

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**
-2008-

Facility Identification (FID): <u>4770430</u> (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***	
Name of Hospital: <u>Trinity Community Medical Center of Brenham</u>	County: <u>Washington</u>
Mailing Address: <u>700 Medical Parkway Brenham, TX 77833</u>	
Physical Address if different from above: _____	
Effective Date of the current policy: <u>01/01/2008</u>	
Date of Scheduled Revision of this policy: <u>01/01/2009</u>	
How often do you revise your charity care policy? <u>reviewed annually</u>	

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

Name of the office/department: Business Office

Mailing Address: 700 Medical Parkway Brenham, TX 77833

Contact Person: Linda Kirts Title: _____

Phone: (979)836-6173 Fax: (979)830-2277 E-Mail lkirts@trinitymed.org

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: Cynthia Longhofer Phone: (979)830-2268

* 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 also available in Word or PDF formats at DSHS web site: www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/hosp under 2008 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.state.tx.us/chs/hosp/.

I. Charity Care Policy:

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

To ensure that Trinity Medical Center adheres to its mission to provide health services to all persons without regard to race, creed, sex, national origin, religion, or financial status.

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

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

The unreimbursed cost to the hospital of providing, funding, or otherwise financially supporting healthcare services on an inpatient or outpatient basis to a person classified by the hospital as "financially indigent" or "medically indigent".

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

- 1. <100%
- 2. <133%
- 3. <150%
- 4. <200%
- 5. Other, specify 100% up to and including 200%

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**.

A person whose medical or hospital bills after payment by third-party payors exceeds a specified percentage of the person's annual gross income, in accordance with the hospital's eligibility system, and the person is financially unable to pay the remaining bill.

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 Patient (Parents if patient is a minor)

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 Wages and salaries after deductions (depending on deductions)

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 By mail: asked upon admissions

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, 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 govt 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 Pre-admission

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 days

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?

- 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).

Trinity Medical Center's Seniors Day PURPOSE: To educate, inform, screen and entertain our senior population. ACTIVITIES: Informational booths, health screenings, immunizations, entertainment and refreshments (all provided free of charge) PARTNERSHIPS: Provided in partnership with over 60 area healthcare facilities, agencies, physicians and businesses TARGET POPULATION: The senior population and their families in Washington County and surrounding counties. ATTENDANCE: 1,300 persons Trinity Medical Center's Kids Day PURPOSE: To educate, inform, screen and entertain the children of our community. ACTIVITIES: Informational booths, health screenings, immunizations, entertainment and refreshments (all provided free of charge) PARTNERSHIPS: Provided in partnership with over 45 area healthcare facilities, agencies, physicians and businesses TARGET POPULATION: Children and their parents in Washington County and surrounding counties. ATTENDANCE: 900 persons Immunization Clinics, Brenham, Waller and Hempstead, TX PURPOSE: To immunize area children. ACTIVITIES: Immunizations provided via Trinity Wellness Center's Vaccines for Children program. PARTNERSHIPS: Provided in partnership with St. Katherine Drexel Catholic Church and the Department of State Health Services Vaccines for Children Program TARGET POPULATION: Children and their parents in Washington and Waller counties and surrounding counties. ATTENDANCE: Total immunizations given: 1,200. Community Health Fairs PURPOSE: To inform families in Washington and surrounding counties about health related information ACTIVITIES: Health screenings, informational booths PARTNERSHIPS: Trinity Medical Center is a vendor at this event ? providing free cholesterol screenings, blood pressures and blood sugars. TARGET POPULATION: Children and their parents in Washington County and surrounding counties. ATTENDANCE: 2,772 people Diabetes Support Group/Diabetes Refresher PURPOSE: To further educate area diabetics on topics related to diabetes. ACTIVITIES: Weekly program led by a Registered Nurse. PARTNERSHIPS: Provided in partnership with the Trinity Diabetes Center. TARGET POPULATION: Area diabetics. ATTENDANCE: Healthy Living Program & Other Educational Programs PURPOSE: To teach the public how to live healthier lives. ACTIVITIES: Programs led by a Registered Nurse. TARGET POPULATION: General public. ATTENDANCE: 1,303 contacts Faith Mission, Indigent Clients, and Hurricane Ike Evaluations PURPOSE: To evaluate the health status of homeless or displaced clients. ACTIVITIES: Health evaluations. TARGET POPULATION: Clients who are homeless or displaced. ATTENDANCE: 402 evaluations Daily Walkers Program PURPOSE: To teach the public how to live healthier lives. ACTIVITIES: Indoor walking and exercise program. TARGET POPULATION: General public. ATTENDANCE: 1,163 sessions attended

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.

