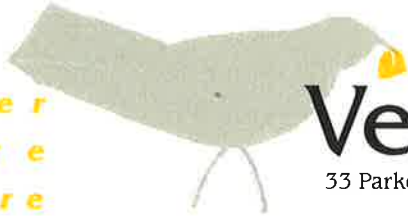


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Vermont Foodbank

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October 25, 2019

Dear Green Mountain Care Board,

As CEO of Vermont Foodbank and a OneCare Vermont (OneCare) Board of Managers member, I'm writing to support OneCare's 2020 budget approval. The All Payer ACO Model (APM) states that "CMS and Vermont . . . aim for this Model to deliver meaningful improvements in the health of a state's entire population by transforming the relationships between and amongst care delivery and public health systems across Vermont." The Foodbank's vision includes everyone in Vermont being healthy. There is a strong evidence-based relationship between food insecurity, high health care costs, chronic disease, and poor health outcomes. And after all, healthier people can better feed themselves and their families. OneCare's role in the APM is to provide unprecedented flexibility for hospitals and other health care organizations to spend the dollars in ways that keep people healthy, not just treat their illnesses. Together we advance the APM goal to reduce the prevalence of chronic disease, as well as to improve the health of everyone in Vermont.

Vermont Foodbank works directly with OneCare member hospitals NVRH in St. Johnsbury and CVMC in Berlin as a partner in the Accountable Community for Health (ACH) approach. The flexibility in spending existing insurance premium dollars through the ACH model made possible by OneCare in essence extends health care reform into community-based services and invests in community initiatives that drive population health. The communities are then responsible for their own results, and can tailor the methods and means to each community's needs.

Vermont Foodbank is proud to be part of efforts to leverage community-based services through our program partnerships and to have me, the CEO, on the OneCare Board of Managers. Improving the health of Vermonters and bringing down the cost of health care requires a full commitment to change and innovation. I hope that full support for OneCare continues in 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,

John Sayles, CEO

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