

## **Meeting Texas' Care Needs** THOT Member Hospitals: Four percent of Texas hospitals provide 44 percent of total charity care.



With more than 1 in 5 Texas adults under age 65 having no health insurance,<sup>1</sup> many Texans depend on hospital charity care programs for needed medical care.



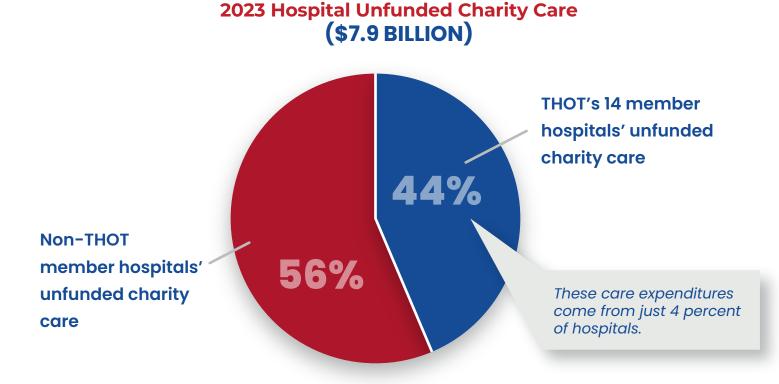
THOT member hospitals are critical to meeting the care needs of the uninsured. While they represent just 4 percent of Texas hospitals reporting charity care ("uncompensated care") to the state, they provided 44 percent of the \$7.9 billion in reported charity care in 2023.



Care for uninsured Texans is provided through an integrated system of care, including outpatient primary, specialty, and other care services, to increase access to timely care and provide care more cost-effectively than in emergency departments.



After all Medicaid payments are received for this care, THOT members still have \$2.1 billion of the \$5 billion in unreimbursed costs for charity care provided.





# Meeting Texas' Care Needs

HOSPITALS THOT Member Hospitals: Four percent of Texas hospitals provide 44 percent of total charity care.

THOT members have a decades-long strategy of providing integrated, cost-effective care at clinics in high-need neighborhoods.

This approach reduces expensive emergency department visits and inpatient hospital use and increases access to preventive care, early intervention, and chronic disease management, while improving health cost-effectively.

Based on a sample of six of our large hospital members, 97 percent of patient visits were in more cost-effective outpatient settings.

Access to care meets patients where they are: in their neighborhoods, schools, through telehealth, mobile clinics and homeless shelters.

<sup>2</sup>https://www.harrishealth.org/services-hh/outreach/Pages /healthcare-homeless.aspx

<sup>3</sup>https://thotonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/THOT -BH-JPS-compd.pdf

# SPOTLIGHT

#### Harris Health's

Healthcare for the Homeless program provides health care at homeless clinics and shelters and through mobile clinics and via telehealth to improve health outcomes and reduce avoidable emergency department visits in Harris County.<sup>2</sup>

# SPOTLIGHT

## JPS Health Network's

emergency behavioral health care center is the only emergency psychiatric center in Tarrant County providing emergency and ongoing care management through telehealth for patients with mental health needs, including those without insurance. The program has achieved the state's lowest readmission rate for behavioral health patients.<sup>3</sup>



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# **About THOT**

Teaching Hospitals of Texas is the state's principal voice and advocate for hospitals and health systems that teach, train, and mentor the next generation of physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals. THOT members anchor the state's trauma and disaster response infrastructure, provide world-class tertiary and community-based care, and support policies and funding to ensure healthcare access for all Texans.

According to Texas Government Code 305.027, this material may be considered "legislative advertising." Authorization for its publication is made by Maureen Milligan, Teaching Hospitals of Texas, 1210 San Antonio Street, Suite 204 Austin Tx 78701.

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