



## Physicians Who Care

Physicians Who Care is a network of specialty physicians who volunteer to provide health care services to uninsured adults. It is designed to ensure a continuum of care exists for "the working poor" in the communities St. John Health System serves. Each physician pledges to see a self-defined number of patients per year. Currently, more than 400 physicians are registered in a common database using a web-based specialty referral network, which is maintained by the Physicians Who Care staff. The patient load is spread equally among all physicians that have agreed to participate in the project.

### Supports to the program include:

- Diagnostics and hospitalizations will be provided by St. John Health System hospitals.
- Prescriptions will be provided by the community health center where the patient sees their primary care provider.
- Malpractice will be provided for physicians who volunteer to see patients from this project.

## A National Health Concern

There are 46 million uninsured people in the United States today.

- Eight out of ten are in working families
- Eight million are children
- Live sicker and die younger than those with insurance.

These people find it difficult to access secondary, tertiary, and other services needed to maintain health and manage chronic diseases.

## Services Needed in Our Community

Although services are needed in all specialty areas, our target services include the following:

- Cardiology
- ENT
- Gastroenterology
- General Surgery
- Gynecology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Orthopedic
- Pulmonology
- Urology
- Vascular Surgery

## Why Should I Do This?

Most physicians decided to become a doctor – "To provide curing and caring services to anyone in need." This project allows them to actualize this goal.

### Some other benefits include:

- Non-paying patient load is shared evenly among a large number of practitioners.
- Practitioners can be public about their charity without being overwhelmed by patients.
- Comprehensiveness of Physicians Who Care Program ensures that recommended treatment, diagnostics and procedures are actually administered. As a result, the patient recovers and stays well, and the practitioner is not faced with treating the same problem again.
- Less time is spent finding specialists who will treat non-paying patients.
- This translates to an overall increase in safety net capacity.
- Data will document the amount of care donated by individuals as well as the overall group.



## Mission

St. John Health, as a Catholic health ministry, is committed to providing spiritually centered, holistic care which sustains and improves the health of individuals in the communities we serve, with special attention to the poor and vulnerable.

### *We Are Called To:*

Service of the Poor

Reverence

Integrity

Wisdom

Creativity

Dedication



## St. John Health System Voice For The Voiceless Strategy

The community recognizes St. John Health System as a critical partner and advocate in maximizing access to care for targeting populations through public – private partnerships.

### Who To Contact:

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