

October 28, 2022

Green Mountain Care Board 144 State Street Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Green Mountain Care Board Members:

As President and CEO of The University of Vermont Health Network, I have a unique vantage point for the value of OneCare Vermont's health care reform work and the way in which it benefits providers and patients in our rural state. I am writing today in support of OneCare Vermont's FY 2023 budget submission, which is a responsible, accountable and proactive framework for continuing vital health care reform efforts throughout Vermont.

In the earliest days of the COVID-19 pandemic, patient volumes plummeted while providers scrambled to meet their patients' needs in new and safer ways. Fixed payments available via value-based care contracts negotiated by OneCare Vermont provided critical support and stability for health care providers statewide. Now, more than 30 months after the first case of COVID-19 in Vermont, OneCare's impact and importance is more evident than ever as providers move forward with the transition to value-based care while still grappling with COVID-19 and many other challenges. OneCare Vermont's FY 2023 budget strikes a careful balance between advancing health care reform and continued pandemic recovery.

The UVM Health Network is committed to value-based care, and OneCare Vermont is a critical partner. Each organization has a role to play in this shared strategy and goal, so we can focus on wellness as much as illness while controlling costs. Nationally, we know that rural health care is in peril; it simply is not sustainable in its current form due to financial, demographic and workforce pressures. The transition to value-based care is essential for the sustainability of health care providers, and for the vital services they provide to their patients and their communities. Through service to its network of providers, OneCare is providing essential support to Vermont's health care reform effort, and is helping to lay the groundwork for the future of health care in this state.

I ask that the Green Mountain Care Board support OneCare Vermont's ongoing health care reform leadership, as outlined in its submitted FY 2023 budget. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Yohn R. Brumsted, MD President and CEO

The University of Vermont Health Network