

### **Financial Assistance Summary**

As part of our mission and commitment to the community, Berkshire Health Systems (BHS) provides financial help to patients who qualify under the health systems' BHS Financial Assistance Policy\*.

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS & AID OFFERED

Patients receiving services from a Berkshire Health Systems (BHS) facility may be eligible for free or reduced cost health care services through various state programs described in BHS's Financial Assistance Policy (the Policy), including MassHealth and the Massachusetts Health Safety Net. The eligibility criteria vary by program, and BHS Certified Application Counselors are available to help patients apply for state aid.

Patients also may be eligible for supplemental financial aid from BHS facilities with respect to the outstanding part of emergency or other medically necessary care that is not eligible for help under a state (or other) financial aid program. To qualify for supplemental financial aid, a patient must first apply for state aid, satisfy certain income requirements, and meet other eligibility conditions.

#### Generally,

Patients with family incomes at or below 400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are eligible for a discount of no less than 42% on emergency or other medically necessary care if they did not have insurance at the time care was provided. The exact discount varies by location and is based on the amounts generally billed to individuals who have insurance covering such care.

## CHARGES FOR EMERGENCY OR MEDICALY NECESSARY CARE

Patients eligible for financial aid under the Policy will not be charged more than the amounts generally billed for emergency or other medically necessary care by individuals who have insurance covering such care.

#### HOW TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

To apply for financial aid under the Policy, a patient must complete the BHS Financial Assistance application. Alternatively, Berkshire Health Systems may start a financial aid application on behalf of a patient. Free copies of the Policy and the BHS Financial Assistance application, as well as information about the Policy and help with the application process, are available through any of these sources.

#### **BY PHONE:**

413-445-9480

#### **BY MAIL:**

Advocacy for Access Attn: Financial Assistance 510 North St, Suite 8 Pittsfield, MA 01201

#### **BY EMAIL:**

FAPInfo@bhs1.org

#### ADVOCACY FOR ACCESS LOCATIONS:

Berkshire Medical Center 510 North St, Suite 8 Pittsfield, MA, 01201

Fairview Hospital 29 Lewis Ave, First Floor, Right Side Great Barrington, MA, 01230

English and Spanish versions of the Policy, the BHS Financial Assistance application, and this summary are available at:

<u>BerkshireHealthSystems.org/FinancialAssistance</u>, and upon request by mail.

\*For more information on this and other BHS Financial Assistance Policies and Programs visit: BerkshireHealthSystems.org/FinancialAssistance