

From: LaJeunesse, Kristen<Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov>

Sent on: Friday, August 30, 2024 2:55:28 PM

To: GMCB - Health Systems Finances<GMCB.HealthSystemsFinances@vermont.gov>; Foster, Owen<Owen.Foster@vermont.gov>; Barrett, Susan<Susan.Barrett@vermont.gov>; Barber, Michael<Michael.Barber@vermont.gov>; Walsh, Thom<Thom.Walsh@vermont.gov>; Murman, David<David.Murman@vermont.gov>; Lunge, Robin<Robin.Lunge@vermont.gov>; Holmes, Jessica A.<Jessica.A.Holmes@vermont.gov>; Hengstler, Mark<Mark.Hengstler@vermont.gov>; LaJeunesse, Kristen<Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov>

Subject: Public Comment: Hospital Budget 2024-08-30T14:55:25Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 8/30/2024 2:55:25 PM

Name: Melissa Davidson

Affiliation: UVM Medical Center

Town/City: Burlington

Topic: Hospital Budget

Comment: My purpose in writing today is to support hospital budgets for all hospitals, as I believe health care is a human right and not a privilege. I do however recognize that some might perceive one hospital as more privileged than others. In this regard, I write to support UVMHC (and its budget) as an academic medical center. We are invested in training future workforce, not just residents in training but all other learners as well such as nursing students, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, etc. As an academic medical center, we are invested in clinical research and quality improvement, not only so that we provide excellent care to our patients but also in order to have a seat at the table when major healthcare decisions are made at national levels, including pathways for managing disease states, necessity for operative and other procedures, and policy. Perhaps most important, as an academic medical center we serve the entire state and receive patients from far and wide when they need a higher level of care than can be comfortably and/or safely provided elsewhere. We function as the safety net. I greatly appreciate the thought that the GMCB puts into these very challenging decisions and hope members will recognize the important role UVMHC as an academic medical center plays in the larger Vermont community.

Post Comment: Yes