

Roate, George

From: Marjorie Altergott [MAltergott@pccwellness.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:44 AM
To: Roate, George
Cc: Robert Urso; Constantino, Mike; Avery, Courtney
Subject: Application for project #12-084 PCC South Family Health Center
Attachments: Letter to George Roate Signed 10_3_2012.pdf

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Hello Mr. Roate,

Please let me introduce myself. I am Director of Public Health Analysis at PCC Community Wellness Center and have been involved with preparation of our Certificate of Need application for PCC Birth Center. As a Federally Qualified Community Health Center, PCC is required to serve residents in Health Professional Shortage Areas and underserved populations in our service area. Our mission is to improve health outcomes for the medically underserved community through the provision of high quality, affordable, and accessible primary health care and support services. PCC employees are sincerely dedicated to this mission, and are energized by the plans for a Birth Center that will serve the medically underserved community. Most exciting is that it will be an addition to the very few nationwide that are accessible to pregnant women who are covered by Medicaid or uninsured.

Mr. Robert Urso, PCC President and CEO, and I appreciate your quick communication after your initial review of our application, and understand your expressed concern. In response please see the attached letter.

Mr. Urso will contact you to further clarify our position. Also, feel free to contact me if you have questions or would like additional information.

Thank you,
Marjorie

Marjorie Altergott, PhD
Director of Public Health Analysis
PCC Community Wellness Center
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708 383-0113 ext. 7298

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
 SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

October 3, 2012

George Roate
 Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
 525 West Jefferson Street
 2nd Floor
 Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Mr. Roate,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding our Birth Center Certificate of Need application.

As a Federally Qualified Community Health Center, PCC Community Wellness Center is required to serve underserved populations, including those who reside in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA). Please note that the requirements are that "The applicant shall document whether the proposed site is located in or will predominantly serve the residents of a health professional shortage area." Although it is true that PCC South Family Health Center is not located in a Census Tract that has been designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), the clinic does serve residents in HPSA's as well as residents of Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs). South Family Health Center's service area includes the suburban communities of Berwyn, Cicero and Oak Park, and the Chicago Communities of Austin, North Lawndale and West Garfield Park. Of the 89 Census Tracts in these communities, 49 are designated as HPSAs. An additional six Census Tracts are designated as Medically Underserved Areas/Populations. South Family Health Center targets individuals who live at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, and these individuals residing in the suburban communities are more scattered throughout the neighborhoods than in the Chicago neighborhoods. Although not residing in a HPSA designated Census Tract, they are nonetheless underserved and lack access to health services. Of the 3,771 patients served by South Family Health Center during 2011, approximately 95.4% lived at or below 200% of the FPL and approximately 72.2% lived at or below 100% of the FPL.

Austin Family Health Center	5425 W. Lake Street	Chicago, Illinois 60644	t. 773.378.3347	f. 773.378.4028
Erie Court Health Center	1 Erie Court, Suite 6040	Oak Park, Illinois 60302	t. 708.386.1301	f. 708.386.3053
Lake Street Family Health Center	14 Lake Street	Oak Park, Illinois 60302	t. 708.383.0113	f. 708.383.9911
Melrose Park Family Health Center	1111 W. Superior Street Suite 207	Melrose Park, Illinois 60160	t. 708.406.3040	f. 708.406.3059
Salud Family Health Center	5359 W. Fullerton Avenue	Chicago, Illinois 60639	t. 773.836.2785	f. 773.836.7381
South Family Health Center	6030 W. Roosevelt Road	Oak Park, Illinois 60304	t. 708.386.0845	f. 708.386.8472
Walk-In Wellness Center	1044 N. Francisco Avenue	Chicago, Illinois 60622	t. 773.292.8348	f. 773.292.8343
West Town Family Health Center	1044 N. Mozart Street, Suite 203	Chicago, Illinois 60622	t. 773.292.8300	f. 773.292.2601



PCC Birth Center will share the same address as PCC South Family Health Center. However, it is a separate facility with a separate entrance. The Birth Center will serve all PCC Service Area Communities. These include the suburban communities of Bellwood, Berwyn, Cicero, Maywood, Melrose Park, Oak Park, and Stone Park, and the Chicago Communities of Austin, Belmont-Cragin, East Garfield Park, Hermosa, Humboldt Park, Logan Square, North Lawndale, West Town and West Garfield Park. Medically eligible pregnant women appearing at any of seven PCC Community Wellness Center's clinics that provide perinatal care will have the opportunity to enroll at PCC Birth Center. The maximum distance between the Birth Center Facility and other PCC clinics is 6.8 miles. There are 233 Census Tracts within PCC Community Wellness Center's service area, 176 of which have been designated as a HPSA. PCC serves residents in these Census Tracts, and also targets individuals living at or below 200% of the FPL in non-designated Tracts. Of the 42,275 patients seen at one of PCC's clinics during 2011, approximately 94% lived at or below 200% of the FPL, including 81% living at or below 100% of the FPL.

Documentation of the population served by PCC is in our application Attachment 16: Criterion 77 IAC 1110.3120 (b) – "Service Provision to a Health Professional Shortage Area." The text in our application for this section is as follows:

PCC Community Wellness Center and PCC Birth Center define their service area by Chicago Community Area and suburban township. These include the Chicago communities of Austin, Belmont-Cragin, East Garfield Park, Hermosa, Humboldt Park, Logan Square, North Lawndale, West Town and West Garfield Park, and the suburban communities of Bellwood, Berwyn, Cicero, Maywood, Melrose Park, Oak Park, and Stone Park. Of the 233 Census Tracts within PCC Birth Center's service area communities, 176 have been designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.¹ In addition, 206 Census Tracts have been designated as Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas and 207 as Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas. Not all census tracts in PCC service area communities have been designated as HPSAs, but pockets of low income residents live in many neighborhoods in these communities. PCC targets residents who live at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

PCC patient data verifies that we are serving residents in our service area who are most in need. Of the 42,275 patients served by PCC in 2011, an estimated 81% lived at or below the 2011 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and another 13% lived between 100% and 200% of the FPL. These data are drawn from our patient Electronic Health Records. Income for patients qualifying for sliding scale fees is verified and income for other patients is self-reported.



To clarify any confusion that arose in the application content, the application is a PCC Community Wellness Center application to open PCC Birth Center. The Birth Center facility is a separate facility, but will be located in the same building that PCC South Family Health Center facility is located in.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information that is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Orso', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert Orso
President and Chief Executive Officer