



UNITED SERVICES, INC.

creating healthy communities

www.unitedservicesct.org

September 4, 2009

Mr. Anthony Corniello, LCSW  
Vice President of Services  
Harbor Health Services, Inc.  
14 Sycamore Way,  
Branford, CT 06405

Dear Mr. Corniello:

Re: Tobacco Cessation Programs for Clients

I've recently learned that Harbor Health Services, Inc. has been designated the lead agency for a state program to explore the effectiveness of tobacco cessation programs among behavioral healthcare clients.

As you know this is a significant issue for many individuals receiving behavioral healthcare services and affects their overall health and quality of life. Should funds be available to expand this project to include other agencies throughout the state, United Services would be eager to participate to ensure that clients throughout Eastern Connecticut can benefit from this program.

United Services is extremely concerned that the effects of smoking have become a deadly reality for our clients. We recently reviewed our client death data for FY07, FY08 and FY09, and the data starkly illustrated the effect of health issues on our clients. Of the 16 deaths in FY07, 15 were from medical causes. That trend continued in FY08 with 5 of 8 deaths from non-age related medical causes, and in FY09 16 of 20 were in this category. Our clients are dying of heart disease and pneumonia and cancer at rates well above the national averages for their age group. We believe that smoking greatly contributes to that outcome.

Staff have not been successful to date in finding treatment and education resources that have impacted on this pattern. While we designated all of our facilities as smoke free over a year ago, we find our clients standing just off our property to smoke, and also frequently ignoring the posted signs. We need to help them conquer this addiction in order to prolong their lives.

Assisting clients in smoking cessation is a high priority at United Services. We would be extremely interested in being part of an expansion of your program if funds are available for that purpose. Please let me know if I can provide any information regarding our willingness and ability to participate in this initiative.

Thank you for your attention to this issue of concern to all. I look forward to learning more about this effort.

Sincerely,

  
Diane L. Manning, MBA, CBHE  
President/CEO



InterCommunity Mental Health Group, Inc.  
251 Myrtle Street  
East Hartford, CT 06111  
860.546.1100

Kimberly L. Beauregard, LCSW  
President & CEO

September 3, 2009

Harbor Health Services  
Attention: Tony Corniello  
14 Sycamore Way  
Branford, CT 06405

Dear Mr. Corniello,

I am writing to express InterCommunity's interest to participate with Harbor Health Services in regards to the Smoking Cessation project you are applying for.

As you are aware, InterCommunity serves over 2000 people in recovery annually and many of these individuals could greatly benefit from such a program at our organization. If you are awarded this funding, I would greatly appreciate you considering us to partner with you in regards to implementing the program, as it could positively impact many people's lives that are enrolled in our service delivery system.

I look forward to the possibility of InterCommunity partnering with you in regards to this important program. Please let me know if we can assist in any way. Thank you.

Best Regards,

*Kimberly Beauregard*

Kimberly Beauregard, LCSW  
President & CEO  
[kimbeauregard@icmhg.org](mailto:kimbeauregard@icmhg.org)