

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

Name: Vicki Ward, MSN

Date: 6/16/21

Topic: Accountable Care Organization

Comment: Dear Green Mountain Care Board members and the Public:

I appreciate the effort to improve healthcare in Vermont. However, the very concept of prepaying doctors for health in the context of US poverty wages, lack of paid time off including sick and leisure, poor retirement, no dental and no vision care, and general impoverishment chosen by the US Politicians and Corporations over the past 40 years, this approach is ridiculous!! Are you going to fool us, like the HMOS do, by advertising free services through Senior Organizations, stating this is how you are helping to improve health for Seniors? As I have written prior, no HMO or managed care organization across the US has ever gone off the PUBLIC DOLE.. These organizations receive Medicare payment monthly for their 'supposed healthy programs', but have done nothing to improve patient's health aside from deny treatment, when the treatment costs outweigh the payments.. And, none of us, ever know when that will be. Further, withholding patient day payments in hospitals, labeling folks as under observation to deny payment, and reducing standards in care facilities has been the path through the deconstruction of healthcare paid for all.

This is the equivalent of the Vermont/NH medical monarchy acting like the Wizard of OZ. We the taxpayers, have paid for the platform, are fooled into HMOs for no additional payment where medical care will be denied at will, and you will breach our health care privacy now as your platforms are not secure. I am doubtful you require the healthcare providers to provide adequate platform security, like the Russians infiltrating all the US government institutions. Then, you will breach not just our personal information, but our health information. The internet is not secure. Please stop living in Fantasy land, as though it is secure.

The best use of any additional healthcare funds is to allow the 50% of Vermonters who cannot use their medical care now (but pay for it) by lowering their deductibles, their copays, their premiums. Redesign free care, which always paid for our uninsured prior to 2000, when the MBAs got hold of it. The MBAs, pretend they are the Wizard. They pretend they own what we the taxpayers have paid for over many decades. The entire training of MBAs and MDs is to take everything they can when we humans are ill and vulnerable. MBAs are trained to take for free all they can from us, and leave us the costs. This must be reigned in. We have all seen their is no end to human greed. Doctors discovered over hundreds of years ago, that when people are sick, they will do almost anything to feel better. Nurses have been the check and balance that MBAs, since the 1990s have been diminishing. MBAs replace healthcare staff with gobs of non healthcare folk. The hospitals and healthcare systems need to be emptied out of these folks, so we can provide healthcare to the ill. WE can rebuild public health for promoting health. These non healthcare providers can go to the jobs program where they can learn to do something beside computer work. Actually, know how to do something real.

You wonder why you have a Nursing shortage in Vermont. It is because you are beside NY and Mass. where because of Unions, Nurses have long been paid 30% more with improved working conditions due to Unions. Stop fooling yourself.

One Care is a national Fantasyland disgrace. Take that money and use it for healthcare for the people. Get those administrators to learn how to do something real.