

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

Sent on: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 7:27:26 PM

To: GMCB - Health Systems Finances<GMCB.HealthSystemsFinances@vermont.gov>; Bredice, Tara<Tara.Bredice@vermont.gov>; LaJeunesse, Kristen<Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov>

Subject: Public Comment: Hospital Budget 2023-08-22T19:27:25Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 8/22/2023 7:27:25 PM

Name: Beth Parker

Affiliation:

Town/City:

Topic: Hospital Budget

Comment: I am a Licensed Nurse Assistant at UVMHC's Medical Intensive Care Unit. We need livable wages, yes there are other companies that we could work for. However, it takes a certain type of person to provide the most compassionate and safe care even through the most trying times for the patient. We need equality and respect. Management has shown that we (the support staff) are not of importance to this organization. Without us, our unit alone could not function safely due to the amount of travelers coming and going, it makes it difficult for them to be able to navigate the unit for emergent supplies. Every second counts during a code. To feel appreciated also helps with the overall morale of the hospital. It also gives more incentive for employees to stay allowing for safer staffing. In order to accomplish this, staff must become a priority! Don't just hear us, listen to us. We are people, we all breathe the same air, treat us equally. I am a nursing student. I have gotten scholarships from the hospital. The hospital complains of staffing, why not have programs for LNAs to advance and learn to be better prepared for changes in role (RN) instead of paying for extra long orientation? Wouldn't we want comfortable nurses coming to our floors? Patient safety? 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