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**
2020

Facility Identification (FID): 2192250 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***

Name of Hospital: Methodist Hospital DBA Covenant Hospital Levelland **County:** Hockley

Mailing Address: 1900 S College Ave, Levelland, TX 79336

Physical Address if different from above:

Effective Date of the current policy: 01/01/2016

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: Patient Financial Services

Mailing Address: 3615 19th street, Lubbock, Tx 79410

Contact Person: Veronica Soto Title: Project Manager

Phone: (806) 725-6074 Fax: (806) 725-6081

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: Andrea Zapata Phone: Financial Counselor

*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: https://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/hosp/hosp3.aspx under 2020 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: https://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/hosp/default.shtm.

I. Charity Care Policy:

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

CHL affirms it's commitment to serve its communities with an emphasis of providing optimal health care service & programs by dedicating our efforts to aid all persons regardless of their age, sex, race, creed, disability, nationality origin or financial status. These beliefs have led CHL to develop a formalized policy & procedure for providing charity care.

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

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

Charity care is defined as health care services provided at no charge or at a reduced charge to patients who do not have or cannot obtain adequate financial resources or other means of payment for their care.

b. What percentage of the federal poverty guidelines is financial eligibility based upon? Check one.
5

1. 100%
2. <133%
3. <150%
4. <200%
☑ 5. Other, specify _____

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**.

Medically indigent patients are applicants for charity status whose income exceeds 175% of the federal poverty guideline will be considered for charity care on a case by case review based on percentage of their income.

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

☑ YES NO If yes, please briefly summarize method. Our norm is proof of income & rarely consider assets, on occasion, financial counselors validate asset levels as part of the "proof" of income process.

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 ☑ 1 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. Paycheck 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? varies depending on circumstances

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).

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 Health Project -ER suicidal patients are followed up with by counselor. Dental Mobile-Keeping a healthy mouth for those without insurance in our community. It is based on income, a sliding scale. If there is no income then we direct with other ways to help. Voices Coalition-Empower communities to create positive changes in attitudes and behaviors to prevent and reduce at-risk behaviors in people of all ages with a unified focus on alcohol, marijuana and prescription drugs. Free blood pressure checks-our nurses go out to our Senior Citizen Facility and hold a free blood pressure clinic. It is for anyone in the community and is completely free.

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 twentieth 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: