**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****
**2019**

**Facility Identification (FID):** 1711511 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***

**Name of Hospital:** Hill Country Memorial Hospital **County:** GILLESPIE

**Mailing Address:** "P. O. Box 835 Fredericksburg, Tx. 78624"

**Physical Address if different from above:** "1020 S Hwy 16, Fredericksburg, Tx. 78624"

**Effective Date of the current policy:** 1/1/2018

**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 Accounts

Mailing Address: "P. O. Box 835, Fredericksburg, Tx. 78624"

Primary Contact: Janice Menking Primary Title: Controller

Primary Phone: (830) 997-1339 Primary Fax: (830) 990-1592

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: Elizabeth Hawronsky Title: Adm Director of Revenue Cycle

Phone: Fax:

Second Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: Janice Menking Title: (830) 997-1339

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 2019 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.

"The Mission includes improving the overall health status of the area in which we serve. See policy ""Purpose"" section attached."

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 or underinsured for the relevant medically necessary service, ineligible for government or other charity health care benefit, and unable to pay."

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 300%

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**.

"The patient¿s medical or hospital bills from HCMH and related providers, after payment by all third parties, exceeds 10 percent of his or her yearly household income, whole yearly household income is greater than 300% but less than 500% of the federal poverty guideline (FPG), and patient is unable to pay the outstanding patient account balance. "

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 website

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.

Patient Accounts department, "1006 S State Highway, Fredericksburg, Tx 78624"

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?
approximately 1 day

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). " Services not covered under Charity/Financial Assistance include elective or cosmetic services, surgical weight loss procedures, sleep lab procedures, elective sterilizations, reversals of sterilizations, and services not considered medically necessary by most insurance companies. "

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 attached Community Benefits report

**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 nineteenth 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:**