

WELLSPRING, INC. AND CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH APPLICATION FOR REZONING

Wellspring, Inc. is a South Dakota non-profit corporation located in Rapid City, SD. Wellspring provides family based therapeutic services for youth who cannot function in their family, the open community and the open school setting due to mental, emotional and/or chemical dependency problems. The Wellspring program is based on the fundamental assumption that families have the potential to be the greatest source of positive change and support for youth in trouble. Our program emphasizes a holistic approach to therapeutic and educational programs that address risk and resilience factors in youth and their families. Our goal is to facilitate the development and maintenance of healthy environments that enable those at risk to develop life skills necessary for contributing, fulfilling lives. Since 1994, Wellspring has provided services to well over 13,000 youth and family members.

Due to an increase in the need for services, Wellspring has expanded our services to include outpatient programs as well as residential and inpatient programs. Our client population has grown from 18 youth in 2003 to 94 youth in 2006.

Wellspring offers a variety of services designed to provide the most effective treatment for the assessed needs of the individual client. They include 1) Family-based Therapy; 2) Family-based Outreach; 3) Family Reconciliation Program (residential); 4) Youth Challenge (after school) Program; 5) Inpatient Chemical Dependency Program ; 6) Outpatient Chemical Dependency Program (after school) and 7) Community Education Programs.

Wellspring has entered an agreement with Calvary Lutheran Church to purchase the property at 3402 Cottonwood Street for a permanent home for our administrative offices and outpatient services, pending approval of our request for rezoning.

Outpatient Treatment

The **YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM**, offers structured activities in four-hour blocks of time up to five days a week. The goal of the Youth Challenge Program is to endow each young person with skills so he or she will overcome destructive thinking patterns, learn to change inappropriate responses to anger, and develop constructive behaviors.

Because research tells us that most deviant behavior occurs during the hours of 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. youth are transported from school to our Day Treatment facility by Wellspring staff each day at the close of school. Youth remain under our care until 8:30 p.m. when their parents pick them up.

Since its inception 10 years ago, Wellspring has been one of the most exceptional, forward-thinking, creative and essential programs in the Rapid City community. It is an extremely effective facility for helping children with mental, emotional and chemical problems.

My only criticism of Wellspring is its failure to have sufficient space and capacity to provide for the needs of children as is necessary. This limitation is not because of professional inabilities, but only because of funding necessities. I look with great anticipation to them being able to provide enhanced day treatment for children and families in their Youth Challenge Program Center.

--Merton B. Tice
Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge

We provide homework help, tutoring, life skills education, group therapy and an evening meal. Daily involvement with parents is also an important part of this program.

Services are provided to young people who lack social skills and are experiencing significant difficulties in their homes, schools and/or communities, but who do not require 24-hour supervision or more restrictive out-of-home placement. Often these youth are involved with the juvenile courts or are exhibiting behavior that may ultimately result in court involvement. Without successful intervention, these youth will likely require an out-of-home placement in a costly residential treatment or juvenile corrections setting.

Each day each client receives:

- Transportation from school (when school is in session)
- One hour of group therapy
- One hour of life skills education
- One hour of homework/tutoring
- An afternoon snack
- Supper

The Youth Challenge Program will serve up to 64 (plus family members) youth per week.

Wellspring, Inc. has become the supporting agency for the **SOARING EAGLE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT CENTER FOR ADOLESCENTS**. Because Southern Hills Treatment Center resolved to focus their efforts on the Southern Hills, they decided to either close Soaring Eagle or transfer responsibility and ownership to a responsible Rapid City agency and invited Wellspring to become the sponsoring agency. Our board of directors did not want to see this valuable service disappear from our community, so they raised start-up funds from the community and took ownership on January 1, 2006.

Wellspring's outpatient chemical dependency treatment program for adolescents is designed to diagnose, stabilize, counsel, and build family and social support systems, which promote abstinence and growth. Adolescent outpatient services include treatment appropriate for misuse of alcohol and other drugs, in addition to treatment for addiction.

The Soaring Eagle program provides a wide range of outpatient chemical dependency treatment services including

- assessment,
- treatment planning
- counseling
- outpatient treatment,
- intensive outpatient treatment,
- continuing care planning,
- after care.

The Soaring Eagle Treatment Center provides treatment to approximately 25 youth (plus family members) per week.

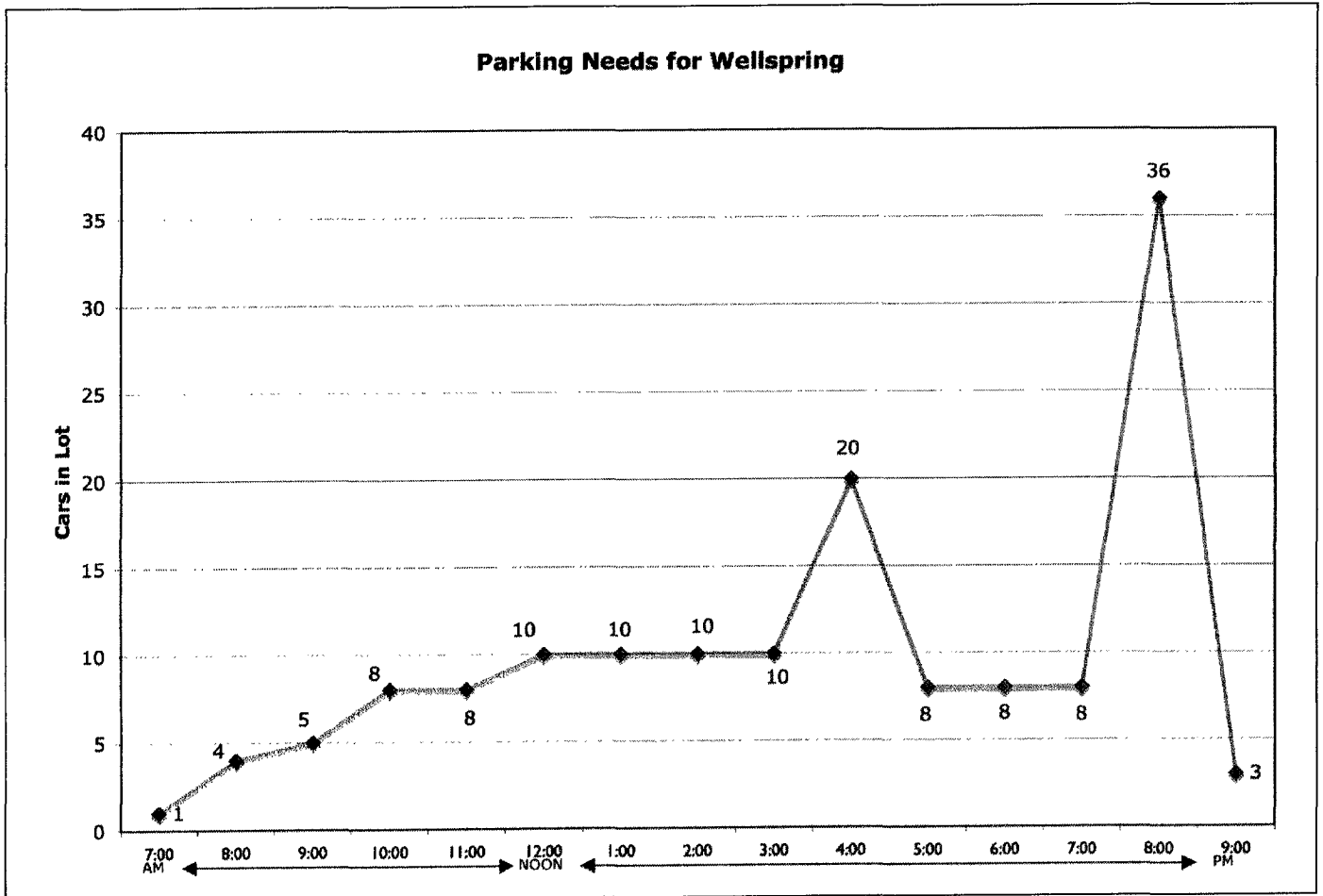
Geographic area served:

Wellspring primarily serves youth and their families from the Rapid City and Black Hills areas due to the desire to involve family in the treatment process. Nearly 100% of the youth and family members participating in **Wellspring's Outpatient programs** are from Rapid City

Wellspring, Inc. and Calvary Lutheran Church are requesting a Planned Development Designation and Rezoning of the property at 3402 Cottonwood. The property is zoned Medium Density Residential and we are requesting that it be rezoned Office Commercial for use as a Youth and Family Counseling Center.

Because our programs operate during after school hours and because most of our clients are youth between the ages of 12 and 18, we will utilize Wellspring vans to pick up the children from school and transport them to the facility. Some parents choose to pick up their children themselves and bring them to the program. All of the youth are picked up by their parents by 8:30 p.m. Therefore, the peak hours for parking at our facility are from 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m.

The chart, below, illustrates the parking needs for Wellspring employees and clients.



The capacity of the current parking lot on the property is 109 spaces.

Wellspring plans to maintain the landscape as is, and the only structural change we plan is the installation of a sprinkling system.