

House Republican Press Release

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Klarides Praises Funding for Derby Dental Clinic



Community Based Clinic Will Serve Valley Area

HARTFORD – State Representative Themis Klarides (R-Derby) praised the approval of over \$1 million for a new regional dental clinic by the State Bond Commission today.

In January, Klarides and other Valley area legislators sent a letter to Governor M. Jodi Rell supporting the application of Training Education and Manpower, Inc. (TEAM) President Richard J. Knoll. The proposal expands dental health services by outfitting the second story of the Century Center Condominium facility on Elizabeth Street in Derby to house the new clinic. It also provides for an expansion of the Parent Child Resource Center on the same floor. The Valley Region has long been underserved by dentists accepting Medicaid patients, and provides virtually no dental care for low-income, welfare, elderly, disabled or poor patients.

The proposed clinic will serve residents in Shelton, Derby, Ansonia, Seymour, Beacon Falls and Naugatuck. It will include a dental lab, six dental suites, and an x-ray facility. Dentists and residents from Yale Health Center will staff the facility, which will be overseen by Hill Health Center Dental Services. It is expected to serve approximately 2,500 clients.

“The Valley Region has a serious need here, and I applaud the efforts of TEAM to meet that need,” said Klarides. “This new clinic will have a tremendous positive impact in providing dental health care service to those who need it, and I thank Governor Rell for her continued support of the Valley Region.”