



A safety net for community health

In keeping with its mission of improving the health of people throughout north central Kansas and beyond, Salina Regional Health Center provides many forms of highly specialized care and services. As a not-for-profit health system, the organization cares for people on a daily basis regardless of their ability to pay.

In fiscal year 2023 Salina Regional Health Center provided \$72.409 million in non-reimbursed benefits to the community. More than 47% of this total is attributed to subsidized health services, which do not generate revenue that fully offsets expenses for the care provided. In many instances the professional costs associated with providing specialized medical care are not fully recovered. This includes 24/7 emergency coverage for services like trauma, stroke and cardiac care. The organization also provides services like forensic nursing to collect physical evidence in criminal cases; infant-child development services for children born with disabilities and developmental delay; behavioral health and a number of other primary care and specialty care services that are subsidized. The organization also offers self-pay discounts to those who are uninsured.

Nearly a third of the organization's non-reimbursed benefit comes from shortfalls generated by government sponsored health insurance. About half of Salina Regional's patients are covered by Medicare or Medicaid.

More than 17.5% of the Salina Regional's uncompensated care is attributed to charity care and bad debt. The organization provides financial assistance to those who qualify by meeting federal poverty guidelines. Bad debt includes those with accounts that cannot be collected.

Salina Regional also serves as a clinical teaching site for a number of students and residents completing their training in a variety of health care occupations. These include family medicine residents, pharmacy residents, medical students, nurses and others. In 2023 more than \$1.57 million was bestowed to support students and residents completing their clinical training.

Salina Regional's community benefits have been increasing on an annual basis.

"In the last year our unreimbursed community

benefit has gone up almost 13%," said Joel Phelps, President and CEO at Salina Regional Health Center. "We take our leadership role in community health for north central Kansas very seriously. It's a challenge, but that's our role."

"We're fortunate to be in a position that allows us to continue to look out two or three years into the future as opposed to the next quarter."

A significant economic impact

Salina Regional Health Center has 1,800 employees at its Salina hospital and clinics, contributing \$162 million in salary and benefits to the local economy. The organization receives no local, state or federal tax support. It also pays \$860,000 in Saline County property taxes.

"As our community continues to both grow and age, the continued need for health system growth is crucial," said Renee Duxler, President and CEO of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce. "Salina Regional also continues to be our largest employer paying premium wages, and so we have a large portion of our community's livelihood that is dependent on their stability."

"When you also factor in the millions and millions of dollars that SRHC absorbs as well as the training opportunities for healthcare workforce they provide, they are truly an integral part of the economic health of this community and region," Duxler said.

Fiscal Year 2023 Unreimbursed Community Benefit

