

SAFETY NET IMPACT STATEMENT

NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) is a comprehensive, fully integrated health care delivery system. NorthShore operates four hospitals—Evanston Hospital, Glenbrook Hospital, Highland Park Hospital and Skokie Hospital, added in January 2009. The system has over 8,000 employees and 2,000 affiliated physicians, including a multi-specialty group practice having 550+ physicians and over 75 office locations in Cook and Lake Counties.

Further, NorthShore is committed to excellence in its academic and research missions as the principle teaching affiliate of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. With more than \$100 million of grants, NorthShore Research Institute focuses on clinical and translational research, including leadership in outcomes research and clinical trials.

NorthShore has a long tradition of reaching out to patients in need, due to a lack of insurance, an inability to pay, special needs or ethnic or cultural characteristics. The system provides free care consistent with their charity care policy to qualifying patients whose income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level—a level that is twice the national benchmark. Those patients with incomes above 200% of the Federal Poverty Level or are uninsured may qualify for discounts ranging from 10% to 85%. During 2008, NorthShore provided over \$13.7M in care with no expectation of payment.

Charity Care

The table below identifies, as reported in NorthShore's Community Benefits Reports, the amount of charity care provided at the three hospitals it operated as of December 31, 2008. As noted in the table, NorthShore's commitment to the provision of charity care services at its hospitals increased by 18.4% between 2006 and 2008.

NorthShore University HealthSystem Charity Care

2006: \$11,607,866

2007: \$12,490,121

2008: \$13,748,493

Care Provided to Medicaid Recipients

NorthShore provides care to Medicaid recipients at all of its hospitals. The table below, as reported in the individual IDPH *Annual Hospital Questionnaires* for the three hospital's operated by NorthShore as of December 31, 2009 also shows a strong and increasing commitment to the care of Medicaid Recipients.

**NorthShore University Health System
Provision of Care to Medicaid Recipients**

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Inpatients admitted:	2,212	2,319	2,532
Outpatients treated:	20,934	23,273	28,659
Inpatient Net Revenue:	\$00,000,000	\$19,155,298	\$20,735,339
Outpatient Net Revenue:	\$000,000	\$254,237	\$205,075

Teaching

As noted above, NorthShore University HealthSystem is the principle teaching affiliate of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. In addition, NorthShore's hospitals serve as the clinical sites for students preparing for careers in a number of health care related fields including nursing, imaging technology, physical therapy and management. During 2008, NorthShore's financial commitment to its teaching programs exceeded \$22M.

Research

NorthShore Research Institute is one of the nation's fastest-growing hospital-based research programs. Established 12 years ago, the Institute now is ranked 9th nationally among comprehensive independent research hospitals by the national Institutes of Health (NIH). Excluding outside grants and funding, in 2008, NorthShore provided \$6.5M in direct funding for its research programs.

Other

In addition to its direct care, teaching and research activities, NorthShore contributes to the "community benefit" in numerous other ways, including:

- Emergency Departments, certified as trauma centers by EMS at each of its hospitals,
- an Eye and Vision center,
- a health center operated at Evanston Township High School,
- a language assistance program providing approximately 7,000 hours of translation services, annually,
- a prescription drug assistance program,
- a 24-hour call in center for mental health services,
- a meals-at-home program,
- internships and mentoring programs for over 500 students, annually,
- community educational programs provided through the Kellogg Cancer Care Center,
- approximately 200 medical screening events, annually,
- an organized educational and assistance program for pregnant teens and teenage parents.
- a speakers' bureau, and
- participation in health fairs throughout northern Cook and Lake Counties.

Services Specific to the Proposed Project

This project, which involves the acquisition of a medical group practice, will improve the access for the physicians' patients to NorthShore's programs and charity care policies that address patient's needs resulting from a lack of insurance, an inability to pay, special needs or ethnic or cultural characteristics. In addition, and because of the fully-integrated delivery system provided by NorthShore, these physicians' patients will have access to NorthShore's full array of inpatient, outpatient and community-based programs.