



Board of Directors

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Dear Green Mountain Care Board,

I am writing to express my strong support of the UVM MC Outpatient Surgery Center.

In my role as CEO of Opportunities Credit Union, I am aware of the unmet need for healthcare within our community and the impact that a lack of access to healthcare has on individuals and families

As a lender, we hear from our members about wait times for surgery. In addition to the great difficulty this presents to the patient and their family, when borrowers must wait for outpatient surgery, their employers suffer from repeated absences, and we, their lender, suffer from his ability to pay his bills. I appreciate that UVM Medical Center has deliberately focused on increasing the use of their existing ORs, and I also appreciate that they have developed a sound plan to ensure they can provide the care we know our community needs today and in the coming years.

UVM Medical Center knows that there are consequential unmet outpatient surgery needs today and statistics show that the need will continue to grow dramatically as our population ages. The Outpatient Surgery Center will help address the health consequences of our aging demographic profile.

As someone who works to increase opportunities for Vermonters, I also support this project because it will add 80 new skilled jobs that will provide a livable wage for Vermonters.

I currently serve as the Chair of the UVM Medical Center Foundation Board. Our members are deeply engaged in connecting the hospital to potential donors who will invest in the health of our community by supporting this project.

For all these reasons, I urge you to support this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Laud". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kate" being more prominent.

Kate Laud
CEO, Opportunities Credit Union
Chair, UVM Medical Center Foundation Board

May 15, 2024