



CITY OF CONWAY

Community Development

September 3, 2010

Ms. Tamathy Williams
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Little Rock Field Office, Region VI
Office of Community Planning and Development
425 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 900
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Williams:

Per our conversation, here is the information needed to amend the 2010 Action Plan for the City of Conway.

The City of Conway intended to use \$350,000 in the Pine Street Revitalization Project Activity to begin a sewer and water project for the Pine Street Neighborhood. This action required an amendment to our Consolidated Plan and an Environmental Assessment. The city has begun seeking other ways to finance this costly project as total cost for improved sewer and water in the neighborhood exceeds \$2 million. Also, the city is seeking to purchase more property with funds allocated to this project, which was the original intent of the funds.

Conway Interfaith Clinic presented the city with a need for renovation of a building to meet their growing needs. The building formally housed offices of the United Way and other non-profit agencies. The building sits next to the existing Interfaith Clinic, which will also be renovated with these funds. The renovation of both buildings is estimated to be \$134,000.

The city proposes to decrease funding remaining from the 2008 Pine Street Neighborhood Revitalization Project (IDIS Activity 133) by \$134,000 in order to fund the Conway Interfaith Clinic Rehabilitation.

Conway Interfaith Clinic provides medical and dental services for those that do not have affordable access. Programs include medical care for uninsured children and adults who reside in Faulkner County and assistance in procuring maintenance prescriptions for uninsured people. The clinic also provides dental care for children who have ARKids/Medicaid coverage and adults with Medicaid coverage whose household income is less than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level.

Currently, the medical services program is open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The clinic is also open for a half-day of podiatry and a half-day of



CITY OF CONWAY

Community Development

dermatology each month. Patients pay a co-pay of \$15 for each appointment at the medical clinic. Lab work and hospital admissions are provided by Conway Regional Medical Center for reduced fees. The medical services program had 10,674 patient visits from April 2003 through December 2009. At this time, there is a two to three week wait for an appointment. Approximately 50 patients are denied care each month.

Bart Thornberry, M.D., serves as volunteer Medical Director for the clinic, and two family practice physicians also volunteer. The podiatrist and dermatologist service providers each volunteer for one half day each month. The medical program has a staff of two half-time LPNs, three APNs, each of whom work one day per week, student APNs and an RN currently pursuing a BSN. A receptionist and a patient assistance program advocate are both full-time employees.

The dental program is open five days a week from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It is staffed by a full-time dentist, two dental assistants, a receptionist, and students from Pulaski Tech's Dental Assisting School. Patients pay on a sliding fee scale, or are covered by Medicaid. Major health problems are prevented by regularly scheduled dental care. The dental program currently has a three to four week wait for an appointment.

The budget for renovation of the United Services Building at 830 North Creek Drive is as follows.

United Services Building for expanded medical	
Building security system and locks	\$5,000
Exterior building signage	\$2,000
Design and construction	\$67,500
Design and construction contingency	\$13,500
Total United Services Building	\$88,000
Existing Building Rehab for expanded dental	
Exterior Building Signage	\$1,000
Resolve Crawl Space Moisture and HVAC Issues	\$10,000
HVAC Replacement	\$35,000
Total CIC Building	\$46,000
Total project	\$134,000

In 2009, the clinic saw 961 patients for dental care and 1,077 for medical services for a total of 2,038 patients. All 961 dental patients qualified for Medicaid. Of the 1,077 medical patients, 401 were for patient assistance with prescriptions, a plan for those who are less than 200 percent of federal poverty level. Income verification for 66.8% of the patients shows that they are low-to-moderate income.



CITY OF CONWAY

Community Development

In addition, the clinic serves a number of those who qualify for limited clientele activities (570.208 (a)(2)) including residents of the city's battered women's shelter, abused children's shelter, and homeless shelter as well as elderly persons.

While the clinic was founded upon Christian principles by a group of community organizers bound by their faith and desire to serve others, no one is turned away because of their religious beliefs or affiliation. The staff shares their faith by example rather than by words. If the patient leads the discussion on faith, however, the staff will engage in that discussion.

Healthcare is a great need for the citizens of Conway as it is in our entire nation. The expansion of services allowable by this rehabilitation will greatly benefit those low-to-moderate income individuals within our community in need of such services.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 501-513-3570 at any time. I look forward to working with you and am pleased to present this amendment to you.

Sincerely,

Lauralee Wilcox McCool
Assistant to the Mayor for Community Development