

October 2, 2023

Dear Green Mountain Care Board and Health Care Advocate Policy Teams:

With this letter we submit the OneCare Vermont fiscal year 2024 budget for the Green Mountain Care Board's approval. OneCare's 2024 budget sustains and enhances critical programs to continue our progress on lowering health care costs and improving population health outcomes.

OneCare helps providers deliver the best and most cost-effective health care to Vermonters by aligning focus around key population heath metrics and providing support, resources and incentives otherwise unavailable absent the ACO structure. By providing these supports and paying for value and better health outcomes rather than individual services, OneCare is moving our health care system toward a higher quality, more affordable, and better-coordinated model that will keep Vermonters healthier.

According to <u>a recent independent analysis</u> commissioned by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation Center, OneCare is making real progress on lowering costs and improving patient care. The analysis determined that OneCare successfully drove down costs and hospitalizations over a four year period.

The proposed 2024 budget supports essential programs so OneCare can continue this successful trajectory, delivering the tools providers need to coordinate with one another, cutting through red tape to ensure Vermonters are receiving the care they need in the right place at the right time and ultimately lowering costs and improving patient care. These programs include the Population Health Model (PHM) that increases accountability for quality outcomes, the Comprehensive Payment Reform (CPR) program to improve the viability of independent primary care practices, and the Mental Health Screening Initiative to improve mental health screening rates and follow-up.

Despite cost inflation, we have successfully delivered a budget that is largely consistent with FY23 and supports important advancements in our capabilities and in value-based payment design. OneCare has sought out efficiencies resulting in a \$500k reduction in operating expenses, partially realized through reduced costs of data and analytics

We look forward to partnering with you in the coming year to continue this important work. As always, we welcome your questions and feedback.

Respectfully,

Abe Berman

Interim Chief Executive Officer