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**
2018

Facility Identification (FID): 2490040 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***

Name of Hospital: CHRISTUS SPOHN HOSPITAL-ALICE **County:** JIM WELLS

Mailing Address: 2500 E MAIN, ALICE, TX 78332

Physical Address if different from above:

Effective Date of the current policy: 09/01/2014

Date of Scheduled Revision of this policy: 09/01/2017

How often do you revise your charity care policy? 3

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

Name of the office/department: PATIENT ACCESS DEPARTMENT

Mailing Address: 2500 E MAIN, ALICE, TX 78332

Contact Person: YOLANDA ESCOBAR Title: PATIENT ACCESS REPRESENTATIVE

Phone: (361) 902-4045 Fax: (361) 881-1462 E-Mail yolanda.escobar@christushealth.org

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: REYAAN ALI Phone: (361) 881-3627

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 2018 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.

To provide services in keeping with the Mission, Vision, and core Values of CHRISTUS Spohn Health System, each facility will provide charity care services in a manner that respects the dignity of the patients and their families

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 by the State of Texas as the un-reimbursed (or unpaid) costs of providing, funding, or otherwise financially supporting services on an inpatient or outpatient basis to a person classified by the healthcare center as financially or medically indigent. Classification may occur before, during, or after services have been provided.

b. What percentage of the federal poverty guidelines is financial eligibility based upon? Check one.
4

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

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 shall mean the patient whose medical or hospital bills after payment by third-party payers exceeds 10% of the person¿s annual gross income and who is financially unable to pay the remaining bill. The patient who incurs catastrophic medical expenses is classified as medically indigent when payment would require liquidation of assets critical to living or would cause undue financial hardship to the family support system. In addition, medically indigent shall also include the residual amount, net of third party payer payment, from catastrophic medical expenses which exceeds 10% of the patient¿s annual gross income. (This is frequently referred to as ¿Catastrophic Free 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 online

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.

ONLINE - WEB LINK BELOW, https://www.christushealth.org/patient-resources/financial-assistance

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 before

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? 2 weeks

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). cosmetic 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).

1. The Care Van program provides free women¿s healthcare services to uninsured and underserved women throughout the Coastal Bend region. 2. The Clinical Pastoral Education program (accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.) provides education in pastoral ministry; specifically, to persons receiving treatment in a faith-based hospital. 3. The High School Student Clinical Education program allows select students from area high schools to participate in clinical rotations/clinical shadowing.

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 eighteenth 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: