

## STANDING UP FOR FAIRNESS

# Why Lehigh Valley Health Network Is Taking on UnitedHealthcare

For several years, Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN), now part of Jefferson Health, has been working to establish a fair and sustainable relationship with UnitedHealthcare. Unfortunately, our efforts have been met with repeated delays and obstacles, as United continues to pursue unfair payment practices that undervalue the care we provide.

Since 2021, UnitedHealthcare has failed to honor the reimbursement rates originally negotiated with LVHN. This has resulted in payments that are, on average, 40 percent lower than expected — a model that is simply not financially sustainable. Despite our persistent attempts to reach a resolution, United has consistently proposed one-sided solutions that would harm both our patients and the dedicated clinicians who care for them.

LVHN has reached a critical point. After years of trying to resolve this issue, we can no longer absorb the financial losses caused by United's actions. Therefore, we have made the difficult decision to terminate LVHN's contract with UnitedHealthcare, a move that will unfortunately affect patients in the Lehigh Valley region.

It's important to note that other Jefferson Health providers, including those

serving the Philadelphia metropolitan area and surrounding counties, will remain in-network with UnitedHealthcare at this time.

However, this is not just a local issue — it reflects a troubling national trend. Large insurers like UnitedHealthcare are reporting record profits, while regional and safety-net health systems are being squeezed financially. The result? Hospitals and health networks are forced to make painful decisions, including cuts to staff and services, which ultimately impact the communities they serve.

**OUR PURPOSE REMAINS UNCHANGED:** to provide the highest-quality care to our patients, regardless of their insurer. We are still open to meaningful discussions with United that focus on fair reimbursement and a sustainable partnership — one that puts patients first.

We believe our community deserves better. And we will continue to advocate for fairness, transparency and the resources needed to deliver exceptional care.

888-402-LVHN | LVHN.org

 **Lehigh Valley Health Network**

part of  **Jefferson Health**