

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 5/23/2023

Name: Mary Parent

Affiliation: Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital Board Chair

Town/City: St. Johnsbury

Topic: Hospital Budget

Comment: I am writing to share my concern with the limitations that the Green Mountain Care Board is proposing to impose on our non-profit Vermont hospital budgets. The past few years, I have had the first hand experience, as a Trustee of NVRH in St. Johnsbury, of seeing the negative impact on the budget guidance set by the GMCB on healthcare for Vermonters. We have worked hard to cut expenses to come within the targets, but further cuts will impact the services we can offer our Northeast Kingdom Community, which is in the most impoverished area of the state. NVRH is a non-profit hospital that provides not only traditional medical services to the community, but community support through programing at our schools and other nonprofits. NVRH is vital to the NEK. I understand that the proposed guidance will result in a statewide hospital growth rate of just 0.1% and a significant operating loss across the non-profit health care system. In the current economic environment of high inflation and staffing shortages, without some flexibility from the GMCB, NVRH will be forced to cut services, and will be pushed into economic instability. That is certainly not the correct decision for Vermonters.

Post Comment: Yes