EXCELA HEALTH ELIMINATES 70 POSITIONS

Pennsylvania's Excela Health has announced the furlough of 70 management and staff positions, the equivalent of 60 full-time jobs. The layoffs represent less than 2% of the health care network's 5,000 employees. Employees have been offered severance based on length of service. The staff reductions at the Greensburg-based hospital network come after Excela reduced the equivalent of 68 full-time employees through decreased use of temporary help, eliminating vacant positions and reducing hours for some employees. All together, the belt-tightening is expected to save about $6 million. The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Uniontown Hospital have also furloughed staff in recent months to reduce expenses during a difficult economic environment. Butler Memorial Hospital announced it is furloughing 18 people over the next two weeks, which is less than 1% of the hospital's total payroll of 1,810. Another 43 positions have been eliminated through attrition or eliminating vacancies.