`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**
2021

Facility Identification (FID): 150310 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***

Name of Hospital: Bellville Medical Center **County:** Austin

Mailing Address: 44 N Cummings Street, Bellville, TX 77418

Physical Address if different from above:

Effective Date of the current policy: 02/09/2022

Date of Scheduled Revision of this policy:

How often do you revise your charity care policy? yearly

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

Name of the office/department: Billing & Collections

Mailing Address: 44 N Cummings Street, Bellville, TX 77418

Contact Person: Shannon Houston Title: Service Representative

Phone: (979) 413-7158 Fax: (979) 413-7190

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: Craig Morley Phone: (815) 983-3030

*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 2021 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: http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/hosp/

I. Charity Care Policy:

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

Hospital provides inpatient, outpatient and emergency Services. Hospital may provide charity care to persons, who are residents of the Bellville Hospital District, who have medically necessary healthcare needs and are uninsured, underinsured, ineligible for government programs, or otherwise unable to pay, for medically necessary care based on their individual financial situation. Hospital strives to ensure that the financial capacity of people who need healthcare services does not prevent them from seeking or receiving 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: Discounted care provided to patients who are uninsured for the relevant medically necessary service, ineligible for government or other charity care benefit, and unable to pay. Hospital maintains two types of charity care for the purposes of this policy, Financially Indigent and Medically Indigent. Financially Indigent: The patient is uninsured, and their yearly household income is less than or equal to 300% percent of the Federal Poverty Level guideline (FPL) based on the number of person(s) in their household. Medically Indigent: The patient¿s medical or hospital bills from Hospital and related providers, after payment by all third parties, exceeds 10 percent of his or her yearly household income, whose yearly household income is greater than 300% but less than 500% percent of the Federal Poverty Level guideline (FPL), and patient is unable to pay the outstanding patient account balance. Uninsured: The patient has no level of insurance or third-party assistance to assist with meeting his/her payment obligations. Underinsured: The patient has some level of insurance or third-party assistance but still has out of pocket expenses that exceed his/her financial abilities.

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 less than 500%

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**.

Same as with Charity Care

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 email

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? 14-28

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). excludes non-medically necessary services

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). 1 Community influenza vaccination for ages 5 and older. Hospital provides, annually, a drive through and onsite business and nursing home visits for vaccination administration for any individual wanting the injection. 2 Covid-19 screening, testing and vaccination. Hospital provided, a drive through and onsite nursing home visits for testing. Also held multiple hospital site vaccination clinics. 3 Hospital provided local high school and middle school sports physicals for youth athletic programs.

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 twenty-first 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: