

06OA004

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From: Jan Evans [mailto:JEvans@gpgnlaw.com]
Sent: Monday, October 02, 2006 2:28 PM
To: CouncilGroup@rcgov.org
Subject: Item 54 and 55---Wellspring/Calvary Lutheran Church

By the looks of it, No. 06OA004/Ordinance No. 5191 and 5192 will pass, but I won't feel right about it if I don't say my peace.

It's hard to welcome someone into the neighborhood that has bullied their way throughout this whole process. In my opinion, they have tried to sneak their way into the neighborhood. To get a strong hold before anyone knew what they were doing; to try and get a rezoning which they failed to do. I feel they have made it look like they were doing things in "good faith." If it hadn't been for a member of the neighborhood getting the word out, I'm sure virtually no one would have shown up for the July 25th meeting at Calvary Lutheran Church to have Wellspring answer questions from neighbors. At that meeting one of Wellspring's representatives, Atty. Al Scovel, literally yelled at us because we were not allowing the Wellspring people to "tug at our heartstrings", instead we were more concerned about keeping the integrity of our neighborhood in tact and keeping our people safe. Since then, our neighborhood residents have been basically labeled by numerous people including doctors, attorneys, and judges, as being uncaring, indifferent, cold hearted, and insensitive people because we oppose having Wellspring move into our neighborhood.

We have been told that children in this program would only be able to leave the building if their parent or guardian signed the out. That they would absolutely not be able to get out. This is a partial truth. They may need a signature, but if the children want to leave they will find a way to do so. We are told only what Wellspring wants us to know. I have 12 pages of incident reports from the Rapid City Police Department showing that the police have been called to Wellspring's current St. James facility because runaways, theft, assault, etc. have occurred. These I am sure are their resident children that stay there all the time, but if they are getting out, you can bet that the children going into the Calvary Lutheran Church site will also be able to get out. Wellspring, I am sure, doesn't want people to know that these incidents are occurring, otherwise, their self-proclaimed "we are good neighbors" would go straight down the drain. I for one feel that they still have a hidden agenda and I guess time will tell.

Would it be possible to add to the Amendment that if police are called to that location X amount of times in any given year, that their conditional use permit would be reviewed to see whether Wellspring's teenage care center could continue to operate in that space?

If and when Wellspring moves into my neighborhood, I for one WILL NOT welcome them into the neighborhood.

Thank you for your time.
Janice Evans
3608 Washington St.
Rapid City, SD 57702

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From: [Barb Bom](#)

To: [councilgroup](#)

Sent: Monday, October 09, 2006 9:20 AM

Subject: Wellspring

Good morning,

I am a resident of the Canyon Lake neighborhood where Wellspring wants to have their center. I see in the newspaper that this is pretty much a done deal. I, for one, still have concerns.

I see that the Council has found a loop hole so Wellspring has the opportunity to get a special use permit. That takes care of our zoning issues, but what happened to the other concerns we have? What happened to our concerns about the Overlay? What happened to our concerns about the bad drainage and old sewer system? What happened to our concerns about the traffic flow due to the narrow streets? It seems these concerns were thrown by the wayside.

Wellspring wasn't truthful with us during the meetings where they were asked time and again about the children with more serious problems, such as drug and alcohol, or worse. They assured us that the only children would be the ones with family and school problems. Now I see in Friday's Journal, they are saying they can't guarantee this. What recourse do we have if that happens? What happened to our concerns about the elementary school 2 blocks away?

I'm hoping there will be opportunities for all the concerns of the neighborhood to be heard and taken into account before this is marked closed.

Thank you for your time.

Barbara Bom
2002 2nd Avenue
Rapid City
348-5815