

Southwestern VT Medical Center

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

Southwestern VT Medical Center

Questions

- 1) Page 8 of your narrative details the elimination of graduate medical education payments from Medicare. Why will these payments be eliminated?
- 2) Provide more detail about how you expect the cost of treatment will compare for patients treated at SVMC for your expanded services as compared with where they are receiving treatment today?
- 3) The narrative discusses your approach to assessing boarding episodes in your emergency department. However, it looks as if the table summarizing the information is missing. Are you able to provide it?
- 4) Provide more detail about planned or potential savings to be generated through "process improvement and consolidation" with DH.
- 5) "This volume management is focused on improving access, reversing out migration of patients to New York and Massachusetts. It is well documented that this will reduce the cost of care to Vermonters since many of the services SVMC offers are less costly to the patients than in neighboring states. Additionally, patients who receive care closer to home, in most cases according to the literature, the outcomes are generally more positive." Why do you think that you have experienced an out migration of patients to other hospitals, if services at SVMC are less costly? (Narrative, 11)
- 6) Explain the increase in bad debt from FY22 to FY24 (Exhibit 9).
- 7) Where is Medicare Advantage business in exhibit 9? Update the exhibit to separate it. If necessary, provide an estimate and indicate what challenges your systems present for tracking Medicare Advantage revenue separately.
- 8) Explain why the number of traveling nurses is projected to increase from 5 to 19 (Exhibit 11).
- 9) Explain the primary driver(s) of the 715% increase in net assets from 23B to 24B % (Balance Sheet).
- 10) Explain the 179.5% increase in long-term interest expense (Summary Income Statement).
- 11) Explain the 1495.6% increase in total non-operating income and 714.7% excess of revenue over expense (Summary Income Statement).
- 12) "SVMC in the FY 2024 budget uncompensated care is budgeted close to the FY 2023 budget and slightly higher than the projected amounts. The FY 2024 budget compared to FY 2022 there is an increase mainly due to increase delays in payments SVMC is seeing. This is demonstrated by the increase in the days in accounts receivable which SVMC is seeing both in self-pay and commercial insurance payment practices." (Narrative, 10) Explain how delays in accounts receivable impacts uncompensated care projections?