

Nevada Health Centers, Inc.

Bringing Quality Health Care to Nevada's Communities

Carson City Administrative Office

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Las Vegas Administrative Office

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March 13, 2008

RE: Justification Letter (Planning & Development Department)
Nevada Health Centers, Inc. WIC Arville
4601 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite I, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Abstract

Nevada Health Centers Inc. (NVHC) a not for profit, are requesting that one of our WIC offices be relocated special use permit was denied by City Council at 3233 Charleston, Suite 204/205, Las Vegas, NV. 89102.

NVHC Background

NVHC is a private, not for profit 501(c)(3) federally funded Community Health Center (FQHC) Program has operated medical centers in throughout Nevada since 1977. NVHC now operates over thirty sites throughout the state of Nevada, to include primary care, OB/GYN, mammography, dental, school based, healthcare for the homeless and Women Infant Children (WIC). NVHC employees are dedicated to our mission; "To provide access to quality health care throughout Nevada." Nevada Health Centers, Inc. is founded on the principle that all people, regardless of where they live or their ability to pay, have the right to quality health care services.

* What are Community Health Centers?

The Community Health Center (CHC) Program is a Federal grant program funded under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act to provide for primary and preventive health care services in medically underserved areas throughout the US and its territories.

* Who Do We Care For?

Nevada Health Centers provides care to approximately 70,000 patients, which relates to 160,000 patient visits per year. The demographics of our population: 39% Hispanic, 51% White, 6% African American, 3% Asian, Native American 1%, and 6% undeclared. In addition, approximately 40% of our patients are under 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and 31% are between 100% and 200% of the FPL.

NVHC WIC Background

The WIC Clinics provide regular review of the growth and basic health and nutritional needs of pregnant, post-partum, breastfeeding women and their children up to the age of five. As part of this process, families are given nutritional education, nutritional counseling by a registered Dietician, Breast Feeding information/training by a Certified Lactation Consultant and Peer Counselor, blood hemocue tests for iron, distributed food vouchers/card and are referred out to NVHC facilities for other healthcare needs, such as prenatal care or immunizations for the children.

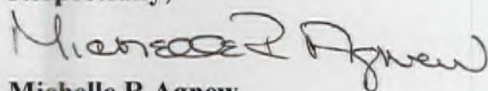
* Who Is Eligible?

Federal and State guidelines have been adopted and are used by NVHC to determine WIC eligibility. Guidelines state that a woman must be income eligible, pregnant, post-partum and/or breast feeding at the time of application. Children, up to age five who have a nutritional risk are also eligible. NVHC operates an OB/GYN Center and all of the pregnant women who are patients of our OB center are referred to the WIC program. Our North Las Vegas WIC site is located near our OB/GYN Center which makes it convenient for the patient. NVHC has four community health centers, two medical centers for the homeless and three school based health centers in Clark County. All of our medical centers routinely refer eligible patients to the WIC program.

Clinic Operations and Occupancy Analysis

Clinic operating hours are Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) 7:30 am to 4:30 pm (closed for lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. The staff consists of eight employees. We see approximately 75 patients per day. In addition, there are training classes during each day that may have up to 15 patients attending. Adequate parking is available for staff in the back of the building and for the clients. A near by bus stop will be used frequently, as these are low income families and can not afford private transportation.

Respectfully,



Michelle R Agnew
Chief Operations Officer

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Health Center Sites Throughout Nevada:

- Rural Centers: Amargosa Valley • Austin • Beatty • Carlin • Crescent Valley • Elko Family Medical & Dental Center • Eureka • Gerlach • Jackpot • Wendover • Carson City: Sierra • State Wide: Mammovan • Miles For Smiles Dental Vans (3) •
- Las Vegas Area: Bridger • Cambridge • Child Haven • Downtown Outreach Clinic • Eastern Family Medical & Dental Center •
- Las Vegas Outreach Clinic • Martin Luther King • North Las Vegas • OB/GYN • School Based Health Centers (3 Sites) • WIC (7 Sites) •

Web Site: www.nvhealthcenters.org