

# ATTENTION CHI FRANCISCAN PATIENTS:

## You May Be Entitled to Medical Debt Relief and Restitution

**The healthcare workers of SEIU 1199NW, faith leaders and community members won a major victory for healthcare access**



Some of the debt relief, restitution and credit repair will happen automatically. However, if you were a CHI Franciscan patient since January, 2012 and feel that you were eligible for charity care, you should follow up at the contact information below.

### CHI-Franciscan Facilities Covered by the Settlement

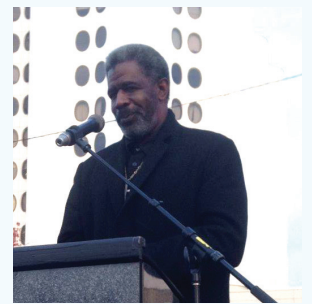
- St. Joseph Medical Center
- St. Elizabeth Hospital
- St. Francis Hospital
- St. Anthony Hospital
- St. Clare Hospital
- Harrison Medical Center
- Highline Medical Center

Uninsured patients will receive an attestation form in the mail. Insured patients who believe they qualified for charity care when they received care should call CHI Franciscan at (888) 779-6380 and request a charity care application.

**If your credit report was damaged by CHI Franciscan and is not automatically repaired, contact the WA State Attorney General's office at (800) 551-4636 or go to [www.atg.wa.gov/file-complaint](http://www.atg.wa.gov/file-complaint)**

If you or a loved one has been a patient at a CHI Franciscan facility, or you may seek care there in the future, you need to know about an important settlement. As a result of a years-long, united grassroots effort by the healthcare workers of SEIU 1199NW, faith leaders and community members, the Washington Attorney General brought a successful lawsuit against CHI Franciscan for violating the law that protects financial assistance, called "charity care," for lower-income patients.

"The Tacoma Ministerial Alliance felt obligated to get involved because the holy bible commands that we care for the sick and pursue social justice. This victory means the world to workers, patients and communities, because now CHI-Franciscan will have to relieve medical debt, pay restitution and repair the credit of those who were wronged. They're also required to let folks know that charity care is available."



**Pastor Gregory Christopher  
of the Shiloh Baptist Church**

### The settlement requires CHI Franciscan to:

- Pay refunds of over \$2 million to all patients who already paid and should have received financial assistance for care received at all eight hospitals between January 1, 2012 and December 17, 2017
- Cancel the still-outstanding debt of other patients who should have received financial assistance but didn't for care received at all eight hospitals in the same time period. This will likely total over \$20 million.
- Restore the credit rating of patients whose credit was damaged by inability to pay a bill while they should have qualified for financial assistance
- Recall debt collectors from further pursuing patients for any debt that is forgiven
- Inform current and future patients, both verbally and in writing, of their right to apply for financial assistance if their income is at or below 300% of the federal poverty level.

Refund and debt forgiveness eligibility is income that was at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level at the time of care from 2012-2017 – see chart on next page. Patients will be eligible for financial assistance at 300% of the Federal Poverty Level going forward.



## Income eligibility for debt relief and/or repayment for healthcare costs from 2012-2017

### 200% of The Federal Poverty Guidelines - 2017

Household / Family Size	Annual Household Income Must Be Less Than or Equal To:
1	\$24,120
2	\$32,480
3	\$40,840
4	\$49,200
5	\$57,560
6	\$65,920
7	\$74,280
8	\$82,640

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$8,360 for each additional person.



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