



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

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

February 5, 2009

David B. Moorehead  
Executive Director  
Waterford Country School, Inc.  
78 Hunts Brook Road  
Quaker Hill, CT 06375

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 08-31293-EXM  
Waterford Country School, Inc.  
CON Exemption Request Pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.  
Twelve Bed Reduction of the Residential Treatment Program in Quaker Hill

Dear Mr. Moorehead:

On December 30, 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."), to reduce its beds in the residential treatment program at 78 Hunts Brook Road in Quaker Hill.

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

1. Waterford Country School, Inc. is a non-profit corporation headquartered at 78 Hunts Brook Road in Quaker Hill, Connecticut, that provides treatment and support programs for children and youth throughout the Quaker Hill area.
2. Waterford Country School, Inc. is proposing to reduce its licensed bed capacity in their residential treatment program from 52 to 40 at 78 Hunts Brook Road in Quaker Hill.
3. The Department of Children and Families ("DCF"), in a letter received February 5, 2009, from Commissioner Susan I. Hamilton, JD, MSW endorses the proposal and the waiver of the CON requirements, pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.
4. DCF states that the program serves boys and girls ages 12-18. The program provides integrated treatment services including individual, group, and family therapy as well as milieu management, nursing, and psychiatric services. The target population for the program is boys and girls 12-18 with moderate psychiatric impairment and behavioral disorder.

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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

5. DCF also states that Waterford Country School, Inc. is a DCF contracted not-for-profit agency and the proposed bed reduction does not entail any capital cost. The program is licensed as a child caring facility serving the entire State of Connecticut, and the bed reduction will not adversely impact any particular geographic service area. The department will serve the youth that would have been served in the 12 beds targeted for closure through the following:
  - Serving those children and youth who would otherwise be served by the Waterford Country School at other in-state residential treatment centers where utilization has been low.
  - Increasing diversion of youth referred for residential care to intensive in-home services or other community based care.
6. DCF attests that there will be no adverse impact on the ability to serve the target population due to the closure of these 12 beds, and it supports Waterford's request for an exemption from the CON process.
7. DCF states that utilization and demand for residential treatment beds has been declining over the past 4-5 years. Residential treatment center placements for in-state and out-state placements from SFY 2003 through SFY 2008 have shown a decline from 1087 to 744, respectively. During the same period, capacity for community based intensive services, particularly intensive home-based services has increased as has DCF spending on these and other community behavioral health services.
8. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$0.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Waterford Country School, Inc.'s request to reduce its licensed beds in the residential treatment program from 52 to 40 at 78 Hunts Brook Road in Quaker Hill meets the exemption requirements of Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes and, therefore, is exempt from OHCA's CON process.

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, Certificate of Need Unit, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

***Signed by Commissioner Vogel on February 5, 2009***

Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

C: Honorable Susan I. Hamilton, MSW., J.D. Commissioner, DCF  
Sandra Bauer, Licensing Examination Assistant, DPH, FLIS

CAV:pf