

Good evening. I am Martin Morrissey, Executive Vice President of Continuum Home Health, a New Haven based non-profit provider of home healthcare services to persons with severe and profound mental illness. Our current census is 520 patients, 95% of whom are covered by Medicaid.

Our patients have spent significant portions of their adult lives in State or private hospitals. They hear voices, they are paranoid, they are delusional, and most of them are too cognitively impaired to function independently in the community without the support of our homecare services.

We have a cadre of patients, approximately 25, who have been discharged from Connecticut Valley Hospital over the past five years and who have spent a total of nearly 500 man years in that institution. These gentlemen are now flourishing and integrating into the community for the first time in their lives at a cost savings to the State of millions per year.

If Continuum Home Health is not here, and we will not be if any cuts are made to our Medicaid rates as we are currently running a deficit, our patients will be back in State institutions, acute care hospitals, prisons, and on the streets. The result will be not only a healthcare crisis for our patients, but a potential public safety crisis as well.

The sad irony is that the costs of the alternative to our existence are gravely higher than the status quo.

We have been able and willing partners with the State's Utilization Review initiatives with Value Options, Inc. We have reduced our average visits per patient by more than 20% saving nearly 5 million over the past 2 ½ years. We will continue to do this if you allow us to stay open.

Thank you very much

The effect of Utilization Management on Visit Volume 2012-2015

Fiscal Year	Average Census	Visits	Annual Visits per Patient	Per Pt. per month
2012	332	141,311	426	35
2013	427	151,654	355	30
2014	484	161,500	334	28
6 months 2015	518	85,309	329	27

Had visits-per-patient remained at the 2012 level for the 2.5 years of 2013-2015, additional costs of \$4.9 million would have resulted.