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# Meriden Clinic Ex State

Meriden's delegation in the hour expansion of Community Health  
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## Million from

to pay for the

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Meriden's Community Health Center (CHC) complex on State Street is set to get what officials say is a sorely needed addition, if \$6.5 million in state funding is approved by the bonding commission next week.

Meriden's delegation in the state House announced the funding Friday afternoon in a press statement. The Bond Commission is set to vote on the measure June 24, and just getting on the agenda almost ensures approval.

"This is not only great news for Meriden, but for all of the people the Community Health Centers serve," said House Speaker Christopher Donovan (D-Meriden). "These centers help keep our community healthy by providing critical services to so many individuals who otherwise would have to forego important care."

The funding may come in the nick of time, according to CHC CEO Mark Masselli, who approached the delegation for assistance. The Center serves about 15,000 patients a year in Meriden, according to the CHC, and Masselli said that number is growing.

"You can't really go to many parts of the town without folks saying they use our services," Masselli said.

The money would go towards a 20,000 square foot addition to the clinic's building at 134 State St. This would add facilities for existing medical and behavioral health services. It would also allow the CHC to bring its dental clinic, currently located in Meriden's Health Department on Miller Street, in-house.

CHC is a non-profit organization with medical centers throughout the state that focus care on uninsured and underinsured patients. Its flagship clinic was opened in Middletown in 1972. Services at the Meriden clinic currently include primary care, an onsite pharmacy, assistance with insurance applications, nutrition counseling, comprehensive women's care, podiatry and HIV services along with behavioral health services for adults and children.

Masselli said planning for the addition was still in the early stages, and if the funds are approved it will move ahead and work to begin construction this year.

It's this construction that Gov. Dannel Malloy is championing.

"The 80 jobs associated with this one project alone – 60 construction-related and 20 permanent at the health center – will help put people in Connecticut back to work while serving the healthcare needs of people in Meriden and the surrounding areas," Malloy said.

Have you ever used Community Health Center's services? [Tell us in the comments.](#)

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[jewelgreen1](#)

7:09am on Saturday, June 18, 2011

My dad told me about "Penny Health Insurance" or something which helped him to find a lower priced health insurance (with ALMOST similar benefits) he is recommending this to me. Any suggestion? What do you think of them?

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[sharyl friend pavlisko](#)

4:58pm on Saturday, June 18, 2011

I've been a Meriden resident and have used these services. It's very convenient, but the Dental services could use better qualified Dentists. My family and I were extremely dissatisfied with the Dental Clinic and it's all around services. Everything else was fine, as far as regular medicine.

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[Aldon Hynes](#)

12:54pm on Monday, June 20, 2011

We're sorry to hear that you were extremely dissatisfied with experiences at our Dental Clinic. Out of respect for patient's privacy, we can't talk about those experiences here, however we want to make sure that all our patients get the best possible treatment. Any patient that has had a dissatisfying experience should let us know directly so we can try to address the issue.

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