



Leesburg Regional Medical Center • The Villages Regional Hospital • Leesburg Rehabilitation Hospital

May 15, 2015

Governor Rick Scott
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Ms. Elizabeth Dudek, Secretary
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Governor Scott and Secretary Dudek:

I am writing in my capacity as CEO of The Villages Regional Hospital (TVRH) in The Villages, FL, in response to your recent information request for the Commission on Healthcare and Hospital Funding. Attached to this document you will find a Statement of Community Benefit for TVRH for 2014, along with the data spreadsheet for the past three years of financial and statistical data that you requested. I realize the spreadsheet is not fully complete, but wanted to give you some data at least to start with, given the short time remaining before the Commission's first meeting.

For over a decade since its inception, TVRH has functioned as a not-for-profit community hospital faithfully serving the people of The Villages and surrounding communities. This hospital is the only one located in Sumter County. TVRH is currently licensed for 277 beds, after recently opening a 54 bed expansion in March of this year. As you know, The Villages and Sumter County are the fastest growing urban areas in the country at present, with over 110,000 residents.

Unfortunately, outside the Villages, the rest of Sumter County is not as economically prosperous. Although economic conditions continue to improve, 19 percent of county residents or approximately 21,000 people are at present without health insurance. As the only community hospital in our service area, Sumter County residents turn to us for most of their hospital medical needs, and they are treated as needed without regard to their ability to pay.

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In our Statement of Community Benefit for 2014, we reported more than 40 million dollars in uncompensated care and in capital investments made on behalf of the community's health needs. These services would not have been possible without TVRH being in relatively good financial shape. The hospital does not benefit from LIP funds or from any local tax support at present.

However, I would like to point out that if the current operating surplus at TVRH were diverted to other parts of the state, we could no longer afford the capital investments needed to keep up with the exceptional demographic growth in our area. We would also be very challenged to continue to provide the same rates of charity and uncompensated care. Let's hope that does not happen.

I wish the Commission the best in their work over the next few weeks. If I can be of further assistance in this or any other matter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald D. Henderson".

President and CEO

Central Florida Health Alliance