



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 31, 2010

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Memorial Health System Releases Annual Community Benefits Report

SPRINGFIELD – Memorial Health System returned more than \$80.3 million in community benefits in the fiscal year that concluded on Sept. 30, according to the nonprofit system’s annual community benefits report.

More than 20 percent of that total, or nearly \$16.4 million, is the value of healthcare services provided to people who were unable to pay for all or part of their care. A total of 10,777 patient accounts qualified for charity care assistance this past fiscal year.

Now available online, the document can be accessed at ChooseMemorial.org. A copy may also be requested by calling Memorial’s HealthLine at (217) 788-3333.

“Our health system has one of the most generous charity care policies in Illinois, which is a reflection of our commitment to our mission to improve the health of the people and communities we serve,” said Mitch Johnson, senior vice president of marketing and planning for Memorial Health System.

“We are responsible for providing high-quality, patient-centered healthcare, regardless of one’s ability to pay. That’s why our three hospitals and home services, physician network and mental health affiliates provide the expertise, medicine and technology to help ensure that all who come to us receive the care they need when confronted with illness or injury.”

The rest of the \$80.3 million includes more than \$51.5 million for the unpaid cost of public programs and more than \$12.3 million for other community benefits, including community health improvement, research, education and other community support.

Some of the articles in this year's community benefits annual report include:

- Free diabetes education classes provided in Logan County.
- A \$100,000 grant to help the Central Illinois Community Blood Center purchase a new bloodmobile that helps collect more than 40,000 units of blood in 19 counties.
- How \$9.8 million is used to train future healthcare providers.

The value of the community benefits provided by the health system's three hospitals were \$67.2 million from Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, \$4.2 million from Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Lincoln and \$3.7 million from Taylorville Memorial Hospital.

Additional community benefits totaling \$5.3 million came from Memorial Health System, its three other affiliates and Memorial Health Ventures, a nonprofit subsidiary of the health system. The totals provided by each were \$3.1 million from Memorial Physician Services, \$1.2 million from Memorial Health Ventures, \$902,000 from Memorial Home Services and \$60,000 from Mental Health Centers of Central Illinois.

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