## M. Jodi Rell

GOVERNOR

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

CRISTINE A. VOGEL COMMISSIONER

April 16, 2009

John F. Boyd
Executive Director
Connecticut Junior Republic Association, Inc.
550 Goshen Road
P.O. Box 161
Litchfield, CT 06759

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 09-31317-EXM Connecticut Junior Republic Association, Inc.
CON Exemption Request Pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.
Termination of a Child Care Facility in Litchfield

Dear Mr. Boyd:

On February 26, 2009, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your request for an exemption from the Certificate of Need ("CON") process, pursuant to Section 19a-639b of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S."), to terminate its child care facility at 550 Goshen Road in Litchfield.

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

- 1. Connecticut Junior Republic Association, Inc. ("CJR") is a non-profit agency that operates a 60-bed Residential Treatment Facility, at 550 Goshen Road in Litchfield.
- 2. CJR is proposing to close its licensed residential treatment program at 550 Goshen Road in Litchfield.
- The Department of Children and Families ("DCF"), in a letter received April 13, 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 ages 12-15. 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 ages 12-15 with behavioral disorders and juvenile justice system involvement who do not require a secure setting.

- 5. DCF also states that the program has a licensed bed capacity of 60 but as recently as February 18, 2009, there were as few as 32 youth in residence and no referrals. As the Department's array of intensive community based services has expanded, this target population has been better served in the community. DCF has documented a decline in residential referrals and higher vacancy rates for programs serving this target population.
- 6. DCF states that CJR is a DCF contracted not-for-profit agency and the proposed bed reduction does not entail any capital costs. The program is licensed as a child caring facility, serves the entire State of Connecticut and closing of the facility will not adversely impact any particular geographic service area. The Department will serve the youth that would have been served in this program through the following:
  - Serving those children and youth who would otherwise be served by CJR at instate Residential Treatment Centers ("RTCs") where utilization has been low.
  - Increased diversion of youth referred for residential care to intensive in-home services or other community based care.
- 7. DCF attests that there will be no adverse impact on the ability to serve the target population due to closure of 60 beds and supports CJR's request for an exemption from the CON process.
- 8. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$0.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Connecticut Junior Republic Association, Inc.'s request to terminate its residential treatment program at 550 Goshen Road in Litchfield 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, Certification, Financial Analysis and Forecasting, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

COMMITTED

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

CAV:pf