



**BURLINGTON
HOUSING
AUTHORITY**

affordable housing for all

February 10, 2016

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Green Mountain Care Board
89 Main Street, Third Floor, City Center
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Dear Members of the Green Mountain Care Board:

The Burlington Housing Authority is Vermont's oldest and largest municipally-based housing authority. Created in 1961, BHA has been providing affordable housing for over fifty years to individuals and families in the City of Burlington and surrounding communities. We have over 50 employees for which we provide comprehensive health insurance. Over the last few years the turbulence in health insurance has caused us to reexamine how we provide insurance to our employees and how we address the cost of such insurance.

This past year we decided to move to a self-funded insurance plan in an effort to maintain the highest possible level of benefits, at the most affordable price. In searching for ways to strike this balance we have learned about the proposed independent outpatient surgical center (Green Mountain Surgery Center) whose application is currently pending in front of the Board. I write in support of Green Mountain Surgery Center's application because a high quality, lower cost option for care is exactly the type of innovating thinking that we need to utilize if we are going to continue providing quality health care coverage for our employees. For organizations such as ours, in light of increasing budgetary pressures, we need all appropriate tools to control our costs while fully supporting our employees.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. We look forward to hearing about the status of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Paul Dettman
Executive Director