



UCHealth Estes Valley Medical Center

2026 Update

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Introduction

Dear Estes Valley Community,

We are pleased to present this inaugural update on the operation of UCHealth Estes Valley Medical Center for fiscal year 2026.

For 50 years, Estes Park Health proudly provided excellent care to people throughout Estes Valley. But financial challenges, including almost \$10 million in debt and the prospect of further service reductions, made change necessary.

That legacy entered a new chapter on Dec. 1, 2025, when the medical center joined UCHealth and became UCHealth Estes Valley Medical Center (EVMC). The transition has brought greater financial stability and resources to support local health care for years to come as UCHealth paid off EVMC's debt and hired its employees. While EVMC continues to operate at a loss, the combined support of UCHealth and Estes Valley taxpayers is helping to build a stronger, more sustainable future. From Dec. 1 through June, 2026, \$2.5 million in funding from the Park Hospital District helped reduce EVMC's \$3.8 million operating loss to just \$1.4 million, resulting in a negative 4.5% margin.

While there is still more work to do, EVMC has a strong foundation, thanks in large part to its dedicated clinicians. We are continuing to strengthen services and expand access to high-quality care right here in Estes Park.

Throughout this first year, we have worked closely to ensure the hospital and clinics continue to meet the needs of our community during this transition, and we have seen growth in many key areas including a 28% increase in surgeries, a 17% increase in emergency department visits, and expanded access to virtual healthcare services.

We are especially heartened by the positive response from employees, who make excellent healthcare possible every day and who have reaffirmed their commitment to serving the Estes Valley. We prioritized giving employees a stronger voice during this transition and launched the hospital's first employee engagement survey. The survey showed strong engagement, and our leaders are actively responding to employees' suggestions to improve operations and the work environment. Most employees have enrolled in UCHealth's health and retirement plans, which offer improved benefits and lower costs. In addition, 10% inquired about or enrolled in UCHealth's Ascend Career Program, which offers up to 100% tuition assistance for training that will help advance their careers.

We have been focusing on providing the services our community needs most while building a sustainable future for local health care. We have adjusted surgical hours to reflect current volume, increased clinical staffing, added behavioral health services in our clinics and increased the number of radiology appointment slots to meet patient needs. We also transitioned to UCHealth's electronic health record platform, giving patients new tools to track and manage their health care while providing caregivers with enhanced tools to support quality, safety and workload management.

The affiliation has brought new, advanced services to Estes Park – from 24/7 telestroke coverage that delivers virtual neurological expertise for rapid stroke diagnosis and treatment, to participation in the Biobank, a UCHHealth and University of Colorado Anschutz program that supports genetic research and helps providers personalize care and medication information based on individual risk factors. And more innovations will be rolled out over the next year to provide additional support to our patients and care teams.

We are off to a great start, but the coming years will bring new challenges as federal health care funding changes take effect, including significant reductions to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act funding that are expected to increase the number of uninsured patients and uncompensated care. These pressures will affect hospitals and health systems across Colorado. Rural hospitals such as EVMC are particularly vulnerable, with more than 80% of Colorado's rural hospitals already operating on unsustainable margins, according to the Colorado Hospital Association

But we will navigate it together. EVMC now has the resources and support of a larger health system, strengthened by talented employees and strong community support.

The challenges ahead are real, but so is our commitment to this community. Together, we are building a stronger, more sustainable future for health care in the Estes Valley. We are proud of the progress we have made in this first year and excited about all that lies ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Kevin Unger
President and CEO
UCHHealth Northern Colorado Region



Vern Carda
President
UCHHealth Estes Valley Medical Center

Investing in Estes Valley's healthcare workforce.



UCHealth is deeply grateful that Estes Park Health employees chose to transition to UCHealth, taking advantage of improved retirement benefits, health insurance plans with lower deductibles and improved benefits, and many other well-being services. EVMC remains one of the largest employers in Estes Park with about 300 employees. These employees have received two pay increases over the past year, and in October, UCHealth provided EVMC employees with their first performance bonus.

UCHealth is dedicated to investing in Colorado's healthcare workforce. We have introduced exciting programs to support employees, physicians and advanced practice providers at EVMC. Many employees in the

Estes Valley are currently attending classes, researching options or working toward a new degree, supported by the UCHealth Ascend Career Program, which provides partially or fully funded tuition assistance in key programs. Physicians and APPs now have access to an expanded number of continuing medical education opportunities to support their growth and expertise as well. Combined with UCHealth's support for local nursing schools and the University of Colorado School of Medicine, these investments are helping to sustain our state's healthcare workforce and combat shortages in nurses and physicians.

Providing excellent, high-quality care.

EVMC is dedicated to putting our patients first, and improving quality and safety is always our goal. We closely monitor quality indicators and infection rates, and we are proud that our performance is better than the national averages. Our patient experience and patient safety scores are in the top quartile and top decile respectively, and last year, we had no catheter-associated urinary tract infections or central line-associated bloodstream infections.

Our physician and nursing teams also have implemented best practice pathways to identify and treat sepsis. Supported by UCHealth's sepsis experts and process improvement teams, we are reducing the time it takes to identify and diagnose sepsis and start treating patients sooner. This is improving patient outcomes and reducing the long-term impacts of sepsis, a life-threatening emergency triggered by an infection.



New or expanded services.



Telestroke: This spring, EVMC launched UCHealth's telestroke service, providing 24/7 virtual access to nationally recognized stroke experts in our emergency department for rapid diagnosis and treatment. This is a major advancement in quality and safety for the residents of the Estes Valley.

These experts can examine a patient alongside our emergency physicians and nurses to decide whether someone needs to be transferred immediately to a certified stroke center or if they can remain at EVMC, receiving care close to home. In other UCHealth hospitals, this program has not only saved lives - it has also minimized lasting effects.

Imaging on the weekends: The imaging center has expanded its hours and now offers MRI and ultrasound appointments on the weekends.

Language services: EVMC also has expanded language and interpretation services, something that is critically important for the millions of annual visitors to Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park. Many international visitors primarily speak a language other than English, and our hospital can now support 350 different languages and dialects, including American Sign Language.

EMS Service.

During the discussions for EVMC to join UCHealth, the Estes Valley community shared the importance of the local emergency medical services team. We are excited that this team is stronger than ever, able to respond both to residents in town and to the most remote locations in Rocky Mountain National Park.

Ambulances have been rebranded to visually connect them to the larger UCHealth system, while 14 critical care paramedics bring advanced care directly to patients in the field. Our oldest ambulance has been completely replaced, and EMS department has specialized equipment that can be taken into Rocky Mountain National Park to ensure the highest level of care, including a new three-lead automated external defibrillator (AED) that weighs just seven pounds, significantly lighter than most other defibrillators.



EVMC also has an efficient process for releasing blood to EMS for administration in the field, which is proven to improve probability of survival and lower overall mortality in situations with severe blood loss. In addition, our trauma outreach program has trained about 100 individuals in the Stop the Bleed program, enabling a safer community for all.

Behavioral health and suicide prevention.

Access to behavioral healthcare remains a significant need in the Estes Valley and across Colorado. Over the past year, EVMC and UCHealth have been improving suicide risk screening and access to behavioral health therapists.

Clinics and the emergency department are now using suicide risk screening for patients. A few simple questions can help staff identify patients who may need additional support. Depending on a patient's needs, that support can range from a more thorough assessment and treatment to inpatient care in a behavioral health unit at UCHealth hospitals in Fort Collins or Aurora.

In September, UCHealth expanded its integrated behavioral health model to three additional clinics in Estes Park. The EVMC family medicine, internal medicine and pediatrics clinics now have behavioral health clinicians within the clinics, working hand in hand with physicians to provide immediate and convenient resources to patients. The integrated behavioral health service, which was already available in the UCHealth Primary Care – Timberline clinic, is expanding access while also helping reduce the stigma associated with seeking behavioral health services.

Hospital and clinic volumes.

We are grateful that residents throughout the Estes Valley have continued to entrust EVMC with their medical care. Because of the dedication of our clinicians and important UCHealth investments, EVMC and our local clinics have seen growth in key areas. A comparison of the seven months of UCHealth's operations of EVMC (December 2025 through June 2026) with the same period the prior year shows:

- 28% increase in surgeries.
- 17% increase in emergency department visits.
- 7% increase in clinic visits.
- The total of inpatient admissions and observation visits remained the same over these periods.
- Skilled nursing admissions increased 21%.

Residents in the Estes Valley also have more access to UCHealth's virtual services including virtual urgent care and virtual primary care, allowing them to connect with medical experts from the comfort of their own home.

Serving the community.

UCHealth is dedicated to improving the lives and well-being of residents of Estes Valley and across Colorado. The UCHealth Community Grant Program invests in local nonprofit organizations that address critical health outcomes, social determinants of health and underserved community needs through annual grants.

This year, the program awarded \$20,000 to four Estes Park nonprofits that support residents in need and health and well-being initiatives.

The recipients include:

- **Crossroads Ministry**, a human services agency that assists residents with basic needs and wraparound services.
- **The Bridge of Estes**, a nonprofit that assists cancer patients with wellness services.
- **Harmony Foundation**, a live-in recovery center that helps people overcome substance abuse.
- **Estes Dementia Day Center**, a new nonprofit in Estes Park that helps patients and families who are affected by dementia.

The funds will be used to support programs for community members in Estes Park, improve access to essential services, support behavioral health in the Estes Valley, and strengthen programs that help with rent, food and healthcare services.

These grants build on UCHealth's longstanding support for community programs in Estes Park, such as the [Aspen Club](#), which provides health-related programs and services for those 50 and forward, and [Healthy Hearts and Minds](#), a school-based education program that served 32 students at Estes Park High School last year. It combines age-appropriate lessons with an optional cholesterol screening to empower students to learn about heart health in a meaningful way.



Unaudited Results
UCHealth Estes Valley Medical Center
Comparative Balance Sheet
(In Thousands)
June 30

	June 30, 2026	June 30, 2025
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,536	\$5,706
Restricted cash under debt agreements	-	2,993
Patient accounts receivable, net	18,653	6,169
Related party (payable to) UCHealth, net*	(3,709)	-
Property tax and other receivables	2,443	3,364
Inventories	1,500	1,109
Prepaid expenses	357	753
Total current assets	\$22,779	\$20,094
Non-current assets		
Investments	-	\$10,578
Capital assets, net, including right-to-use assets	\$27,249	34,855
Restricted cash and deferred outflows of resources	509	-
Total non-current assets	\$27,757	\$45,433
Total assets	\$50,536	\$65,527
Current liabilities		
Current portion of long-term debt, lease and subscription liabilities	\$328	\$655
Accounts payable	1,682	1,120
Accrued expenses	2,584	2,816
Accrued compensated absences	1,085	805
Estimated third-party payor settlements	3,899	293
Total current liabilities	\$9,578	\$5,689
Long-term liabilities		
Long-term debt, net of current portion	-	\$9,132
Lease and subscription liabilities, net of current portion	\$1,200	7,334
Other long-term liabilities	735	-
Total long-term liabilities	\$1,934	\$16,466
Total liabilities	\$11,513	\$22,155
Deferred inflows of resources - property taxes	-	4,396
Net position		
Unrestricted fund balance	40,438	\$40,180
Undistributed fund balance (current period results)	(1,415)	(1,203)
Total net position	\$39,023	\$38,977
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position	\$50,536	\$65,527

* Net intercompany balance with UCHealth, recorded in related party receivables; the June 30, 2026 balance of (\$3,709) thousand represents a net amount payable to UCHealth.

The balance sheet as of June 30, 2025 does not represent the financial position of UCHealth. It is derived from the unaudited financial statements provided by Estes Park Health District, with line items combined to conform to UCHealth's presentation for comparative purposes only.

Amounts are unaudited and presented in thousands; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Unaudited Results
UCHealth Estes Valley Medical Center
Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expense
(In Thousands)
Seven Months Ended June 30

	Seven Months Ended June 30, 2026	Seven Months Ended June 30, 2025
Total operating revenue	\$ 31,618	\$33,259
Total operating expense [†]	34,384	38,385
Operating income (loss)	\$ (3,766)	\$(5,125)
<i>Operating margin</i>	(11.9%)	(15.4%)
Property tax revenue	2,456	2,771
Other non-operating revenue, net*	76	846
Non-operating revenue, net	2,532	3,617
Income (loss) before contributions	(1,234)	(1,508)
Restricted contributions	93	306
Prior year adjustment	(274)	-
Total increase (decrease) in net assets	\$(1,415)	\$(1,203)
<i>Total margin</i>	(4.5%)	(3.6%)
Less: one-time ERTC interest payment	-	(465)
Adjusted total increase (decrease) in net assets	\$(1,415)	\$(1,668)
<i>Adjusted total margin</i>	(4.5%)	(5.0%)

[†] Total operating expense for the seven months ended June 30, 2026 includes \$1,117,000 in unallocated additional investment in the first seven months of the affiliation.

* Other non-operating revenue, net for the seven months ended June 30, 2025 includes a one-time interest payment of \$465,000 related to Employee Retention Tax Credits, which is excluded from the adjusted total increase (decrease) in net assets and adjusted total margin.

The results for the seven months ended June 30, 2025 (December 2024 through June 2025) do not represent the operations of UCHealth. They are derived from unaudited financial statements provided by Estes Park Health District and have been reclassified to conform to UCHealth's presentation for comparative purposes only.

Amounts are unaudited and presented in thousands; totals may not sum due to rounding.