

Cibola General Hospital 1016 E. Roosevelt Ave. Grants, NM 87020 Phone: 505-287-4446 Fax: 505-287-5309		902008
		SUBMITTED BY: Jim Hermes, CFO
TITLE: Charity Care		APPROVED BY Thomas Whelan, CEO
Policy First Effective Date: 11/29/00	Revised 9/1/2019	

PURPOSE:

To establish a hospital Charity Care policy to provide healthcare services free of charge to individuals who meet certain financial criteria.

DEFINITIONS:

Charity Patient shall mean a person to whom the hospital has provided medical care and who is unable to pay the costs of the medical care administered and (a) does not have insurance coverage, (b) is unable to qualify for the Cibola County Indigent Program, (c) cannot or is ineligible to receive benefits from the Medical Assistance Division of the Human Services Department as under the provisions of the Public Assistance Act or (d) is lacking liquid assets and/or disposable income to satisfy their obligation.. In addition, by definition established under the Cibola County agreement to provide healthcare services to Cibola residents, all persons in custody of the Cibola County Detention Center, Cibola County Sheriff, the Milan Police Department and the Grants Police Department are considered Charity patients.

Hospital means Cibola General Hospital

Cost means un-reimbursed costs associated with the provision of charity care activities. Charity care activities would be demonstrated by activities which generate charges related to charity care patients.

Bad Debt means the provision for actual or expected un-collectibles resulting from the extension of credit.

Liquid Assets are readily negotiable resources, such as, but not limited to: cash on hand, money in checking and savings accounts, saving certificates, stocks and bonds, credit union shares, promissory notes, U.S. Savings Bonds, and non-recurring lump sum payments.

Disposable Income is the amount left after living expenses are removed from income.

STATEMENT OF POLICY:

It shall be the policy of Cibola General Hospital to accept patients regardless of their ability to pay. Inherent in this policy is the recognition that certain services as provided to individuals will never result in a cash inflow. The basis for this recognition is dependent on the individual's ability to pay. The ability to pay shall be determined based on the individual's resources and

liquid assets available as well as the individual's qualification for assistance in the Cibola County Indigent Program or the State Medical Assistance Program.

PROCEDURE:

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility shall be determined on a case by case basis.

Present income and liquid assets will be reviewed to assess the ability to pay.

Disposable income will be determined by reviewing expense income on a monthly basis.

The determination of a charity care patient may be made at any time during the collection cycle and is not exclusively made at the time of registration/admission.

Procedure for Charity Care Write Off

1. A written or verbal Financial Application for charity care claims shall be filed by the patient, patient's spouse or, if patient be a minor, by the parent or person having his/her custody. In the event of the death of the patient, the executor or relative of the deceased, if any, will be the applicant.

2. Claims for non-incarcerated charity care will be considered after ineligibility is determined from alternative sources available such as the Cibola County Indigent Program or the State Medical Assistance Program.

4. Once the ability to pay is assessed and a charity care write off is deemed appropriate, the claim shall be approved by the Patient Financial Manager.

5. Disposable income will be determined and the amount available will be evaluated in accordance to the size of the balance due.