



COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER

F A L L S C I T Y , N E B R A S K A

HOPE

HELPFUL OPTIONS FOR PATIENT EXPENSES PROGRAM

Community Medical Center, Inc. is dedicated to the provision of high quality medical care at a reasonable cost to patients without regard to their ability to pay for these services.

In 1977, Community Medical Center, Inc. was granted a discounted loan from the federal government for a building project. For this loan, the hospital was obligated to write-off a percentage of its operating revenue as charity care for the next twenty years. This obligation ended on April 24, 1997. Realizing a moral and ethical necessity to recognize and assist qualifying patients in meeting their financial responsibilities for care at Community Medical Center, the H.O.P.E. policy was established.

Beginning August 1, 2008, 2% of Hospital's gross patient revenue from the prior fiscal year is written off as charity care to qualifying individuals or families from Richardson County with a maximum of \$10,000 per household allowed. Only

charges for care provided at the Hospital and Family Medicine Clinic are considered for this policy.

To be eligible, household income must be at or below the poverty guidelines established by the Hospital. Community Medical Center's poverty guidelines are 2.5 times the poverty guidelines established by the Department of Health and Human Services and published in the Federal Register.

Use the following statistical definitions as examples in administering this policy:

Family: A family is a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, or adoption who live together; all such related persons as members of one family.

Unrelated individual: An unrelated individual is a person 15 years old or over (other than an inmate of an institution) who is not living with any relatives. An unrelated individual may be the only person living in a house or apartment, or may live in a house or apartment (or in group quarters such as a rooming house) in which one or more persons also live who are not related to the individual in question by birth, marriage, or adoption.

continued

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Household: As defined by the Bureau of the Census for statistical purposes, a household consists of all the persons who occupy a housing unit (house or apartment), whether they are related to each other or not. If a family and an unrelated individual, or two unrelated individuals, are living in the same housing unit, they would constitute two family units but only one household.

Family Unit: A family unit is made up of either an unrelated individual or a family.

Income: Income is defined as total annual cash receipts before taxes from all sources. These include: Wages and salaries before any deductions, net receipts from non-farm self-employment, net receipts from farm self-employment, regular payments from social security, railroad retirement, unemployment compensation, strike benefits from union funds, workers' compensation, veterans' payments, public assistance, training stipends, alimony, child support, military allotments or other regular support from an absent family member or someone not living in the household, private pensions, government employee pensions, regular insurance or annuity payments, college or university scholarships, grants, fellowships, assistantships,

dividends, interest, net rental income, net royalties, periodic receipts from estates or trusts, and net gambling or lottery winnings. Income does not include: Capital gains, any assets drawn down as withdrawals from a bank, the sale of property (house, car, etc.), tax refunds, gifts, loans, lump-sum inheritances, one-time insurance payments or compensation for injury.

H.O.P.E. applications can be obtained from the Patient Account Representative.

For information call (402)245-6542.