



**WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
&
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER**

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2011

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Dale Galassie
Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities and Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie,

This letter is in reference to project #10-066.

Will County Community Health Center, (WCCHC), is a public entity model community health center whose co-applicant and grantee is the Will County Health Department (WCHD). WCHD/WCCHC serves the residents of Will County, Illinois and contiguous counties. Will County is located south and adjacent to Cook County, the home of Chicago covers 22 cities and spans a total area of 849 square miles. The Center is located on the eastside of Joliet, Illinois, the County Seat for Will County and the center of highest need for health service to the unserved and underserved population at 1106 Neal Avenue.

WCCHC has been in existence since 1995 as an Illinois NFP corporation, when it was formed under the auspices of WCHD (founded in 1946). WCCHC received status as a Federally Qualified Health Center look-alike in December of 1996 and received its status as a 330 funded FQHC in 2001. WCCHC is the only federally funded community health center in Will County. The current site is a 33,000 square-foot facility with 28 examination rooms and 5 dental operatories, and serves the entire Will County area.

The scope of services includes a full range of primary and preventive health services. All of the primary care specialties are represented on the medical staff. Currently the Center has family practice, pediatrics, internal medicine, ob-gyn, dentistry and behavioral health. Hospital care, specialty referral integration with public health programs and many collaborative arrangements in the community provide a seamless system of care for the patients of WCHD/WCCHC.

WCHD/WCCHC currently serves 21,713 (UDS 2009) unduplicated patients. While the Center serves all of Will County, nearly 50% of the patients are from the nine Census Tracts which are designated MUP and HPSA on the east side of Joliet and the two Census Tracts which are designated GOV MUP in Bolingbrook. The total population of these census tracts was 50,612 according to U.S. Census Bureau Census 2009.

The eight census tracts that surround WCCHC, CT 8812.00, CT 8813.00, CT 8819.00, CT 8820.00, CT 8821.00, CT 8822.00, CT 8824.00, CT 8825.00, CT 8830.00, have been designated as a health professional shortage area (HPSA) and a medical underserved low income population (MUP) and constitute WCCHC's current formal service area.

Will County is the fourth largest and one of the fastest growing counties in the State of Illinois. It has experienced a 40% increase in population in the past decade. According to the 2000 Census Bureau data, the population in Will County was 502,266. This increased by 165,950 according to the 2006



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estimates, with a total population of 668,216. The projected population for 2014 is 812,444. Due to the rapid growth in population in Will County, the high need for primary health care services had increased significantly.

The unemployment rate for Will County climbed to 10.8% in July 2010 with Joliet at 13.2% (Joliet Herald News). Approximately 31,000 individuals in Joliet are either unemployed or live with someone who is unemployed. Another 34,000 people receive Medicaid benefits. (IL Department of Human Services, March 2009).

Will County's foreclosure rate is 5.0 % with the City of Joliet's rate at an astonishing 84.68% one of the highest in the Chicago metropolitan area (blockshopper.com).

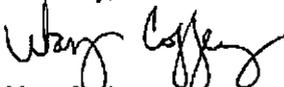
The medical population to provider ratio in the census tract is 5,118 to 1. HPSA scores are as follows: Primary Care 16; Mental Health 19 and Dental 14.

Race/Ethnicities

According to WCCHC's 2009 UDS Report is:

72.89% Racial and Ethnic Minority
44.33% Hispanic/Latino
24.67% African-American
2.01% Asian
0.16% American Indian/Alaska Native
0.44% More than one race
26.12% Best served in another language

Sincerely,



Mary Coffey, MBA, RN
Chief Executive Officer
Will County Community Health Center
Division of the Will County Health Department



WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT & COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

Date: 1.31.11

TO:

Name: Dale Malone, Chairman

Dept.: Health Facilities & Review Board

Phone: _____ Fax: 217.785.4111

FROM:

WILL COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Name: Mary Coffey, CEO

Phone: 815.740.7635 Fax: 815-727-8852

Number of pages, including this cover sheet: 3

As requested Please review and respond
 For Your Information Please process attached order

COMMENTS:

please contact me if you have any questions

SENDER:

Initials of person transmitting data: MM

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