

Public Comment: Submitted during special comment period relating to FY 2022 ACO Budget Guidance.

Name: Ellen Oxfeld

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Topic: Accountable Care Organization

Comment: I am dismayed to hear, if news reports are correct, that plans are being made to renew OneCare's contract for five more years. This decision should be postponed until members of the Green Mountain Care Board and our state legislators make a real effort to receive input from the wider community.

Is the ACO a worthwhile or wasteful endeavor for the state of Vermont? No decision should be made to go ahead without allowing Vermonters an opportunity for input. This short comment period (with a deadline of June 16th) hardly suffices.

From what I have observed so far, OneCare has failed. It has not broadened access to even one extra Vermonter, but it has added unnecessary layers of administrative costs. Additionally, OneCare has not been transparent. And when queried about their accomplishments, OneCare's representatives constantly ask for more time.

But what is more time needed for? Can OneCare do anything about the nearly 40% of Vermonters who were found to be uninsured according to the 2018 Vermont Household Health Insurance Survey?

The Green Mountain Care Board should do the right thing and make no commitments until there has been a chance for substantial public input on the issue of renewing OneCare's contract. Personally, I would advise that you decide to end this experiment and not renew the contract. OneCare is a large organization that makes no real contribution to the actual delivery of health care, but which uses substantial resources.