

—Slug:.....COMM-0851.opin.letter.000\_bmh  
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—Contributor email.....rpattison@bmhvt.org  
—For section.....Voices/Letters from readers  
—Format.....LETTERS - Opinions - Letters to the Editor  
—Dateline.....Brattleboro  
—Article Number:.....43012



**Notes from editor (not for publication):**



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 Acting CEOs: With BMH labor conflict, ‘trust depends on  
2 accuracy’

####END HED####

####BEGIN SUBHED####

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####END SUBHED####

4 TEXT BODY:

RE: “BMH nurses threaten strike amid hospital’s financial  
tailspin” [News, Jan. 28]:

####BEGIN TEXT####

5 During a challenging period for Brattleboro Memorial  
6 Hospital, our staff members continue to demonstrate  
7 professionalism, dedication, and commitment to patient care.  
8 That work deserves respect — and it deserves accurate  
9 information.

10 Some claims circulating publicly by the Brattleboro  
11 Federation of Nurses (BFN) are incorrect. Here are the facts.

12 In FY2025, BMH administration received a 4% wage  
13 increase, consistent with other non-represented employees,  
14 excluding physicians. Members of the BFN union received a 7%  
15 wage increase. No bonuses were paid to current BMH  
16 administration, and no additional retirement contributions were  
17 made.

18 Context matters. As was cited in a recent post from BFN,  
19 since January 2021, the cost of living in Vermont has increased  
20 by 17.8%. During that same period, BMH has increased  
21 registered nurse base wages by 34% and licensed practical nurse  
22 base wages by 40%. Additionally, BMH provides shift and  
23 specialty differentials and bonuses that are consistently above  
24 market levels.

25 The proposed budget submitted to the Green Mountain  
26 Care Board (GMCB) calls for a 0% wage increase for all BMH  
27 employees, reflecting the financial constraints the hospital  
28 continues to navigate.

29 We respect the role unions play in representing their  
30 members. At the same time, trust depends on accuracy.  
31 Misinformation undermines productive dialogue and distracts  
32 from what matters most — patient care and mutual support.

33 BMH continues to strengthen financial oversight and  
34 long-term planning so we can remain stable, responsible, and  
35 transparent while serving our community.

36 We welcome direct questions and honest dialogue.  
37 Transparency is essential.

####END TEXT####

BIO/COATTAIL:

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LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

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LINKS:

40       ####BEGIN LINKS####  
  
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VIDEO:

41       ####BEGIN VIDEO####  
  
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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

42       ####BEGIN LOGLINE####  
  
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