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**
2015

Facility Identification (FID): 3032360 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***

Name of Hospital: Covenant Medical Center County: Lubbock
Mailing Address: 3615 19th st.
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 for relevance.

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: 2107 OXFORD AVENUE, LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79410
Contact Person: LANA JONES Title: Reg Dir, Patient Fin Svcs
Phone: (806) 725-5765 Fax: (806) 725-5363 E-Mail lbjones@covhs.org

Person completing this form if different from above:
Name: Daniel Olvera Phone: (806) 725-6967

* 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.state.tx.us/chs/hosp under 2015 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/.

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/hosp/
I. Charity Care Policy:

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

CHS affirms it's commitment to serve it's communities with an emphasis of providing optimal health care services & 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 CHS 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.

   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 guidelines will be considered for charity care on a case by case review based on a 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.

   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

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/hosp/
g. What is included in your definition of income from the list below? Check all that apply.

- [x] 1. Wages and salaries before deductions
- [x] 2. Self-employment income
- [x] 3. Social security benefits
- [x] 4. Pensions and retirement benefits
- [x] 5. Unemployment compensation
- [x] 6. Strike benefits from union funds
- [x] 7. Worker’s compensation
- [x] 8. Veteran’s payments
- [x] 9. Public assistance payments
- [x] 10. Training stipends
- [x] 11. Alimony
- [x] 12. Child support
- [x] 13. Military family allotments
- [x] 14. Income from dividends, interest, rents, royalties
- [x] 15. Regular insurance or annuity payments
- [x] 16. Income from estates and trusts
- [x] 17. Support from an absent family member or someone not living in the household
- [x] 18. Lottery winnings
- [x] 19. Other, specify Patient/Guarantor’s declaration of unemployment during the admissions process

3. Does application for charity care require completion of a form? [x] 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.

- [x] 1. By telephone
- [x] 2. In person
- [x] 3. Other, please specify Hospital Website

   Other, please specify Hospital Website

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

   [x] 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? varies depending on circumstance

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 6 months ________________________________

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).

See community benefits reports attached. See also, "CMC Community Benefits Projects_Activities description" word document attached.

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.
NOTE: This is the fourteenth 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.state.tx.us.

Name of Hospital: ___________________________ City: ___________________________

Contact Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Suggestions/questions: