

Medicaid Managed Care Task Force

Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee, my name is Dr. Michael Twomey from the Saint Alphonsus Health Alliance. As a VCO Medical Director, I see the great work our team does to improve health outcomes and reduce risk for our most vulnerable. It is through a combination of nursing support, pharmacy collaboration, community health worker engagement, and systematic identification of high-risk individuals that we have achieved positive shared savings thus far. Our team will continue to operate, and likely continue to strive for improvements regardless of a VCO or Managed Care structure. What is most pressing in my opinion, is the ability of our VCO friends to reinvest shared savings back into the community. When we can purchase additional Community Health Workers, Nurse Case Managers, or other ancillary staff, we are able to amplify and snowball our progress. Through Managed Care, we would lose these margins to a large corporation with little concern for our members.

Our patients strive for independent and personalized health care that is crafted specifically for them. The VCO structure allows for creative solutions and collaboration across the health care spectrum to meet our Medicaid members wherever they are on their health journey. I strongly recommend avoiding a cookie cutter Managed Care solution. We can provide the same services and cost with an Idaho First approach. Thank you for your consideration and willingness to listen, I appreciate the opportunity to share our experiences.

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