

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING, AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

Commissioner's Office
HC2 South 280 State Drive
Waterbury VT 05671-2020
Voice (802) 241-2401

Donna Jerry
Senior Health Policy Analyst
Green Mountain Care Board
144 State St
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Ms. Jerry:

This letter is to support Birchwood Terrace nursing facility in Burlington, Vermont, increasing their licensed beds from 144 to 160. The intent is for Birchwood to bring back 16 beds that the previous owner took offline, to assist Vermont's critical need for hospital post-acute patient flow.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many Vermonters paused preventative health care due to life-saving infection control recommendations. This, together with our quickly aging population and workforce challenges, has led to a much higher volume of people entering hospitals for care and subsequently needing post-acute care in a skilled nursing facility. Birchwood's request will assist with this growing need.

Sincerely,



Megan Tierney-Ward
Interim Commissioner