

November 19, 2019

Kevin Mullin, Chairman
Green Mountain Care Board
144 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Chairman Mullin,

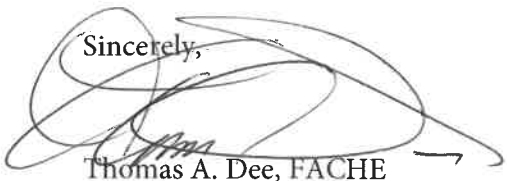
I am writing to you as president and CEO of Southwestern Vermont Health Care (SVHC) to offer support of OneCare Vermont's proposed budget for fiscal year 2020. SVHC is aligned with OneCare's focus on improved health, higher quality, lower cost increases, and greater coordination of care. For these reasons SVHC strongly supports OneCare and the All-Payer Model (APM) waiver.

The Vermont communities served by SVHC have benefitted from OneCare's investment in innovation and community-based services. SVHC has improved care collaboration across regional partners through OneCare's Care Navigator platform. RiseVT in Bennington County has created dynamic community wellness programming. And most recently, OneCare funding aided the development of a program for children with urgent mental/behavioral health issues so they may receive treatment in a child-friendly setting, rather than in SVHC's Emergency Department.

These innovative and effective programs would not have been possible without OneCare Vermont's investment and on-going support. Many programs have shown strong results including enhanced collaboration between community partners and state agencies, an increase in access to wellness activities, and deepened partnership with the region's behavioral health designated agency while lowering emergency room utilization by children needing urgent behavioral health support.

SVHC realizes that OneCare Vermont is a new organization that faces many challenges as it continues its maturation process. However, given the size, scope of services and complexity of the healthcare system in Vermont, we feel the progress made by OneCare has been impressive. OneCare's aim in the APM is to provide appropriate flexibility for hospitals and other health care organizations to spend healthcare dollars in ways that focus on an individual's health and wellness, not just treat their illnesses. OneCare's FY2020 budget proposal will ensure the continued support of our region's efforts to transform healthcare. I hope you will strongly consider OneCare's impact in southern Vermont as well as the entire state of Vermont when reviewing its budget request for FY2020.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Dee, FACHE

President and CEO