

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

CRISTINE A. VOGEL COMMISSIONER

June 25, 2009

Laurie A. Radford
Director of Family Services
Access Agency, Inc.
1315 Main Street
Willimantic, CT 06226

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 09-31389-EXM Access Agency, Inc.
CON Exemption Request Pursuant to Section 19a-639b, C.G.S.
Establish an Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic for Children in Danielson

Dear Ms. Radford:

On June 18, 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 establish an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children at 231 Broad Street in Danielson.

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

- 1. Access Agency, Inc. ("AA") is a non-profit facility providing mental health and family support services to adults, children and families at 1315 Main Street in Williamntic.
- 2. AA is proposing to establish an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children at 231 Broad Street in Danielson.
- 3. The Department of Children and Families ("DCF"), in a letter received June 18, 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 AA is a 501-c-3 non-profit corporation headquartered in Willimantic, Connecticut. AA is the recipient of DCF grant funds for the provision of group home care, mentoring, and life skills training and support.

- 5. DCF also states that AA proposes to provide a full array of outpatient behavioral health evaluation and treatment services, including diagnostic evaluation, psychological testing, and family, group, and individual therapy to children and families, that are currently served through other AA programs and who typically encounter a waiting list when seeking outpatient mental health treatment.
- 6. AA's Danielson site will serve children and youth from Danielson, Killingly, Pomfret, Brooklyn, Plainfield, Putnam, Canterbury, Sterling, Thompson, and Woodstock.
- 7. AA anticipates serving approximately 50 children and their families annually in the outpatient mental health clinic and is seeking licensure from DCF as an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children.
- 8. DCF states that the proposed establishment of new service sites is consistent with DCF's efforts to improve access to needed behavioral health treatment and support services throughout the state and particularly in Eastern Connecticut.
- 9. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$0.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Access Agency, Inc.'s request to establish an outpatient psychiatric clinic for children at 231 Broad Street in Danielson, meets the exemption requirements of Section 19a-639b 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.

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

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

CAV:pf