

Texas Nonprofit Hospitals *
Part II
Summary of Current Hospital Charity Care Policy and Community Benefits
for Inclusion in DSHS Charity Care Manual as Required
by Texas Health and Safety Code, § 311.0461**
2017

Facility Identification (FID): 1892840	(Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***
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Name of Hospital: Covenant Hospital Plainview **County:** Hale

Mailing Address: 2601 Dimmitt Road

Physical Address if different from above: _____

Effective Date of the current policy: 04/20/2016

Date of Scheduled Revision of this policy: _____

How often do you revise your charity care policy? As Needed

Provide the following information on the office and contact person(s) processing requests for charity care.

Name of the office/department: Revenue Cycle Services

Mailing Address: 2601 Dimmitt Road, Plainview, Texas 79072

Contact Person: Jackie Carthel Title: SW Manager ED
Registration Financial
Counselor

Phone: (806) 291-3347 Fax: (806) 291-5688 E-Mail Jackie.Carthel@stjoe.org

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: Cassie Mogg Phone: (806) 296-4265

*This summary form is to be completed by each **nonprofit** hospital. Hospitals in a system must report on an individual hospital basis. Public hospitals, for-profit hospitals participating in the Medicaid disproportionate share hospital program and exempt hospitals are not required to complete this form. This form is only available in PDF format at DSHS web site: www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/hosp under 2017 Annual Statement of Community Benefits Standard.

**The information in the manual will be made available for public use. Please report most current information on the charity care policy and community benefits provided by the hospital.

*** The list is also available on DSHS web site: www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/hosp/.

I. Charity Care Policy:

1. Include your hospital's Charity Care Mission statement in the space below.

SJH Hospitals serve all persons in the communities where we are located. We aspire to reflect the healing ministry of Jesus through providing health services with the upmost dignity and compassion for each patient and family in our care. SJH ensures that Emergency Treatment and Medically Necessary Care is provided at discounted rates or no cost to qualified individuals. Any uninsured or underinsured patient who is unable to pay his or her hospital bill, or is the responsible party for a hospital bill and whose income meets the approved federal poverty level qualification, will be considered eligible for Financial Assistance as set forth in this policy. SJH believes that this policy will ensure access to needed healthcare as an essential element of fulfilling each patient's human dignity and ability to live more healed, more whole, and more able to contribute to the common good.

2. Provide the following information regarding your hospital's current charity care policy.

a. Provide definition of the term **charity care** for your hospital.

Emergency Treatment or Medically Necessary Care provided at a discount or at no cost to a patient who lacks funds and/or has inadequate insurance and who meets the eligibility criteria set forth in the SJH Financial Assistance Policy.

b. What percentage of the federal poverty guidelines is financial eligibility based upon? Check one.
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- 1. 100%
- 2. <133%
- 3. <150%
- 4. <200%
- 5. Other, specify More than 175%,
Less than 300%

c. Is eligibility based upon net or gross income? Check one.

d. Does your hospital have a charity care policy for the Medically Indigent?

YES NO IF yes, provide the definition of the term **Medically Indigent**.

Patients who do not meet financially indigent guidelines and their gross annual income is less than 300% of the federal poverty guidelines.

e. Does your hospital use an Assets test to determine eligibility for charity care?

YES NO If yes, please briefly summarize method.

f. Whose income and resources are considered for income and/or assets eligibility determination?

- 1. Single parent and children
- 2. Mother, Father and Children
- 3. All family members
- 4. All household members

5. Other, please explain _____

g. What is included in your definition of income from the list below? Check all that apply.

- 1. Wages and salaries before deductions
- 2. Self-employment income
- 3. Social security benefits
- 4. Pensions and retirement benefits
- 5. Unemployment compensation
- 6. Strike benefits from union funds
- 7. Worker's compensation
- 8. Veteran's payments
- 9. Public assistance payments
- 10. Training stipends
- 11. Alimony
- 12. Child support
- 13. Military family allotments
- 14. Income from dividends, interest, rents, royalties
- 15. Regular insurance or annuity payments
- 16. Income from estates and trusts

- 17. Support from an absent family member or someone not living in the household
- 18. Lottery winnings
- 19. Other, specify _____

3. Does application for charity care require completion of a form? YES NO

If YES,

a. **Please attach a copy of the charity care application form.**

b. How does a patient request an application form? Check all that apply.

- 1. By telephone
- 2. In person
- 3. Other, please specify _____

c. Are charity care application forms available in places other than the hospital?

YES NO If, YES, please provide name and address of the place.

d. Is the application form available in language(s) other than English?

YES NO

If yes, please check

Spanish Other, please specify _____

4. When evaluating a charity care application,

a. How is the information verified by the hospital?

- 1. The hospital independently verifies information with third party evidence (W2, pay stubs)
- 2. The hospital uses patient self-declaration
- 3. The hospital uses independent verification and patient self-declaration

b. What documents does your hospital use/require to verify income, expenses, and assets?
Check all that apply.

- 1. W2-form
- 2. Wage and earning statement
- 3. Pay check remittance
- 4. Worker's compensation
- 5. Unemployment compensation determination letters
- 6. Income tax returns
- 7. Statement from employer
- 8. Social security statement of earnings
- 9. Bank statements
- 10. Copy of checks
- 11. Living expenses
- 12. Long term notes
- 13. Copy of bills
- 14. Mortgage statements
- 15. Document of assets
- 16. Documents of sources of income
- 17. Telephone verification of gross income with the employer
- 18. Proof of participation in gov't assistance programs such as Medicaid
- 19. Signed affidavit or attestation by patient

20. Veterans benefit statement

21. Other, please specify _____

5. When is a patient determined to be a charity care patient? Check all that apply.

- a. At the time of admission
- b. During hospital stay
- c. At discharge
- d. After discharge
- e. Other, please specify _____

6. How much of the bill will your hospital cover under the charity care policy?

- a. 100%
- b. A specified amount/percentage based on the patient's financial situation
- c. A minimum or maximum dollar or percentage amount established by the hospital
- d. Other, please specify _____

7. Is there a charge for processing an application/request for charity care assistance?

YES NO

8. How many days does it take for your hospital to complete the eligibility determination process? 30

9. How long does the eligibility last before the patient will need to reapply? Check one.

- a. Per admission
- b. Less than six months
- c. One year
- d. Other, specify _____

10. How does the hospital notify the patient about their eligibility for charity care? Check all that apply.
Check all that apply?

- a. In person
- b. By telephone
- c. By correspondence
- d. Other, specify _____

11. Are all services provided by your hospital available to charity care patients?

YES NO

If NO, please list services not covered for charity care patients (e.g. transplant services, ER services, other outpatient services, physician's fees). Elective Procedures

12. Does your hospital pay for charity care services provided at hospitals owned by others?

YES NO

II. Community Benefits Projects/Activities:

Provide information on name, brief description (3 lines), target population or purpose (3 lines) for each of the community benefits projects/activities CURRENTLY being undertaken by your hospital (example: diabetes awareness).

Mental/Behavioral Health - Work with community partners to expand and investigate creative solutions access to care, to create community resilience, reduce depression and anxiety, and expand substance abuse (including alcohol) prevention/intervention initiatives through either direct programming or financial support of partner agencies  Diabetes Prevention and Intervention & Expand current outreach to include more innovative approaches to prevention with emphasis on early interventions with children and families, collaborate with internal and external partners to implement evidence based practices, and increase access to medication. Including focus on preventive lifestyle issues such as obesity reduction, unhealthy lifestyles, food choices and exercise  Dental Health & Enhance current outreach practices to include more early intervention with children and new parents, increase school partnerships and explore ways to continue to improve access to services

Additional Information:

Use this space if more space is required for comments or to elaborate on any of the information supplied on this form. Please refer to the response by question and item number.

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NOTE: This is the sixteenth year the charity care and community benefits form is being used for collecting the information required under Texas Health and Safety Code, § 311.0461. If you have any suggestions or questions, please include them in the space below or contact Dwayne Collins, Center for Health Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services at (512)776-7261 or fax:(512)776-7344 or E-mail: dwayne.collins@dshs.texas.gov.

Name of Hospital: _____ City: _____

Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Suggestions/questions: