

United States Senate

Received & Inspected

MAY 04 2020

FCC Mailroom

April 23, 2020

Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

403

Dear Chairman Pai:

I write in support of the application from Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health to the Federal Communications Commission's COVID-19 Telehealth Program for reimbursement for eligible costs associated with the provision of telehealth services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As our country continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, telehealth has been critical to expanding and ensuring access to necessary health care services. Telehealth not only connects individuals with care where they live, it also allows health care providers to care for patients without putting themselves at risk.

This funding will help expand Dartmouth-Hitchcock's Connected Care program to minimize in-person care and services, limiting the transmission of COVID-19, and preserving valuable and incredibly limited reserves of personal protective equipment. Given its central location, Dartmouth-Hitchcock serves patients from all counties in New Hampshire and Vermont, many of whom are high-risk for contracting COVID-19. Dartmouth-Hitchcock has invested resources to connect to underserved communities, but additional support is critical to purchase additional technology and expand remote capacity to provide better patient support.

In this time of crisis, it is imperative that we all do our part to ensure the safety and security of our health care providers and patients, and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health has a strong record as a leader in improving health outcomes across the region. I strongly urge you to look favorably upon their application. Please do not hesitate to contact Dorothy Parsons at 603-622-2204 or dorothy_parsons@hassan.senate.gov for any questions or if we can be of further assistance. Thank you for your consideration.

With every good wish,



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator