



2814 S. 108th St
West Allis, WI 53227
CommunityMedicalServices.org

Stephanie Bloomingdale
Chairperson - City Plan Commission
Members of the City Plan Commission
City of Milwaukee

To Stephanie,

This letter is intended to outline the narrative for our proposed partnership with Wisconsin Community Services, Inc. at 2610 W. North Avenue.

Community Medical Services is looking to provide counseling and medical treatment services to assist in the opioid treatment program (OTP). The services we provide are in sync and aligned with the current services WCS provides and will be an added type of service option to individuals currently receiving services at this WCS location, bringing additional benefits to the community and the City of Milwaukee. We are proposing that our services be permitted to function within the existing WCS facility in the form of a shared reception and new treatment room which will require a minor interior alteration within the space. Business hours are subject to change in agreement with WCS and in accordance with state regulations. Proposed hours of operation will be Monday through Friday, 8am-3pm and Saturday/Sunday, 8am-12pm. Business hours will be maintained as currently managed by WCS apart from state regulated weekend hours.

Our hours of operation will be within the existing WCS hours of operation at this site Monday through Friday, though we will cease medication administration at 3:30pm. Due to state requirements we must be open for medication administration on the weekends and will maintain a shortened schedule of 8am-12pm. To comply with state and federal regulations clients will be coming in daily initially but upon progressing in their recovery, they will be able to reduce the frequency of visits to the program to obtain medication. Methadone and buprenorphine will be dispensed at this location, and naltrexone will be administered. Medication will be kept in a secured dosing room at all times. The dosing room will have restricted access and separately monitored alarms. All medication will be safely secured in accordance with state and regulatory requirements.

There are no specific peak days that clients will be coming to the facility for CMS' services. Clients will be able to come in during the hours of operation the same way they currently can come into receive their other services at WCS. We expect the same type of flow as WCS during the week, which is similar day to day, with no noticeable increased flow of visitors.

The only clients served at this facility will be those already enrolled in WCS' programs out of this facility. There are approximately 90 WCS clients that currently could benefit from treatment. We anticipate serving approximately 25 people at the end of 30 days and collaborating with WCS continuously to meet the treatment needs of their participants would could benefit from our services. Over half of the WCS participants utilize public transportation, and CMS anticipates similar rates for those involved in our program.

Understanding trends and differences between demographic groups across overdose events can aid in development of data-driven intervention and prevention strategies to reduce overdoses. Milwaukee County has



2814 S. 108th St
West Allis, WI 53227
CommunityMedicalServices.org

seen nearly a 60 percent increase in overdose deaths from 2016 to 2020 with 545 deaths recorded in 2020. In 2021, 604 deaths were reported, 146 involved para-fluor fentanyl and 21 involved etonitazene – both opioids. The highest effected zip codes were: 53203, 53205, 53206, 53208, 53210, 53212, 53216.

Community Medical Services is an active participant in the areas that we serve. We partner with numerous community agencies and programs and strive to be a positive force to help combat the opioid crisis, panhandling, and sex trafficking. We have recently hosted an open invite community meeting with positive feedback including support from Alderman Stamper.

In that meeting, feedback was shared that individuals living in the most effected zip codes do not feel comfortable traveling outside of their community to receive daily treatment. The outlined collaborative effort aligns with Milwaukee County's strategic focus of breaking down barriers to maximize community access to quality services to combat the devastating impact of the opioid epidemic.

Our intent is to make a positive impact in these underserved neighborhoods. We identified a need and have done our outreach to stakeholders in the community. The opioid crisis is of such magnitude that the only way we can end the hurt and suffering associated with it is if we work together. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Rodriguez, Community Programs and Integration Manager