

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 8/21/2023

Name: Teagan Cook

Affiliation:

Town/City:

Topic: Hospital Budget

Comment:

I am a Patient Support Specialist in the Hematology/Oncology department at UVMHC. We desperately need higher wages for support staff, both to address understaffing/high turnover, and to keep support staff safe and healthy. I am on the verge of being priced out of my apartment, despite working one of the most difficult scheduling jobs at UVMHC. I'm having stress migraines, my partner and I can't afford to get her health insurance, and I'm currently going through a breast cancer scare. I'm terrified that I'll be on the chemo treatments I schedule and be too ill to work. I have no savings. I have 10 years of high level scheduling experience, including scheduling for 9 superior court judges, and I make \$18.29 per hour. My rent is more than 50% of my income. I schedule for six doctors and make less than a local barista- no wonder my department is understaffed to the point of burnout. I need help. We need help. I am NOT an outlier. Please make UVMHC stop exploiting us. We're asking the board to consider ensuring that the UVM Medical Center prioritizes in our budget the most important resource; employees. We have been undervalued for too long.

Post Comment: Yes