERNOR December 24, 2008 CRISTINE A. VOGEL COMMISSIONER

Elisabeth Cannata, PhD Assistant Director Children's Outpatient Services Wheeler Clinic, Inc. 91 Northwest Drive Plainville, CT 06062

Re: Certificate of Need Determination, Report Number 08-31231-EXM

Wheeler Clinic, Inc.

CON Exemption Request Pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S. Establish an Extended Day Treatment Program in Middletown

Dear Dr. Cannata:

On September 8, 2008 the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your request for exemption from the Certificate of Need ("CON") process, pursuant to Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S."), for the establishment of an Extended Day Treatment Program located at 20 Tuttle Place in Middletown in Connecticut.

Please be advised that OHCA has reviewed the information submitted and makes the following findings:

- 1. Wheeler Clinic, Inc. ("WCI") is a non-profit facility that provides continuum of treatment and support programs for children and youth throughout central Connecticut.
- 2. WCI is requesting an exemption from Certificate of Need requirements to establish a new Extended Day Treatment Program at 20 Tuttle Place in Middletown, Connecticut.
- 3. WCI states that the goals are to assess and treat children with behavioral health needs and their families/caregivers for the purpose of achieving optimal functioning at home, at school and in the community.
- 4. Department of Children and Families ("DCF"), in a letter received December 16, 2008, from Commissioner Susan I. Hamilton, JD, MSW, supports the proposal and the waiver

of the CON requirements, pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S., for the establishment of an Extended Day Treatment Program¹ in Middletown.

- 5. DCF indicates that many of WCI's behavioral health treatment programs are licensed and under contract with DCF. The programs included are as follows:
 - Outpatient clinic for children with several satellite sites;
 - Emergency mobile psychiatric services;
 - Intensive in-home services;
 - Therapeutic group homes;
 - Care coordination services; and
 - Other behavioral health services
- 6. DCF states that WCI will serve a target population which includes youth 11 to 17 with moderate to severe psychiatric disturbance and living in the towns overseen by the Middletown and Meriden area offices.
- 7. DCF states that WCI's proposal is consistent with DCF's efforts to improve access to needed behavioral health treatment and support services throughout the state and, in particular, access to intermediate levels of community based care.
- 8. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$50,000.

Based on the above findings, OHCA determines that WCI's proposal to establish an Extended Day Treatment Program located at 20 Tuttle Place in Middletown, Connecticut, meets the requirements of Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes, 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 Diane Duran, PPT Health Care Analyst, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Commissioner Vogel on December 24, 2008

Cristine A. Vogel Commissioner

c: Honorable Susan Hamilton, JD, MSW, Commissioner, DCF Sandra Bauer, Licensing Examination Assistant, FLIS, DPH CAV:dd

Extended Day Treatment is structured, intensive, therapeutic milieu that operates three hours per day in the afterschool hours. A team of multidisciplinary staff provide a broad range of psychosocial treatments that include individual, group family, and mult-family therapy as well as evaluation, crisis intervention, medication management, recreational therapy, case management and other therapeutic and rehabilitative interventions.