

BILL CASSIDY, M.D.  
LOUISIANA

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:  
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HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
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## United States Senate

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCE  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,  
AND PENSIONS  
ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

March 7, 2019

George Sigounas, Ph.D.

Administrator

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration

5600 Fishers Lane

Rockville, MD 20852-1750

Dear Dr. Sigounas:

It has recently come to my attention that Plaquemines Parish Hospital Service District Number One is applying for funding from the Health Center Program. They are requesting \$650,000 annually over two years for the establishment of a Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in Port Sulphur, Louisiana.

Plaquemines Parish Hospital Service District Number One plans to use the funds to open a FQHC in an area of Plaquemines Parish that has not fully recovered from Hurricane Katrina. According to recent estimates, approximately 64 percent of the population in the Port Sulphur area is below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Due to a lack of adequate medical access, there are significantly high rates of hypertension and diabetes mortality in the community. In addition, the statistics indicate the population is not receiving sufficient preventive care. The district anticipates serving 3,250 patients by the end of 2020 at the facility with the care provided by two and half primary care fulltime equivalents.

I appreciate the department's consideration of this application. I ask that you please keep my office informed on the progress of this proposal as well as when a final decision has been made regarding this grant. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Eby in my Baton Rouge Office at (225) 929-7711.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator

BC/ME

3600 JACKSON STREET  
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(318) 448-7176

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April 3, 2019

George Sigounas, Ph.D.

Administrator

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration

5600 Fishers Lane

Rockville, MD 20852-1750

Dear Dr. Sigounas:

It has recently come to my attention that the Baptist Community Health Services is applying for funding from the New Access Point grant program. They are requesting \$650,000 annually to open a new Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Mandeville, Louisiana.

Baptist Community Health Services plans to use the funds to open a new FQHC staffed by a physician, medical assistant, and nurse in a HRSA designated "hot spot." They anticipate serving 640 new patients from the Mandeville area at the clinic. The clinic will be co-located with a pre-existing psychiatry-only mental health practice operated by Mercy Health in an effort to provide a fully integrated, on-site primary health care and behavioral health facility.

I appreciate the department's consideration of this application. I ask that you please keep my office informed on the progress of this proposal as well as when a final decision has been made regarding this grant. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Eby in my Baton Rouge Office at (225) 929-7711.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.

United States Senator

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March 12, 2019

George Sigounas, Ph.D.

Administrator

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20852-1750

Dear Dr. Sigounas:

It has recently come to my attention that Winn Community Health Center is applying for funding from the New Access Point grant program. They are requesting \$650,000 annually over two years for the establishment of a new clinic in Marksville, Louisiana.

Winn Community Health Center plans to use the funds to expand its operations into Avoyelles Parish by opening a new clinic in Marksville. The clinic would be located in an area identified as having a health care shortage. In addition to medical care, dental and behavioral health services would also be offered. By the end of the first year, they anticipate serving 4,335 patients with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, including members of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe. Winn Community Health Center projects that they will serve over 8,000 patients by the end of the second year.

I appreciate the department's consideration of this application. I ask that you please keep my office informed on the progress of this proposal as well as when a final decision has been made regarding this grant. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Eby in my Baton Rouge Office at (225) 929-7711.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator

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