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**Name**

Tom Dee

**Affiliation, if applicable**

Southwestern Vermont Health Care

**Town/City**

Bennington

**Topic**

Accountable Care Organization

**Comment**

November 29, 2021

Green Mountain Care Board  
144 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Green Mountain Care Board Members:

I am writing to you as president and CEO of Southwestern Vermont Health Care (SVHC) to offer support of OneCare Vermont's proposed budget for fiscal year 2022. SVHC is aligned with OneCare's focus on improved health, higher quality, lower cost increases, and greater coordination of care. I have seen the positive effect of OneCare's work in my community and at my health system. For these reasons, SVHC strongly supports OneCare and the All-Payer Model (APM) waiver.

- OneCare brings together over 5,000 providers across Vermont to align and accelerate the transition to value-based care. Working with these providers gives us the scale we need to make real change, reduce costs and increase quality, for patients. OneCare achieves economies of scale for providers and has a narrow operating margin of 1.1% of the total cost of care.
- OneCare provides data and analytics about cost, quality, and utilization, allowing SVHC to track progress toward value-based care, compare our progress to peer organizations and other health service areas, and identify ways to improve quality. These data would not be available to SVHC without OneCare.
- OneCare contracts with insurance payers on behalf of our organization and entire ACO network. These contracts incentivize value over volume and move us away from fee-for-service. Without OneCare, independently establishing value-based care contracts for multiple organizations would be both slow and difficult.
- OneCare is investing nearly \$29M in population health management in 2022. These funds would not be available to providers without OneCare. It is critical to sustain investments in population health management and preventive care, especially while the health care system is under the immense strain of the COVID-19 pandemic.

OneCare has made impressive strides toward a system that rewards value over volume, and there is more work to do. It is vital that Vermont continues this work in order to realize the full benefits of value-based care. On behalf of Southwestern Vermont Health Care, I hope you will strongly consider OneCare's impact on southern Vermont, as well as the entire state of Vermont, when reviewing their budget request for fiscal year 2022.

Sincerely,  
Thomas A. Dee, FACHE  
President and CEO