

NEW HORIZONS HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

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1055 11 11 1999

October 18, 1999

Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20857

To Whom it May Concern:

After careful consideration and review of the proposed systemic changes from the F.D.A. to S.A.M.S.H.A. regulations, we would like to have some input in regard to these proposed changes.

The cost seems extravagant, and may not be doable for independent clinics. We feel sure that the clients attending these clinics will be required to increase their payments significantly, making access less available. Therefore, the smaller clinics will suffer. It is definitely a more expensive endeavor all around.

We do not wish for clinics to be "gas and go" facilities, therefore we feel counseling is imperative to the rehabilitation of clients. We do not want methadone maintenance to become one habit replacing another. We are interested in the whole person; therefore, the definite need for counseling a minimum of once monthly, after all criteria for "take homes" is met, is a must.

We feel at the open meetings you will find this to be the general consensus. Too many changes remain unclear, and the need for such an extreme cost increase is inconceivable. At this time, we cannot fully endorse these changes until such time as more definitive studies are done, and public hearings are held.

Heura Spring, M.S.A.C.
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Sincerely,



New Horizons Health Services, Inc.

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