

Submitted on Wednesday, December 12, 2018

Name: Marie Townsend

Affiliation, if applicable:

Town: Middlebury

Topic: ACOs

Comment:

Thank you for giving us the chance to have a voice in this. I am a member of the One Care Vermont Program I recommend that you do not One Care Vermonts proposed budget of \$903 million. It is a substantial increase from last year.

The main reason for ACO's in the beginning was complaints of overuse of healthcare. A lot of this overspending comes from extraordinarily overpriced pharmaceutical companies and overspending on administrative staff.

There is something that is really important and that is Coordination of Care, in the past for myself I have seen this and it works to lower costs. and patients are happier. One Care Vermont has not shown any decrease in spending at all. Actually heath care costs are higher.

In 2011 Act 48 was passed by the Vermont Legislature which mandated Universal Healthcare. Act 48 recognizes healthcare as a public good.

ACO's are a private corporation that gets payments from Medicare and Medicaid, and private insurers. Then they pay the physician's and hospitals based on the amount of patients they care for are attributed or assigned ed to the ACO.

With all of this information I am asking the GMCB to hold One Care accountable to the people of Vermont. I urge you to review One Care's budget carefully and deny them access to public monies.

I honestly feel that the \$257 million dollars that One Care is asking for could be used for actual healthcare expenses, which would be a step toward actually treating healthcare as a public good.