

**State of Vermont**

Department of Mental Health
166 Horseshoe Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2010
<http://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/>

Agency of Human Services

[phone] 802-241-0090
[fax] 802-241-0100
[tty] 800-253-0191

Sandy McGuire
Chief Executive Officer
Howard Center

VIA EMAIL ONLY

May 28, 2024

Dear Ms. McGuire:

The Department of Mental Health held a public comment listening session on the proposed Urgent Care Project on May 21, 2023. One member of the public attended the hearing but did not offer any public comment. Additionally, no written comments were received by May 25, 2024, following public notice of the hearing and comment period. DMH earlier determined your application, with supplemental responses to questions posed by DMH, to be complete on May 3, 2024. Given this review and the absence of any new information that would identify potential concerns or local opposition to this proposed project, **DMH is pleased to grant Howard Center a Certificate of Approval (COA)** to move forward with this project.

Depending on the scope of the project, statute delegates authority for the review and approval of Designated Agency capital expenditure projects (18V.S.A. §9435 (b)) to the Department of Mental Health and/or the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living. This written approval letter, accompanied by your original Letter of Intent, should be submitted to the Green Mountain Care Board. Please note that any significant change in the nature or scope of your project, and any costs more than the approved expenditure, will require prior written approval as you move forward.

I wish you success with your project. If you have any questions about this approval, please contact Karen Barber at karen.barber@vermont.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Emily Hawes".
C50275615A62462...

Emily Hawes
Commissioner
Vermont Department of Mental Health

CC: Karen Godnick Barber, DMH General Counsel
Shannon Thompson, DMH Finance Director
Lee Dorf, DMH Director of Operations, Planning & Development
Allie Nerenberg, DMH Care Management Director

