



# A safety net for community health

Salina Regional Health Center is a not-for-profit health system that serves the healthcare needs of a wide region in north central Kansas. The organization cares for people on a daily basis regardless of their ability to pay and provides many forms of highly specialized care.

In many cases the professional costs associated with providing specialized medical services are not fully recovered.

In fiscal year 2022, Salina Regional Health Center provided \$64.33 million in non-reimbursed benefits to the region.

More than 44% was met by subsidized health services, which provides clinical services at reduced or no cost. Services include forensic nursing to collect physical evidence in criminal cases; trauma, stroke, cardiac and other emergent care; infant-child development services for children born with disabilities and developmental delay; cancer treatment infusion services; behavioral health; and discounts given to patients who self-pay.

More than a third of the hospital's non-reimbursed benefit comes in the form of shortfalls generated by government-sponsored health insurance. About half of Salina Regional's patients are covered by Medicare and Medicaid.

More than 18% of the hospital's uncompensated care is attributed to charity care and bad debt. The hospital provides financial assistance to those who apply and qualify by meeting federal poverty level guidelines. Bad debt includes those with accounts that are uncollectable.

Despite its these community benefits, Salina Regional Health Center as a whole remains strong.

“Our historical leadership from a governing board and administrative staff has put us in a position that allows us to continue to look out long-term in years, as opposed to months,” said Joel Phelps, President and CEO at Salina Regional Health Center. “We can continue to invest in

workforce, technology, facility infrastructure and services to meet the health needs of people in the region.”

## A significant economic impact

Salina Regional Health Center has 1,800 employees at its hospital and clinics, contributing \$146 million in salary and benefits to the local economy. The organization receives no local, state or federal tax support. It also pays \$780,000 in Saline County property taxes.

“The number one economic driver in Saline County is retirees, and a large portion of that is healthcare,” said Renee Duxler, President and CEO of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce. “The Kansas population, specifically in our rural and outlying communities, is aging. So, they come in to Salina for shopping, entertainment and most predominantly, their healthcare.

“Salina Regional Health Center provides services to our region that are valuable as we continue to retain and attract workforce,” Duxler said. “The quality and complexity of care, along with the philanthropic efforts of SRHC, are an asset in attracting talent to Salina. SRHC is also one of the largest employers in the region, providing premium wages for many in our community as well.”

## Fiscal Year 2022 Unreimbursed Community Benefit

