



M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

July 16, 2009

Ms. Shawna Schnitzke
Director of Counseling
Hockanum Valley Community Council, Inc.
155 West Main Street
Vernon, CT 06066

RE: Certificate of Need Determination under Report Number 09-31387-DTR
Establish a Substance Abuse Outpatient Treatment Facility at 27 Naek Road in Vernon

Dear Ms. Schnitzke:

On June 12, 2009, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your request for a CON Determination regarding the proposal to establish a substance abuse outpatient treatment facility at 27 Naek Road in Vernon. OHCA has reviewed this matter and makes the following findings:

1. Hockanum Valley Community Council, Inc. ("HVCC") is a non-profit, licensed behavioral health provider currently located at 27-29 Naek Road in Vernon, Connecticut.
2. HVCC proposes to establish a substance abuse outpatient treatment facility at 27 Naek Road in Vernon.
3. HVCC currently provides licensed outpatient counseling services for adults, families and children, including family violence counseling, marriage and family therapy, individual therapy, group therapy and psychiatric services assessment and evaluation.
4. HVCC will provide outpatient substance abuse services to include evaluation, individual, group and urine screens.
5. Although HVCC claims that the proposed substance abuse services are "identical in every way" to its psychiatric outpatient services, it also states that DPH requires a separate license for HVCC to provide substance abuse treatment to clients with a primary diagnosis of substance abuse.
6. Accordingly, HVCC will seek licensure from DPH to operate a freestanding outpatient substance abuse facility at the 27 Naek Road location.

An Equal Opportunity Employer
410 Capitol Ave., MS#13HCA, P.O.Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308
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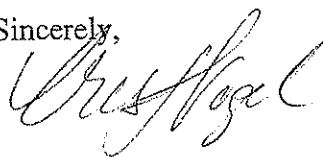
7. OHCA finds that HVCC is proposing to establish an additional function or service by providing substance abuse services at its 27 Naek Road location.

Based upon the above findings, OHCA determines that HVCC is required to obtain a Certificate of Need pursuant to General Statutes § 19a-638 (a) (2) prior to offering substance abuse services at 27 Naek Road in Vernon. HVCC may file a Letter of Intent with OHCA to request initiation of the Certificate of Need process for this proposal.

Please note that pursuant to 19a-639b, C.G.S., an exemption process is available when applicable for nonprofit institutions that are currently under contract with a state agency or department. The Applicant may refer to that statute section if it is applicable to your institution.

Thank you for advising OHCA of your plans. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Melanie Dillon, Staff Attorney at OHCA at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,



Cristine A. Vogel,
Commissioner

CAV:kr

Copy: Rose McLellan, License and Applications Supervisor, DPH