

From: Tessler, Julie
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2019 3:21 PM
To: William Lippert; Anne Donahue

Subject: Vermont Care Partners Budget Feedback

Vermont Care Partners supports the following budget line items:

- Sections B 314 and B 333 COLA for DA/SSA mental health and developmental services: \$5.4 million total funds as appropriated by the Senate. We recommend equivalent percentage distribution to developmental and mental health services.
- Section B.314 CRT enhanced care 12 beds. We recommend the \$1.2 million total funds as recommended by the House
- Section C 100 (a) (5) EHR Development Grants We support \$2 million one-time as recommended by the Senate
- Tobacco Settlement Fund: We recommend \$3 million (\$1.5 million in Senate, \$5 million in House)

Vermont Care Partners language recommendation:

- C.100 (a) (4) (A) EHR one-time investment: We support the Senate language because it would enable the release of funds in July rather than November after review by the Joint Fiscal Committee. This is important because the agencies involved are actively involved in start-up now.
- E.333 We support the Senate language calling for a report by AHS on the Developmental Services Payment Reform to key Committees in January – this was negotiated by Vermont Care Partners and AHS after the House had completed its work on the budget bill in response to concerns about the process by people who use services, families and providers.
- E.301.2 Workforce Development Language: See attached
- E.314 We support CRT funding language in the Senate bill specifies that up to 12 beds are to be created for people whose acuity and particular needs have been prohibitive to community re-entry from the hospital
- E. 314.1 We will actively participate in the Success Beyond Six study and including further work on outcome metrics.
- E.300.4 Housing Voucher language. We support recommended language change recommended by the Vermont Affordable Housing Association.

Thank you for your ongoing support and considering our perspective. We would be glad to discuss our feedback with you,

Julie

Julie Tessler, Executive Director
VT Council of Developmental & Mental Health Services/Vermont Care Partners