



To: Town of East Montpelier

From: Sandy Rouse, President & CEO

Date: October 21, 2021

Subject: Town Funding Request

Please accept this as Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice's (CVHHH) written request to be listed on the March 2022 ballot for town funding in the amount of \$6,500.

When I wrote CVHHH's town funding requests for the last Town Meeting Day, we were about six months into the pandemic. All of us were still adjusting to work and life with the coronavirus, and I reflected on CVHHH's early success adopting infection control and other safety measures so that we could continue to provide care at home to thousands of Central Vermonters in the safest way possible. Today, with another year of COVID-19 and the emergence of the highly contagious Delta variant, the value of CVHHH's work is magnified. Our connection to the Central Vermont community and the people who live here has always been at the heart of what we do, and I am proud of everything CVHHH accomplished to meet the evolving healthcare needs of our clients and their families during the pandemic.

First and foremost, we never shut our doors. I've said this many times over the past 18-plus months, and it bears repeating because it's a sign of our commitment and a reflection of our roots as a community health provider. The call to care for the most vulnerable among us is embedded in CVHHH's mission. The pandemic, though a significant challenge, shed light on the extent to which people, and providers, in Central Vermont rely on CVHHH's services. When the going got tough, CVHHH staff donned their personal protective equipment and continued to deliver medical care, education, and support to people at home, including for COVID-positive individuals and people in transitional and temporary housing, community care homes, and residential and skilled nursing facilities. For the duration of the pandemic, we continued to accept referrals organization-wide. We incorporated telemedicine into patients' care plans and, since the start of the pandemic, conducted over 2,000 phone check-ins and video visits across disciplines for which we still do not receive reimbursement from Medicare, our primary payor and reimbursement source. Our nurses provided over 150 COVID-19 tests, including to individuals without permanent housing, and they administered over 1,000 COVID-19 vaccines and now, boosters to Central Vermonters at home in collaboration with EMS units in Waterbury, Barre City, and East Montpelier. As I write this, our vaccine team is in the middle of our annual flu vaccine season where they will likely distribute over 1,500 flu shots in arms.



A direct result of our work is that people did not have to compromise their safety to receive medical care and other supportive services. They could stay at home and get the care they needed. CVHHH made this happen, and I am immensely proud of our success supporting our hospital and physician partners to provide continuity of care for shared clients at home.

CVHHH continues to care for COVID-positive individuals and for people with significant acute medical needs. The scope of our work expanded way beyond our roots as a community provider, and we are active participants in the statewide healthcare continuum. We know our community partners rely on us to provide home-based services to people of all ages as we work together to provide the right care in the right place at the right time. Our efforts continue to align with state partners and the Vermont Department of Health to fight the pandemic by mitigating risk of exposure and providing COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and boosters.

CVHHH relies on town funding support from each of the 23 communities we serve to make up some of the difference in the value of the care we provide and what we are reimbursed by our primary payors, Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurers. Also, town funding is a critical piece of CVHHH's overall operating budget to add programming and services when we see a need and to continue to fulfill our commitment to Central Vermonters, especially to residents who are uninsured, underinsured, or otherwise unable to pay.

Please call me or Kim Farnum, Director of Community Relations & Development, at 223-1878, with any questions about this request or our services.

Thank you very much for your past support and your attention to our request.

Sincerely,

Sandy Rousse
President & CEO



2021 ANNUAL SERVICE REPORT

EAST MONTPELIER

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice (CVHHH) is a full-service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association that provides intermittent, short-term medical care, education, and support at home to help Central Vermonters recover from an illness, surgery, or hospital stay and manage their chronic disease. We serve 23 communities in Washington and Orange Counties and care for people of all ages. Our services include home care, hospice, and maternal-child health care. We also offer public foot-care and flu vaccine clinics and COVID-19 vaccinations at home. In addition, we offer long-term care and private care services and free grief support groups. CVHHH is guided by a mission to care for all Central Vermonters regardless of a person’s ability to pay, their geographic remoteness, or the complexity of their care needs. CVHHH embraces new technology and collaborates with other local providers to ensure that central Vermonters’ care needs are met. To learn more, visit www.cvhhh.org.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of East Montpelier Jan 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021*

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	1209
Hospice Care	584
Long Term Care	187
Maternal Child Health	12
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	1992
TOTAL PATIENTS	89
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	113

**Audited figures are not available at the time of report submission. These preliminary figures are prorated based on the number of visits from January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021 and are not expected to vary significantly.*

Town funding is imperative in ensuring that CVHHH will provide services in East Montpelier through 2022 and beyond. For more information contact Sandy Rouse, President & CEO, or Kim Farnum, Director of Community Relations & Development at 223-1878.