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DEMOCRAT AND INDEPENDENT VERMONT GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES ATTEND BI-STATE FORUM

MONTPELIER, VT – October 17, 2022 – Four General Election Gubernatorial and Congressional candidates presented their views on primary care access and workforce at Bi-State's second Vermont Candidates Forum. Gubernatorial candidates Peter Duval and Bernard Peters; and Congressional candidates Adam Ortiz and Vermont Senator Becca Balint, met virtually with Bi-State Primary Care Association and Vermont Federally Qualified Health Center leaders.

Introducing the candidates was Bi-State's president and CEO, Tess Stack Kuenning. Each candidate was offered time to make opening remarks and describe specific actions they engage in to ensure Vermonters have access to comprehensive primary and preventive medical, oral, mental health, and substance misuse care if they are elected. During the event, candidates responded to audience questions that ranged from access to primary care; health care workforce needs; and addressing social drivers of health like housing and transportation.

"We are grateful for the thoughtfulness of the candidates' comments and the time each candidate spent attending the Bi-State forum yesterday," said Tess Stack Kuenning, President, and CEO. The audience included CEOs from Vermont Federally Qualified Health Centers. Bi-State's Vermont Community Health Center members provide health care and health education services to more than 205,000 Vermonters annually.

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ABOUT BI-STATE PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

Bi-State Primary Care Association is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that represents New Hampshire and Vermont's 28 Community Health Centers serving over 315,400 patients at 143 locations across every county in New Hampshire and Vermont. Bi-State works to promote access to quality affordable primary health care with an emphasis on reaching underserved populations. Bi-State was founded in 1986 as a 501 c (3) charitable organization with offices in Bow, New Hampshire, and Montpelier, Vermont.