

Solidarity HealthShareSM Sharing Guidelines for 2016.

Please keep for your records.

Contact Information

For general information, help with your application, inquiries about the Suggested Monthly Share Amount, or how to submit medical expenses, contact:

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Because Solidarity HealthShareSM is not insurance, it is not subject to state or federal insurance regulations. However, certain states request that a notice about the Program be included in these materials as follows:

ATTENTION: This program is not an insurance company nor is it offered through an insurance company. This program does not guarantee or promise that your medical bills will be paid or assigned to others for payment. Whether anyone chooses to pay your medical bills will be totally voluntary. As such, this program should never be considered as a substitute for an insurance policy. Whether you receive any payments for medical expenses and whether or not this program continues to operate, you are always liable for any unpaid bills.

I. PROGRAM OVERVIEW.

Solidarity HealthShareSM is the program name of Melita Christian Fellowship Hospital Aid Plan, which is the non-profit organization that coordinates voluntary contributions for the sharing of qualifying health care costs between members. The program is based on shared ethical and religious beliefs, a religious tradition of mutual aid, neighborly assistance, and financial sharing. The program does not share expenses resulting from behaviors and lifestyles destructive to personal health, but is specially tailored for individuals who maintain a godly lifestyle, make responsible choices in regards to health, and believe in helping others.

Members share one another’s medical expenses, and Solidarity HealthShareSM serves only to facilitate this mutual sharing, directing member’s gifts to those who have eligible expenses.

A. Purpose of Guidelines.

These Guidelines are for use by Solidarity HealthShareSM in directing monthly contributions in accordance with the program’s Guidelines. The Guidelines describe the types of medical expenses the members have agreed to share among themselves.

B. Participation is Voluntary.

Monthly contributions are voluntary gifts and are not refundable. Each member is a self-pay patient and they send monthly contributions to assist another member who has medical expenses. Whether anyone chooses to share in another member's medical expenses is totally voluntary. Giving a monetary gift to assist another member in the program does not create a legally enforceable right to receive funds for healthcare expenses. Whether or not any member receives assistance from other members for medical expenses, members are always liable for their own medical expenses.

As a voluntary sharing ministry, we are always constrained by finite resources no matter how many members we may have. We are acutely aware that we cannot always be all things to all people, and may therefore decline participation to those who present active, pre-existing medical needs since such immediate expenses may strain our giving beyond our current capacity.

II. TYPES OF MEMBERS.

Three types of Membership are available for participants:

A. Sharing Member.

Sharing Members are those who wish to regularly participate each month by contributing the suggested Monthly Share Amount to share in another member's medical expenses. Sharing Members, when they experience medical expenses, may submit those needs for sharing among other members according to the Sharing Guidelines.

B. Provisional Member.

In the event a prospective Sharing Member presents information of a health condition that may be improved by a change in habits, lifestyle, or behavior, it will be at the discretion of Solidarity HealthShareSM to modify, change, or revise the acceptance of such an applicant on provisional terms. Such terms of conditional membership will be communicated to the prospective member to accept or decline during the time of application.

C. Solidarity Partner.

Solidarity Partners are those who wish to contribute an amount of their own choosing to assist with those who have medical expenses. Solidarity Partners are contributors only, and do not contemplate submitting needs to be shared. Solidarity Partners elect the frequency and amount of their contributions. Solidarity HealthShareSM selects and determines what medical expenses are submitted to Solidarity Partners for their giving and assistance and designates such needs as Compassion Projects. Compassion Projects are medical expense needs that are not eligible for sharing as defined by our Sharing Guidelines. We may select one or more of those needs for inclusion as a Compassion Project whereby we ask our Solidarity Partners to contribute, or ask our Sharing Members to give above their Suggested Monthly Share Amount to assist with those needs.

III. SHARING MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS AND FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION.

In order to become and remain a Sharing Member, a person must meet the following criteria:

A. Observe Christian Standards.

The modern medical cost sharing movement was founded by a small band of Christians to practically demonstrate how to fulfill the command by Christ to ‘bear one another’s burdens’. In accordance with that practice, we ask every member of Solidarity HealthShareSM to observe the following:

Strive to be a Christian who lives by biblical principles;

Practice the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity through sharing one another’s medical burdens (Gal. 6:10);

Attend Mass (or other Church service) weekly, unless excused for a serious reason, and be an active member in your church community; and

Be a good steward of yourself and your family’s health by setting healthy living as a priority (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

B. Accept Our Shared Beliefs.

The following beliefs are at the core of what we do and how we engage with one another as a community of people.

Solidarity HealthShareSM members come together to share medical bills, not because it’s convenient, nor because it may or may not be cheaper than insurance. We do it because it’s the **right** thing to do. We do it because we hold to beliefs of conscience based on moral, ethical and religious values. And it is these beliefs that compel us to support, care and help each other during times of crises.

These beliefs affect the way we live. First, the reason we share each other’s medical expenses is because we are compelled by God and conscience to do so. It is not a matter of convenience or cost savings. It is our ethical and religious code. Second, it is our biblical and ethical obligation to help our fellow man when in need. We **are** our brother’s keeper! Third, it is our spiritual duty to God and our ethical responsibility to ourselves and the cost-sharing community, to care for our bodies and maintain our health. Fourth, it is our moral and ethical right to make decisions about our healthcare and not to relinquish that right to others.

Solidarity consists of like-minded individuals who voluntarily share one another’s medical expenses. Our core beliefs are rooted in Sacred Scripture and in the Sacred Tradition of the Catholic Church. We seek to remain faithful at all times to the Ethical and Religious Directives of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition of the Catholic Church, which is in accord with the Amish-Mennonite doctrine as stated in Article V of the *Dordrecht Confession of Faith*.

These core beliefs mobilize our actions, and we relate to one another in community as a result of them. We ask that each member endorse the following Shared Beliefs:

1. We believe that our personal rights and liberties originate from God and are bestowed on us by God, and are not concessions granted to us by governments or men.
2. We believe every individual has a fundamental right to practice their religion freely according to their individual faith or belief in the God of the Bible.
3. We believe it is our moral and ethical obligation to be our brother's or sister's keeper under the principle of solidarity, according to our God-given resources and opportunity.
4. We believe in the virtue of temperance, which enables us to maintain a healthy lifestyle and avoid foods, behaviors, or habits that could produce sickness or disease.
5. We believe it is our fundamental right of conscience to direct our own healthcare, in consultation with physicians, family or other valued advisors, free from government dictates, restraints and oversight, including federal or state contraception and abortion mandates.

These beliefs form the religious and ethical basis for our interaction and relationship as a community. Each member is required to subscribe to the Statement of Shared Beliefs as evidenced by their signature on the Application Form. We make a somber and significant pledge to one another that we will aid, support and devote our resources to one another in this most personal area of our life: our healthcare!

C. Maintain a Godly Lifestyle.

Members highly value the spiritual principle that our bodies are gifts from God and we must respect and care for our physical bodies. Further, we have an ethical obligation to our fellow members to live healthy so as not to place any unnecessary burdens on those who are sharing with us. As a community of people we try our best to live out Jesus Christ's mandates.

To qualify as a Sharing Member, an applicant must comply with each lifestyle requirements contained in these guidelines, and must submit a detailed account of their medical history. In general, a godly lifestyle requirement includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Exercise the virtue of temperance – to avoid every kind of excess to include, but not limited to, the abuse of food, tobacco, alcohol, and medicine (prescription drugs).
2. Follow biblical teachings on the use or abuse of alcohol.
3. Avoid abuse of prescription drugs, which means consuming prescription medications in a manner not intended by the prescriber.
4. Abstain from the use of illegal drugs. Illegal drugs includes, but is not limited to: any banned pharmaceuticals, non-prescribed pharmaceuticals, synthetic drugs, hallucinogenic substances, barbiturates, amphetamines, cocaine, heroin or other opiates, marijuana, illegal intravenous drugs, narcotics and all substances declared to be illegal.
5. Intentionally incorporate exercise and good nutrition into one's daily life.

As a sharing ministry, we are always constrained by finite resources no matter how many members we may have. Existing medical conditions disclosed on an application can help us make suggestions as to spiritual or lifestyle changes that can improve the health of the individual and benefit the group as a whole. If, at any time, it is discovered that a Sharing

Member did not submit a complete and accurate medical history on the Membership Enrollment Application or on the Medical History Questionnaire, either a sharing limitation or membership declination may be issued retroactively to his/her effective date. In such an event, annual dues paid at the time of application will not be refunded. Sharing Members may apply to have a sharing limitation removed by providing medical evidence that they qualify for such removal. Sharing limitations and Sharing Membership declinations can be applied retroactively but cannot be removed retroactively.

D. Apply to be a Member.

Each person(s) applying for membership must submit a Member Enrollment Application, pay their annual dues, and be accepted into the Program by Solidarity HealthShareSM. Membership begins on the date specified by Solidarity HealthShareSM in writing to the Sharing Member. If a person(s) does not qualify for membership, the annual dues submitted at time of application will be returned.

E. Select Household Size.

Sharing Members enroll at a selected household size as either a single, couple or family. Depending upon household composition, couples and families may be subject to the provisions in Paragraph H below defining dependent children. Couples send more than singles, and families send more than couples.

1. A single is one Sharing Member;
2. A couple is two Sharing Members of the same household related by birth, marriage or adoption. This would include:
 - a. A married couple,
 - b. A parent/guardian and the second Sharing Member as a dependent child; or
 - c. Two dependent children, participating without either parent; (see guidelines regarding dependents below, Paragraph H), and
3. A family is comprised of three or more Sharing Members of the same household related by birth, marriage or adoption. This would include:
 - a. A married couple and one or more dependent children;
 - b. One parent/guardian and two or more dependent children, or
 - c. Three or more dependent children, participating without either parent.

F. Submit Dues and Suggested Monthly Shares.

To remain an active member, Sharing Members must submit membership dues and contribute a monthly share of at least the amount suggested by Solidarity HealthShareSM each month.

1. Membership Dues. Membership dues of \$125 are requested at the time of initial enrollment, and \$75 upon renewal, by the 5th day of the member's renewal month. If the membership dues are not received by the end of the renewal month, it is assumed that the member no longer desires to voluntarily participate and the membership will be terminated. A member's renewal will never be prevented or disallowed due to the amount of bills submitted for sharing in any prior year(s) of membership.

2. Monthly Share Amount and How It Changes. The Monthly Share Amount is the monetary contribution, not including the annual membership dues, voluntarily given to share in another member's medical expenses as suggested by Solidarity HealthShareSM. The Monthly Share Amount is determined by majority vote of the Board of Directors and is based upon the amount of bills submitted by members for sharing, the amount needed to administer the Program, and the number of participating Members. An annual advisory vote will be conducted of the Members to assess program features and changes and the will of the Members regarding the same. The Monthly Share Amount may be revised upward or downward as determined by majority vote of the Board of Directors in response to the advisory vote. Notice of such change, or no change, will be made to the Members in a timely manner, but no later than once per year.

3. Assigned Need. Each month a Sharing Member is assigned a specific need in which to share. By submission of the suggested Monthly Share Amount, the member instructs Solidarity HealthShareSM to assign his/her contribution as prescribed in these Guidelines which sets the conditions upon which Sharing Member medical expenses will be shared. The member designates Solidarity HealthShareSM as the final authority for the interpretation of these Guidelines. By participation in the Program, the Sharing Member accepts these conditions as enforceable and binding within the program for the assigning of his/her contribution.

During the first two months of membership, the share amount will be sent to Solidarity HealthShareSM to be used at the discretion of the ministry. After that, members will be assigned an individual "Share Box", a secure online means of contributing their suggested monthly share amount directly to another member in need. Suggested Monthly Share Amounts for eligible medical expenses are requested by the 5th day of each month until the last day of the same month. If the suggested Monthly Share Amount is not contributed by the end of the month, the membership is inactivated retroactively as of the last day of the preceding month.

Members practice the biblical teaching, "Give and it shall be given to you". Therefore, Sharing Members who participate regularly by sending their suggested monthly share amount to an assigned need will have their needs (if and/or when they occur) assigned to active Sharing Members. If a Sharing Member becomes inactive, they shall remain inactive Sharing Members until their next annual renewal date. An inactive Sharing Member is deemed to be equivalent to and the same as a Solidarity Partner member. An inactive Sharing Member will remain on the list of members until their next renewal date. Any eligible medical expenses they submit for sharing will be shared among the Solidarity Partners.

4. Administrative Costs. In addition to the first two months of membership (see III.F.3.), an administrative fee of \$24 is assigned to administrative costs from each Monthly Share Amount regardless of family size beginning the third month of membership and following. A single, couple or family membership all contribute \$24 from their Monthly Share Amount for administration. In addition, the annual membership dues are also utilized by Solidarity HealthShareSM to defray administrative costs. These amounts calculate together to formulate an administrative overhead. Administrative costs and their assessments to the members may be revised at any time by majority vote of the Board of Directors of Solidarity HealthShareSM. Notice of such change will be made to the members in a timely manner, but no later than once per year.

5. When Available Shares are less than Eligible Needs. In any given month, the available suggested share amounts may or may not meet the eligible needs submitted for sharing. If member's eligible bills exceed the available shares to meet those needs, the following actions may be taken:

- a. A pro-rata sharing of eligible needs may be initiated whereby the members share a percentage of eligible medical bills within that month and hold back the balance of those needs to be shared the following month.
- b. If the suggested share amount is not adequate to meet the eligible needs submitted for sharing over a 60-day period, then the suggested share amount will be increased in sufficient proportion to satisfy the eligible needs. This action may be undertaken temporarily or on an ongoing basis.

G. Notify When Withdrawing Membership.

As a help to other Sharing Members, any member who desires to withdraw their participation should send written notice of their discontinuation, including the reason for such discontinuation, by the 20th day of the month prior to the month in which contributions will cease. If such withdrawal occurs 30 days after their membership effective date, there shall be no refund of their annual dues.

A membership that is inactivated for less than 60 days is automatically reactivated on the first day of the month after the Sharing Member contributes a Monthly Share Amount for each month that the membership was inactive and if applicable, submits the annual membership dues. Needs occurring after a Sharing Member's inactivation date and before the reactivation date are not eligible for sharing, even after membership is reactivated. If a Sharing Member has been inactive for more than 60 days and an inactive Sharing Member wishes to become active within the Program, he/she must reapply as a new applicant, with no preferential treatment for acceptance. If membership was inactivated for not regularly submitting the Monthly Share Amount as requested, the inactive member(s) (other than dependent children who are reapplying on their own) must submit the first suggested monthly contributions with the application in addition to the annual membership dues, if applicable. Reactivating membership gives Sharing Members a new effective date and does not retroactively move the previous effective date forward.

H. List Dependents Accurately.

A dependent child may participate with his or her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) under a Sharing Membership up to and including age 19. This would include:

1. A Couple if the applicant is a parent/guardian and the second Sharing Member is an unmarried dependent child, or two siblings participating without either parent, or
2. A Family comprised of three or more persons of the same household related by birth, marriage or adoption, or three or more siblings participating without either parent.

An unmarried dependent child who is 20 through 26 years of age may participate in his or her parent/guardian's Sharing Membership only if he/she is a full-time student or assigned to a multi-month church mission or internship.

A full-time student is a person enrolled for a total of 12 or more resident credit hours in a high school, an accredited college or university, or a certified vocational/technical training school. Resident credit hours are those derived from courses offered on a semester or term

schedule that applies campus-wide. Full-time student status begins 30 days before the first day of classes in which a dependent is already enrolled, and the status is presumed through the last day of August if the dependent was a full-time student in April or May of that same calendar year.

Dependents may continue as Sharing Members with their parent/guardian if they are medically unable to continue as full-time students because of illness or injury, physical or mental disability. A physician or qualified health professional may be required to verify this disability. Full-time student status ends when a dependent reaches his/her 27th birthday. However, if the dependent has a medical condition that requires on-going treatment which has been accepted under the Guidelines as an eligible need, he or she must apply as a separate Sharing Member 30 days before their 27th birthday to permit that ongoing medical need to be regarded as eligible for sharing.

A dependent who wishes to continue membership but who no longer qualifies due to age must apply and qualify on his/her own merit as a new Sharing Member, and if he/she qualifies, may be subject to a sharing limitation. If the dependent applies within 30 days and is accepted within 90 days of the loss of qualification, the annual membership dues for the first year are waived. A newborn or newly adopted child may be added as a dependent to a membership (Couple or Family) provided all medical criteria is met within the program for acceptance. Such notification of birth or adoption, including any and all medical history or existing conditions, should be given in writing within thirty days after birth or finalized adoption. Such notice is the responsibility of the existing Sharing Member. Existing medical conditions disclosed for a dependent may result in a declination, or a limitation on the types of needs eligible for sharing.

The addition of a newborn or adopted member, may result in a change in household size and a change in the suggested minimum share amount. For example, a Single would become a Couple, and a Couple, would become a Family.

IV. MEMBER MEDICAL EXPENSES.

A. Medical Expenses Eligible for Sharing.

Medical costs are shared on a per person per incident basis for illnesses or injuries incurring medical expenses after the membership effective date when medically necessary and provided by or under the direction of licensed physicians, osteopaths, urgent care facilities, clinics, emergency rooms, or hospitals (inpatient and outpatient), or other approved providers of conventional or naturopathic care. Medical expenses eligible for sharing include, but are not limited to, home health care, physician and hospital services, emergency medical care, medical testing, imaging, ambulance transportation and prescriptions, unless otherwise limited or excluded by these Guidelines.

Total bills incurred must exceed an Annual Unshared Amount to be eligible for sharing (See IV. C. 1.). A Medical Expense Incident is any medically diagnosed condition receiving medical treatment and incurring medical expenses of the same diagnosis. All related medical bills of the same diagnosis comprise the same incident. Such expenses must be submitted for sharing in the manner and form specified by Solidarity HealthShareSM.

This may include, but not be limited to, standard industry billing forms (HCFA 1500 and/or UB 92) and medical records.

Members share these kinds of costs:

1. Hospital Charges. Inpatient or Outpatient hospital treatment or surgery for a medically diagnosed condition.
2. Physician's Services. Physician services for an Illness or Injury related to each medical incident.
3. Emergency Room. Emergency room services for stabilization or initiation of treatment of a medical emergency condition provided on an outpatient basis at a Hospital, Clinic or Urgent Care Facility, including when Hospital Admission occurs within 23 hours of emergency room treatment.
4. Prescription Drugs. Prescriptions 45 days before and after each related medical incident.
5. Chiropractic Treatment/Osteopathic/Naturopathic Physical Manipulation or Physiotherapy. Up to 12 visits per membership year for treatment of skeletal or musculoskeletal disease or injury.
6. Physical Therapy. Up to 20 visits per membership year for physical therapy by a licensed physical therapist. (See IV. C. 14 for more details)
7. Home Health Care. Skilled care services at home for up to 30 days by a Home Health Care Agency for each related medical incident provided such home care reduces the expected medical expense and replaces hospital or nursing home services.
8. Ambulance. Emergency land or air ambulance transportation to the nearest medical facility capable of providing the medically necessary care to avoid seriously jeopardizing the Sharing Member's life or health.
9. Naturopathic and/or Alternative treatments. (see IV.C.10.)
10. Prosthetics. Prosthetics, and their replacement, if medically necessary.
11. Medical costs incurred outside the United States. Charges for the care and treatment of a medically diagnosed condition when treatment outside the United States is financially beneficial or when traveling or residing outside the United States. Eligibility of such charges are subject to all other provisions of the Guidelines. Medical billing is requested to be submitted in English.

B. Medical Expenses NOT eligible for sharing.

Medical expenses arising from any one of the following are not eligible for sharing among members:

1. Abortion. Services, supplies, care or treatment in connection with an abortion that directly intends the termination of a pregnancy before viability or directly intends the destruction of a viable fetus.
2. Alcohol/Drugs. Services, supplies, care or treatment to a Sharing Member for an Injury and/or disease and/or bodily malfunction which occurred as a result of that Sharing Member's abuse and/or use of alcohol or drugs/pharmaceuticals, including Drug and/or Alcohol Rehabilitation Treatment.
3. Breast Implants. The placement, replacement or removal of breast enhancement devices and complications related to breast implants unless related to reconstructive mammoplasty.

4. Charges before or after Membership. Medical care, treatment or supplies for which a charge was incurred before a person was a Sharing Member or after membership ceased or became inactive.
5. Contraceptives. Services or counseling on contraceptive interventions rendering the procreative act impossible.
6. Complications of non-eligible treatments. Care, services or treatment required as a result of complications from a treatment not eligible for sharing.
7. Custodial care. Services or supplies provided mainly as a rest cure, maintenance, custodial care or other care that does not treat an illness or injury.
8. Dental Care. Dental prostheses and care or treatment of the person's teeth above or below the gums, except: the repair of sound natural teeth due to injuries that occur while the person is a Sharing Member.
9. Durable Medical Equipment. The purchase, rental or replacement of durable or reusable equipment or devices, including, but not limited to, orthotics, prosthetics, hearing aids, tubing, masks and their associated expenses.
10. Emergency Room Charges When Not an Emergency. When treatment at an emergency room is not judged to be an emergency by normal standards of medical care and when less costly treatment was available by taking reasonable measures to seek such care.
11. Exercise programs. Exercise programs for treatment of any condition, except for Physician- supervised cardiac rehabilitation and or physical therapy.
12. Experimental, Investigational or Unproven Services. Care and treatment that is either Experimental, Investigational or Unproven by the American Medical Association, FDA, or other industry recognized authoritative bodies, or that is illegal by U.S. law. Eligibility for sharing of such expenses may be reviewed on a case by case basis.
13. Eye care. Eye exercise therapy, radial keratotomy or other eye surgery to correct near-sightedness. Also, routine eye examinations, including refractions, lenses for the eyes and exams for their fitting. This exclusion does not apply to the initial permanent lenses following cataract removal.
14. Gross Negligent Acts. Expenses resulting from an illness or injury as to which the Sharing Member has acted with gross negligence or with reckless disregard to safety, as evidenced by medical records and as determined by Solidarity HealthShareSM.
15. Hair loss. Care and treatment for hair loss, hair transplants or any drug that promises hair growth, whether or not prescribed by a Physician.
16. Hearing aids and exams. Charges for services or supplies in connection with routine hearing exams, hearing aids, or exams for their fitting.
17. Hazardous Hobbies. Care and treatment of an injury or illness that results from engaging in a hazardous hobby. A hobby is hazardous if it is an unusual activity which is characterized by a constant threat of danger or risk of bodily harm. Examples of hazardous hobbies include, but are not limited to, rock/cliff climbing, spelunking, skydiving, or bungee jumping.

18. Hospital employees. Professional services billed by a Physician or nurse who is an employee of a Hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility and paid by the Hospital or facility for the service.
19. Illegal acts. Charges for services received as a result of Injury caused by engaging in an illegal act or occupation; by committing or attempting to commit any crime, criminal act, assault or other felonious behavior; including but not limited to illegal drug activity, crimes against persons, crimes against property and gun offenses.
20. Impotence. Surgical and non-surgical services for the treatment of impotence.
21. Infertility. Diagnostic, surgical repair, non-surgical repair, surgical impregnation and Prescription Drugs for the treatment of infertility.
22. Mental Health Services. Charges for psychiatric or psychological counseling, mental disability, learning disability, bereavement counseling, biofeedback therapy, psychological testing, treatment, medication and hospitalization.
23. Non-Emergency Transportation. Expenses resulting from transportation by ambulance for conditions that will not seriously jeopardize the Sharing Member's health or life are not eligible for sharing. Also, the additional expense for transportation to a facility that is not the nearest facility capable of providing medically necessary care is not eligible for sharing. (See IV.A.8.)
24. No obligation to pay. Charges incurred for which the Sharing Member has no legal obligation to pay.
25. Not a Medically Necessary Service. Care and treatment that does not meet the criteria of a Medically Necessary Service or is not specified as a Medically Necessary Service, or care, treatment, services or supplies not recommended and approved by a Physician; or treatment, services or supplies when the Sharing Member is not under the regular care of a Physician. Solidarity HealthShareSM reserves the right to review billing submitted by providers for payment, and upon review by a qualified medical professional, decline to share expenses deemed to be Not a Medically Necessary Service.
26. Outpatient prescribed or non-prescribed medical supplies. Outpatient prescribed or non-prescribed medical supplies including, but not limited to, over-the-counter drugs and treatments, elastic stockings, tubings, masks, ostomy supplies, insulin infusion pumps, ace bandages, gauze, syringes, diabetic test strips and similar supplies.
27. Personal comfort items. Personal comfort items or other equipment, such as, but not limited to, air conditioners, air-purification units, humidifiers, electric heating units, orthopedic mattresses, blood pressure instruments, scales, elastic bandages or stockings, non-prescription drugs and medicines, and first-aid supplies and non-hospital adjustable beds. This includes, but is not be limited to, outpatient prescribed or non-prescribed medical supplies, over-the-counter drugs and treatments, tubings, masks, ostomy supplies, ace bandages, gauze, syringes, diabetic test strips and similar supplies.
28. Professional Racing or Competitive Events. Charges for treatment of injuries or illness while racing or competing as a professional. Professional racing means that such activity is one's primary vocation and means of financial support. Professional racing and

competitive events include, but are not limited to, automobile, motorcycle, watercraft, ski or rodeo races or competitions.

29. Relative giving services. Professional services performed by a person who ordinarily resides in the Sharing Member's home or is related to the Sharing Member as a Spouse, parent, child, brother or sister, whether the relationship is by blood or exists in law.

30. Replacement braces. Replacement of braces of the leg, arm, back, neck, or artificial arms or legs, unless there is sufficient change in the Sharing Member's physical condition to make the original device no longer functional.

31. Self-Inflicted. Any medical expense due to an intentionally self-inflicted Injury, while sane or insane.

32. Sex changes. Care, services or treatment for non-congenital transsexualism, gender dysphoria or sexual reassignment or change. This includes medications, implants, hormone therapy, surgery, or medical or psychiatric treatment.

33. Sports-related safety/performance devices and programs. Devices used specifically as safety items or to affect performance primarily in sports-related activities. All membership, registration or participation costs related to physical conditioning programs, such as athletic training, bodybuilding, exercise, fitness flexibility and diversion or general motivation are not eligible.

34. Surgical direct sterilization or reversal. Charges for care and treatment for, or reversal of, surgical direct sterilization, including vasectomy and tubal ligation.

35. Travel or accommodations. Charges for travel or accommodations, whether or not recommended by a Physician.

36. War. Any costs that are due to a declared or undeclared act of war.

C. Sharing Limits.

The members of Solidarity HealthShareSM do not have unlimited resources and must be good stewards of the shared amounts contributed by other members. It is not possible to share all needs of all members. In order to both provide for the needs of Sharing Members and avoid burdensome suggested monthly share amounts beyond the ability of the member, total eligible needs for sharing among the members are limited as defined in this section and as indicated in writing to the individual Sharing Member.

1. Annual Unshared Amount. The amount of medical expense eligible for sharing must exceed an annual accumulative amount for each single, couple or family membership. Such annual amount shall be calculated upon each member's enrollment date until their next annual renewal date. Eligible needs are shared in excess of the first \$500 of any eligible need for a single member, or the first \$1,000 for a couple, or the first \$1,500 for a family membership. All eligible medical expenses that exceed the applicable Annual Unshared Amount shall then be subject to the program limits per incident selected by the member.

2. Case Management. In cases where the Sharing Member's condition is expected to be, or is, of a serious nature, Solidarity HealthShareSM may arrange for case management/alternative care services to be performed. Solidarity HealthShareSM may alter or waive the normal provisions of the Guidelines when it is reasonable to expect a cost-

effective result without a sacrifice to the quality of care. The use of case management or alternate treatment is always voluntary to the Sharing Member; however, the failure to participate may affect eligibility for sharing.

3. Cosmetic procedures. Cosmetic care and treatment provided for disfiguration caused by amputation, disease (including Acne), accident or breast reconstruction following a mastectomy, is eligible for sharing. All other elective cosmetic treatment, including but not limited to, pharmacological regimens; nutritional procedures or treatments; plastic surgery; salabrasion, chemosurgery and other such skin abrasion procedures associated with the removal or revision of scars, tattoos or actinic changes, is not eligible for sharing.

4. Excess Charges. In furtherance of the shared beliefs of all members, it is the mission of Solidarity HealthShareSM to assist members to manage, control and direct their individual healthcare and the costs of that care. This includes the duty of Solidarity HealthShareSM to protect its members from unfair and unreasonable charges submitted by providers of healthcare service. Solidarity HealthShareSM reserves the right, on behalf of its members, to determine what part of an expense for the care and treatment of an injury or illness is unfair or unreasonable, based on techniques, criteria and standards established or adopted by Solidarity HealthShareSM. It is the intention of Solidarity HealthShareSM to limit the sharing of charges determined to be unfair or unreasonable and will advocate on behalf of Sharing Members against any healthcare service provider demanding payment of such unfair charges.”

5. First Sixty-Days of Participation. For sixty (60) days after enrollment and acceptance as Sharing Member, medical expenses for any reason, other than accident, are not eligible for sharing among members.

6. Home Health Care. Skilled care services at home for up to 30 days by a Home Health Care Agency for each related medical incident provided such home care reduces the expected medical expense and replaces hospital or nursing home services.

7. Hospice Care. Hospice Care is limited up to 5 days of respite and /or comfort care in any 30-day period. Charges for Medical Social Services are limited to \$200 of eligible expense.

8. Hysterectomy. Expenses related to a Hysterectomy are eligible for sharing only when a second opinion is received from a physician approved by Solidarity HealthShareSM. The physician rendering a second opinion must examine the patient prior to surgery and must find that a hysterectomy is medically necessary. The Sharing Member must pre-notify Solidarity HealthShareSM prior to surgery for referral to the second physician.

9. Lifetime Limits. None

10. Naturopathic, Alternative Treatments and/or Integrative. Treatment provided by a Naturopath or other practitioner of alternative treatments is eligible for sharing if such treatment meets the following criteria:

- a. It is prescribed by a Physician.
- b. It is prescribed for a medically diagnosed condition.
- c. It is less invasive than conventional medical treatment for the diagnosed condition.

d. It is less costly than conventional medical treatment and is expected to prevent more costly future conventional treatment.

e. It is deemed safe.

f. It is presented for prior approval to Solidarity HealthShareSM and the member agrees to any alteration of the treatment plan made by Solidarity HealthShareSM.

11. Occupational or Work Related Injuries. Expenses arising from the care and treatment of an injury or illness that is occupational, or that arises from work for wage or profit, including self-employment, are not eligible for sharing. However, such expenses will be considered for sharing if:

a. the State in which the injuries occurred has no Worker's Compensation laws or requirement.

b. the State laws proscribing participation in the Worker's Compensation system of that State do not require the business owner and/or enterprise to participate in Workers Compensation. Documentation of such exemption may be required.

c. the business owner personally has an objection to his or her own participation in insurance based on religious conscience. Such a statement must be submitted in writing by the business owner and verified by Solidarity HealthShareSM.

12. Organ Transplant Limits. Expenses incurred in connection with any organ or tissue transplant may be shared among the members up to a maximum of \$125,000 per organ per lifetime. This includes, but is not limited to, expenses incurred in evaluation, screening, transportation, candidacy determination process, organ transplantation, organ procurement, donor expenses, follow-up care, immuno-suppressant therapy, and re-transplantation. This organ transplant limit includes, but is not limited to, transplantation of the heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, pancreas and bone marrow. Expenses incurred in connection with any organ or tissue transplant that exceed \$125,000 per organ are not eligible for sharing by members of *GUARDIANS GROUP*. (See V. *GUARDIANS GROUP* Guidelines)

13. Other Sources of Medical Expense Payment. Needs do not qualify for sharing to the extent that they are discountable by the health care provider or payable by any other source, either private, governmental or institutional, such as insurance, Medicare/Medicaid, Veterans Administration, Champus, private/public grants, or, in the event of an accident, by any liable third party. If the Sharing Member does not cooperate fully and assist Solidarity HealthShareSM in determining if his/her need is discountable or payable by another liable party, the need will become not eligible for sharing. And to the extent that such expenses are then subsequently paid by insurance, Medicare, Worker's Compensation, Medicaid, or any other liable third party, such expenses will be regarded as not eligible for sharing. *Please note that it is the official policy of Solidarity HealthShareSM to never require or ask a Sharing Member to seek assistance from government taxpayer supported aid programs.* However, in order to conserve the giving of the Sharing Members, it is the obligation of the member to pursue payment from any other responsible payer before submitting such medical expenses to Solidarity HealthShareSM for assistance. If a governmental, insurance, religious, liable third party, fraternal organization or any other financial assistance source will pay any portion of the qualifying medical bill, that amount

will offset any unshared and/or shared amounts applied to the members needs up to the total amount of the need. If the Sharing Member refuses to accept such assistance, then that portion of the medical need also becomes ineligible for sharing. This limitation applies to the Sharing Member in question unless the member declares, in writing, that accepting such assistance would violate his deeply held religious or ethical convictions. If the Sharing Member is 65 years of age or older, this limitation also includes needs that are payable by Medicare Parts A or B or D, whether the Sharing Member is enrolled in Medicare or not.

14. Physical Therapy. Up to 20 visits per calendar year for physical therapy by a licensed physical therapist in accord with a Physician's order to improve body function. The limit of 20 visits per membership year is combined with speech, and/or respiratory, and/or physical therapy, and/or occupational therapy visits.

15. Pre-Existing Conditions. Conditions that exist at the time of enrollment that have evidenced symptoms and/or received treatment and/or medication within the past 24 months are not eligible for sharing. After the first full year of continuous monthly membership, medical expenses incurred for a pre-existing condition within the 13th until the 24th continuous month of membership are eligible for sharing up to \$25,000. In the third year of continuous membership, medical expenses incurred within the 25th month until the 36th month for a pre-existing condition may receive an additional \$25,000 of eligible sharing, totaling \$50,000 of eligible cost sharing assistance. Upon the inception of the 37th month of continuous membership and thereafter, the condition may no longer be considered pre-existing.

16. Pre-Existing Condition Review. Medical expenses incurred within the first 90 days of membership may be subject to a pre-existing condition review, including, but not limited to, request for medical notes/records, hospital charts, surgical records or other relevant medical history information. Failure to fully disclose pre-existing condition information at the time of enrollment is a violation of our shared trust between members and may subject the member to termination of membership.

17. Pre-Notification of Medical Expense. Pre-Notification is a means of monitoring services for Medical Necessity to help ensure cost-effective care. Pre-Notification can eliminate unnecessary services, hospitalizations, and shorten inpatient confinements, while improving quality of care and reducing expenses shared by the members. **Certification of Medical Necessity by the Pre-Notification Staff does NOT establish eligibility for sharing nor guarantee that your needs will be met.** To be considered for cost sharing, all inpatient hospital admissions **MUST** be notified **IN ADVANCE** (Pre-notification) by calling the Pre-Notification hotline, except for emergencies. The term "Inpatient" includes any hospital admission that lasts more than 23 hours. The Sharing Member, their Physician, or their representative should call the Pre-Notification hotline at least seven (7) days prior to admission. To contact Pre-Notification, refer to the toll free number on the Sharing Member's Welcome Packet. **It is the responsibility of the Sharing Member to make sure that the Pre- Notification staff is contacted.** To be eligible for cost sharing, Pre-Notification is required for the following:

- a. Charges for all Inpatient Hospital Confinements (including Hospital, Skilled Nursing, Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility and Hospice)
- b. Organ/Tissue Transplant Services

- c. Emergency Admissions
- d. For all Home Health Care Services
- e. Outpatient Surgery

After admission to the Hospital, the Pre-Notification Staff will continue to evaluate the Sharing Member's progress to monitor the length of hospital stay and make a recommendation as to the maximum days of stay. The Sharing Member and his/her Physician will be advised. If the Pre- Notification Staff determines that continued hospital confinement is no longer necessary, additional days will not be eligible for cost sharing among the members. **Additional days not recommended by the Pre-Notification staff will not be eligible for sharing.**

All Emergency Hospital admissions AND Maternity admissions **MUST** be reported to the Pre- Notification Staff within forty-eight (48) hours following admission, or on the next business day after admission, to be eligible for sharing. If the Sharing Member is unable to Pre-Notify due to the severity of the Illness or Injury, then a Physician, or a responsible party representing the member should Pre- Notify at the earliest time reasonably possible.

To determine eligibility for sharing, all Emergency Admissions are reviewed retrospectively to determine if the treatment received was Medically Necessary, appropriate, and was for Emergency Services.

18. Provisional Member Expenses (HealthTrac). Members with certain preexisting conditions that are responsive to lifestyle changes are accepted into the membership based on a mutually agreed upon treatment plan between the provisional member and Solidarity HealthShareSM. Provisional members are assigned a health coach to monitor and encourage personal progress toward health goals. Health coaching sessions and related costs, including administrative fees charged by Solidarity HealthShareSM in its reasonable discretion, shall be paid for by the provisional member by remitting a monthly amount set, and revised from time to time, by Solidarity HealthShareSM. Certain expenses associated with that customized treatment plan may be eligible for sharing based upon review and case by case determination by Solidarity HealthShareSM, to include, but not be limited to, smoking cessation, weight loss or dietary control, diabetic testing supplies, or other program costs that may be eligible for sharing as an incentive to lifestyle change. The normal preexisting guidelines (see IV. C.15.) may be altered at the discretion of Solidarity HealthShareSM to encourage participation in the provisional membership program (HealthTrac) as conducted, revised and implemented by Solidarity HealthShareSM.

19. Wellness Visits. Charges for one wellness exam or physical, per membership year, for which there are no medical symptoms or diagnosis in advance, including, but not limited to, routine check-ups, labs, x-rays, pap smears and blood tests are eligible for sharing once every year not subject to the Annual Unshared Amount. Screening colonoscopies, PSA tests and mammograms are eligible for sharing once every two years up to and including age forty nine (49). Screening colonoscopies, PSA tests and mammograms are eligible for sharing for members fifty (50) years of age and older every year. Well baby visits, including immunizations, are eligible for sharing within the first year of birth.

D. Maternity.

For a mother who has been a Sharing Member prior to conception, medical expenses for

maternity are eligible for sharing up to the per incident limit per pregnancy (whether for a single or multiple birth pregnancy), subject to the applicable Annual Unshared Amount, including, but not limited to, charges and expenses arising from physician care, hospital or birthing center admissions, attendance by midwives, or home deliveries accompanied by a midwife or physician. Medical expenses for maternity ending in a delivery by cesarean section that is medically necessary because of complications that arise at the time of delivery are eligible for sharing up to the per incident limit per pregnancy (whether for a single or multiple birth pregnancy), subject to the applicable Annual Unshared Amount. Needs for maternity ending in a natural delivery but with complications that threaten the life of the mother or infant and requiring care or services not normally rendered at the time of delivery are eligible for sharing up to the per incident limit per pregnancy (whether for a single or multiple birth pregnancy) subject to the applicable Annual Unshared Amount. Medical expenses for a newborn arising from complications at the time of delivery, including, but not limited to, premature birth, are treated as a separate incident and limited to \$125,000 of eligible expense, subject to the applicable Annual Unshared Amount. Medical expenses for a newborn arising from complications at the time of delivery that exceed \$125,000, including congenital birth defects, are not eligible for sharing by members of *GUARDIANS GROUP*. (See V. *GUARDIANS GROUP* Guidelines)

E. Loss of Life Assistance.

For a Sharing Member, and/or his or her dependents, who die(s) after two years of uninterrupted participation as a Sharing Member, financial assistance to the surviving family will be provided by the Members according to the following schedule, and as listed on the Sharing Member's Enrollment Application:

Primary Applicant: \$10,000.00

Dependent Spouse: \$5,000.00

Dependent Child: \$3,000.00

Such financial assistance is to be used by the surviving family for end of life expenses, including, but not limited to, medical, pharmacy, ambulance/emergency transportation, funeral/burial expenses. All Applicants must place on file with Solidarity HealthShareSM, at the time of enrollment, a directive in the form so provided by Solidarity HealthShareSM as to who is to be designated by the Applicant as the recipient of such end of life assistance. A child applicant enrolled by a parent or guardian and whose enrollment application is signed on behalf of such child by a parent or guardian, and who at the time of death is younger than 18 years of age, will be assisted at the same amount as a dependent child. Members age 65 years of age or older may choose to participate in the end of life assistance at an additional share amount.

V. GUARDIANS GROUP.

A. GUARDIANS GROUP Participation Requirements.

1. Only Sharing Members of Solidarity HealthShareSM are eligible to participate in *GUARDIANS GROUP*.

2. Each Sharing Member household must participate in *GUARDIANS GROUP* with the same level of membership (single, couple, or family) as they participate in Solidarity HealthShareSM.
3. In addition to the monthly share amount for needs less than \$125,000, each participating Sharing Member household must contribute funds that will be dedicated for use in the *GUARDIANS GROUP* program. The monthly share amount may be revised upward or downward by majority vote of the Board of Directors of Solidarity HealthShareSM.
4. There is no annual or monthly administrative fee paid to Solidarity HealthShareSM for the administration of *GUARDIANS GROUP*.

B. *GUARDIANS GROUP* Expense Sharing.

1. All of the responsibilities of members and the requirements for submitting expenses for sharing as set forth in the Solidarity HealthShareSM Sharing Guidelines apply similarly to *GUARDIANS GROUP* participants except when the *GUARDIANS GROUP* Guidelines specifically provide otherwise.
2. When a Solidarity HealthShareSM member who participates in *GUARDIANS GROUP* has an eligible expense that is more than \$125,000; the amount of that expense that exceeds \$125,000 will be eligible for sharing among other *GUARDIANS GROUP* participants.
3. Only expenses eligible for sharing under the Solidarity HealthShareSM Sharing Guidelines will be qualified to be shared among *GUARDIANS GROUP* members. The only Solidarity HealthShareSM eligible expenses that would not qualify for sharing among *GUARDIANS GROUP* members are medical costs resulting from:
 - a. Congenital birth defects, or
 - b. Any organ or tissue transplant, or
 - c. A disease of the heart or arteries, or diabetes mellitus that developed while a person was a member of Solidarity HealthShareSM, but before they enrolled in *GUARDIANS GROUP*; or
 - d. Any other condition that developed while a person was a member of Solidarity HealthShareSM, but before they enrolled in *GUARDIANS GROUP*, unless a 12-month period has elapsed without symptoms, treatment, or medication, or
 - e. Genetic defects and/or hereditary diseases, and/or any type of cancer unless a 60 month period has elapsed from the last date of symptoms, treatment or medication that evidenced itself while such a person was a member of Solidarity HealthShareSM but not a member of *GUARDIANS GROUP*.
4. Non-discounted provider charges must first undergo discount negotiations with health care providers before being eligible for sharing among *GUARDIANS GROUP* participants.
5. Any *GUARDIANS GROUP* member who submits expenses for sharing must be a member in good standing, i.e. current with all monthly share amounts and/or annual dues with both Solidarity HealthShareSM and *GUARDIANS GROUP*.

6. Any *GUARDIANS GROUP* participant who does not submit his/her monthly share after two notices may be removed from participation and, once removed, will not be eligible for reinstatement.

C. Amending and Mediating the *GUARDIANS GROUP* Sharing Guidelines.

1. These Guidelines may be amended by the Solidarity HealthShareSM Board of Directors. The Board has the option of taking an advisory vote of the *GUARDIANS GROUP* participants.

2. If a member disagrees with a determination made by Solidarity HealthShareSM regarding a medical expense need submitted for sharing by *GUARDIANS GROUP* participants, they may ask for the matter to be handled using the mediation/ arbitration procedures specified in the Solidarity HealthShareSM Sharing Guidelines.

VI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND APPEAL

Solidarity HealthShareSM is a voluntary association of like-minded people who come together to assist each other by sharing medical expenses. Such a sharing and caring association does not lend itself well to the mentality of legally enforceable rights. However, it is recognized that differences of opinion will occur, and that a methodology for resolving disputes must be available. Therefore, by becoming a Sharing Member of Solidarity HealthShareSM, you agree that any dispute you have with or against Solidarity HealthShareSM, its associates or employees, will be settled using the following steps of action, and only as a course of last resort.

If a determination is made with which the Sharing Member disagrees and believes there is a logically defensible reason why the initial determination is wrong, then the Sharing Member may file an appeal.

A. 1st Level Appeal.

Most differences of opinion can be resolved simply by calling Solidarity HealthShareSM. A Member Services Representative will try to resolve the matter within 10 working days in writing.

B. 2nd Level Appeal.

If the Sharing Member is unsatisfied with the determination of the Member Services Representative, then the Sharing Member may request a review by the Internal Resolution Committee, made up of three Solidarity HealthShareSM officials: the Needs Processing Manager, the Assistant Director, and the Executive Director. The appeal must be in writing, stating the elements of the dispute and the relevant facts. Importantly, the appeal should address all of the following:

- What information does Solidarity HealthShareSM have that is either incomplete or incorrect?
- How do you believe Solidarity HealthShareSM has misinterpreted the information already on hand?
- What provision in the Solidarity HealthShareSM Guidelines do you believe Solidarity HealthShareSM applied incorrectly?

Within thirty (30) days, the Internal Resolution Committee will render a written decision.

C. 3rd Level Appeal.

Should the matter still stay unresolved, then the aggrieved party may ask that the dispute be submitted to three randomly chosen Sharing Members, in good standing and chosen by Solidarity HealthShareSM, who shall agree to review the matter and shall constitute an External Resolution Committee. Within thirty (30) days the External Resolution Committee shall render their opinion in writing.

D. Final Appeal.

If the aggrieved Sharing Member disagrees with the conclusion of his/her fellow Sharing Members, then the matter shall be settled by mediation and, if necessary, legally binding arbitration in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation, a division of Peacemaker Ministries. Judgment upon an arbitration decision may be entered in any court otherwise having jurisdiction. Sharing Members agree and understand that these methods shall be the sole remedy for any controversy or claim arising out of these Sharing Guidelines and expressly waive their right to file a lawsuit in any civil court against one another for such disputes, except to enforce an arbitration decision. Any such arbitration shall be held in Fredericksburg, Virginia subject to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Solidarity HealthShareSM shall pay the fees of the arbitrator in full and all other expenses of the arbitration; provided, however, that each party shall pay for and bear the cost of its own transportation, accommodations, experts, evidence and legal counsel, and provided further that the aggrieved Sharing Member shall reimburse the full cost of Arbitration should the Arbitrator determine in favor of Solidarity HealthShareSM and not the aggrieved Sharing Member. The aggrieved Sharing Member agrees to be legally bound by the Arbitrator's decision. The Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation, a division of Peacemaker Ministries, will be the sole and exclusive procedure for resolving any dispute between individual members and Solidarity HealthShareSM when disputes cannot be otherwise settled.

VII. AMENDING THE GUIDELINES.

A. Enacting Changes.

These Guidelines may be amended from time to time and as circumstances require by a majority vote of the Solidarity HealthShareSM Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has the option of first taking an advisory vote of the Sharing Members.

B. Effective Date.

Amendments to the Guidelines will take effect as soon as is administratively practical or as designated by the Board of Directors. Dates of Service of medical expenses submitted for sharing will be subject to the edition of the Guidelines in effect when recorded as received by Solidarity HealthShareSM and supersedes all other editions of the Guidelines and any other communication, written or verbal.

C. Notification of Changes.

Sharing Members will be notified of changes to the Guidelines in the normal course of

communication with members, but in no case any later than the membership renewal date of each individual Sharing Member.

VIII. SHARING MEMBER RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

As a Sharing Member of Solidarity HealthShareSM, you have certain rights and responsibilities.

A. Sharing Member Rights.

You have the right to:

1. Receive considerate, courteous service from all employees and representatives of Solidarity HealthShareSM.
2. Receive accurate information regarding program guidelines and eligibility of needs in both member literature and when in contact with Solidarity HealthShareSM.
3. Have medical expense needs processed accurately once all necessary documentation has been received.
4. Have all medical records and personal information handled in a confidential manner and in compliance with Privacy Standards.
5. Be informed about health care practitioners and providers giving discounted services to Sharing Members.
6. File a dispute when you have one without fear of prejudice or reprisal.
7. Make recommendations regarding program guidelines as part of the annual advisory process.

B. Sharing Member Responsibilities.

You have the responsibility to:

- 1) Read all Solidarity HealthShareSM materials carefully as soon as you receive them and ask questions when necessary.
- 2) Take personal charge of your medical care, and make informed and knowledgeable health care choices.
- 3) Learn how to promote your own health and wellness, eat properly, exercise, and eliminate harmful habits and stressors within your control.
- 4) Seek medical advice when appropriate, and understand the medical advice you receive.
- 5) Understand any diagnosis when given one and learn about its effects on your body and how you can help manage it.
- 6) Inquire about charges when possible, make cost comparisons between providers and make cost efficient choices.
- 7) Be informed about the policies and practices of Solidarity HealthShareSM and follow them for the benefit of all Sharing Members.

8) Be honest about your health conditions, and provide all pertinent information to your doctor, family members, and Solidarity HealthShareSM when needed.

IX. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

Commonly used terms used throughout the Guidelines and Enrollment Application are defined as follows:

1. Annual Unshared Amount is the amount of an eligible need that does not qualify for sharing.

2. Applicant means an adult Sharing Member participating by himself or herself; and/or their spouse, and/or a child(ren) enrolled by a parent or guardian, who certifies that he/she takes financial responsibility for the child(ren)'s sharing membership and who signs the enrollment application on behalf of the child(ren).

3. Application Date means the date Solidarity HealthShareSM receives the Membership Enrollment Application with the appropriate dues included.

4. Assignment of Member Shares Received for Eligible Expenses shall mean an arrangement whereby the Program Participant assigns their receipt of voluntary Member Shares for eligible expenses, if any, in strict accordance with the terms of these Sharing Guidelines, to a Provider. If a provider accepts said arrangement, Providers' rights to receive payment from the self-pay member for services rendered are equal to those received by the member from other Program Participants, and are limited by the terms of the Sharing Guidelines. A Provider that accepts this arrangement indicates acceptance of an "Assignment of Sharing" as consideration in full for services, supplies, and/or treatment rendered.

5. Complications of Pregnancy are conditions in evidence before the Pregnancy ends: acute nephritis, ectopic Pregnancy; miscarriage; nephrosis; cardiac decompensation; missed abortion; hyperemesis gravidarum; and eclampsia of Pregnancy.

6. Dental Care is any care rendered by a Dentist who is properly trained and licensed to practice dentistry and who is practicing within the scope of such license.

7. Dependent refers to the applicant's spouse; children (natural born or legally adopted of either spouse) or an unmarried person under the age of 26 who is the applicant's child by birth or legal adoption or for which the applicant has a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO). An applicant's stepchild is also a dependent so long as the applicant's spouse is also participating under the same sharing membership.

8. Discount Provider is any Hospital, Physician and other health care provider who has agreed to accept reduced fees for services rendered to Solidarity HealthShareSM members.

9. Eligible Medical Expenses is the charge for a service or supply provided in accordance with the terms of the Sharing Guidelines and approved for sharing, whose applicable charge amount does not exceed the program limits.

10. Excess means charges in excess of fair and reasonable consideration or reasonable fees, or are for services not deemed to be reasonable or Medically Necessary or for billed amounts found to constitute invalid charges, based upon the determination of Solidarity HealthShareSM or its delegate in accordance with the terms of the Sharing Guidelines.

11. Facility refers to any facility that provides medical services on an Outpatient basis, whether a Hospital-Affiliated Facility or Independent Facility.

12. Fair and Reasonable Consideration refers to an amount that would constitute fair and reasonable payment to a Provider for Services provided in accordance with the terms of the Sharing Guidelines and approved for sharing, under the facts and circumstances surrounding the provision thereof, taking into consideration the Cost to the Provider for providing the Services, the fees that the Provider typically accepts as payment for the Services from or on behalf of the majority of patients receiving the Services, the fees that Providers of similar training and experience in the same “area” most frequently accept as payment for the Services from or on behalf of the majority of patients receiving the Services, and the Medicare reimbursement rates for such Services. Regardless of typical practices of any Provider or other providers of comparable services, Fair and Reasonable Consideration shall not include amounts for any Invalid Charges.

13. Gross Negligence is a conscious and voluntary indifference to, and a blatant violation of, a legal duty. It is also a reckless disregard to safety.

14. Guidelines or Sharing Guidelines mean the documentation that describes the types of medical expenses shared by members and how Solidarity HealthShareSM functions to facilitate that sharing.

15. Hobby means an activity done regularly in one’s leisure time for enjoyment, pleasure or recreation.

16. Hospital refers to an institution that meets all of the following requirements:

- a. It provides medical and surgical facilities for the treatment and care of Injured or Sick persons on an Inpatient basis;
- b. It is under the supervision of a staff of Physicians;
- c. It provides 24 hour a day nursing service by Registered Nurses;
- d. It is duly licensed as a Hospital;
- e. It is not, other than incidentally, a place for rest, a place for the aged, a nursing home or a custodial or training type Institution, or an Institution which is supported in whole or in part by a Federal government fund; and
- f. It is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals sponsored by the AMA and the AHA.

The requirement of surgical facilities shall not apply to a Hospital specializing in the care and treatment of mentally ill patients, provided such institution is accredited as such a facility by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals sponsored by the AMA and the AHA. Hospital” shall also have the same meaning, where appropriate in context, set forth in the definition of “Ambulatory Surgical Center.”

17. License or Licensed or Licensure means, as to a person performing medical services, the applicable and current licensure, certification or registration required to legally entitle that person to perform such services in the state or jurisdiction where the services are rendered.

18. Marriage means the spiritual and legal union of one man and one woman under the covenant of matrimony and the laws of the state.

19. Maternity means medical expenses for the mother’s care pertaining to prenatal or infant delivery, and initial, routine hospital expenses for the infant. Maternity does not include complications of pregnancy or medical expenses for the infant beyond routine

hospital expenses, neither of which is subject to maternity provisions.

20. Maximum Eligible Amount or Maximum Amount or Maximum Eligible Charge shall mean the eligible amount to be shared for a specific item or charged expense under the terms of the Sharing Guidelines. Maximum Eligible Charge(s) may be the lesser of:

- a) Fair and Reasonable Consideration,
- b) The allowable charge specified under the terms of the Sharing Guidelines,
- c) The negotiated rate established in a contractual arrangement with a Provider or Preferred Provider Network, or
- d) The actual billed charges for services rendered.

The Program will assign for sharing the actual charge billed to the self-pay member if it is less than the fair and reasonable amount. The Program has the discretionary authority to decide if a charge is Usual and Customary and for a Medically Necessary and Reasonable service. The Maximum Eligible Charge will not include any identifiable billing mistakes including, but not limited to, up-coding, duplicate charges, and charges for services not performed.

21. Medical Expense Need is the charge(s) or expense(s) for medical services from a licensed medical practitioner or facility, or an approved practitioner of alternative treatments, arising from an illness or accident for a Sharing Member, and the fees incurred by Solidarity HealthShareSM to reduce such charges or expenses.

22. Medically Necessary Service means those health services provided for the purpose of preventing, diagnosing or treating an illness, injury, disease or symptoms. A Medically Necessary Service must meet each of the following criteria:

It is supported by national medical standards of practice;

It is consistent with conclusions of prevailing medical research that:

Demonstrates that the health service has a beneficial effect on health outcomes; and

Is based on trials that meet the following designs:

Well-conducted randomized controlled trials. (Two or more treatments are compared to each other, and the patient is not allowed to choose which treatment is received.)

Well-conducted cohort studies. (Patients who receive study treatment are compared to a group of patients who receive standard therapy. The comparison group must be nearly identical to the study treatment group.)

It is the most cost-effective method and yields a similar outcome to other available alternatives.

All new technologies, procedures and treatments are decided based upon the language above.

To help determine medical necessity, Solidarity HealthShareSM may refer to the Sharing Member's medical records and other resources, and may require a 2nd opinion from a healthcare professional chosen by Solidarity HealthShareSM.

23. Monthly Share Amount is the monetary contribution, not including the membership

dues or monthly administrative costs, voluntarily given to share in another member's medical expense need as assigned by Solidarity HealthShareSM according to the Sharing Guidelines.

24. Not Eligible for Sharing are provider charges not eligible for sharing in excess of the Maximum Eligible Amount, or other ineligible charges as defined by the Sharing Guidelines.

25. Outpatient means a patient who receives Services at a Hospital but is not admitted as a registered overnight bed patient; this must be for a period of less than twenty-four (24) hours. This term can also be applicable to services rendered in a Free-Standing Facility or Hospital-Affiliated Facility.

26. Physician refers to a person who is Licensed to perform certain medical services and holds one of the following degrees and/or titles: Medical Doctor or Surgeon (M.D.); Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.); Doctor of Optometry (O.D.); Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.); Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.); Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.); or Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.); Naturopathic Medical Doctor (NMD, ND); Doctor of Holistic Medicine (MDh).

27. Practitioner refers to a person legally entitled to perform certain medical services who holds one of the licenses, degrees and/or titles listed below, and who is acting within the scope of his or her Licensure when performing such services:

- a. Advanced Practice Nurse (A.P.N.) or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (A.P.R.N.)
- b. Audiologist
- c. Certified Diabetic Educator and Dietician
- d. Certified Nurse Midwife (C.N.M.)
- e. Certified Nurse Practitioner (C.N.P.)
- f. Certified Operating Room Technician (C.O.R.T.)
- g. Certified Psychiatric/Mental Health Clinical Nurse
- h. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (C.R.N.A.)
- i. Certified Surgical Technician (C.S.T.)
- j. Licensed Acupuncturist (L.AC.)
- k. Licensed Clinical Social Worker (L.C.S.W.)
- l. Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)
- m. Licensed Occupational Therapist
- n. Licensed or Registered Physical Therapist or Physiotherapist
- o. Licensed Practical Nurse (L.P.N.)
- p. Licensed Professional Counselor (L.P.C.)
- q. Licensed Speech Language Pathologist
- r. Licensed Speech Therapist
- s. Licensed Surgical Assistant (L.S.A.)

- t. Licensed Vocational Nurse (L.V.N.)
- u. Master of Social Work or Social Welfare (M.S.W.)
- v. Nutritionist, Licensed Nutritionist, Registered Dietician
- w. Physician Assistant (P.A.)
- x. Psychologist (Ph.D., Ed.D., Psy.D.)
- y. Registered Nurse (R.N.)
- z. Registered Nurse First Assistant (R.N.F.A.)
- aa. Registered Nurse Practitioner (R.N.-N.P.)
- bb. Registered Respiratory Therapist (R.R.T.)
- cc. Registered Speech Therapist (R.S.T.) or other Licensed Speech Therapist
- dd. Speech Language Pathologist

28. Pre-Existing Condition is a condition for which symptoms, medical advice, diagnosis, care or treatment was recommended or received within 24 months prior to the Member's Enrollment Date. Treatment includes receiving services and supplies, consultations, diagnostic tests or prescribed medicines. In order to be taken into account, the medical advice, diagnosis, care or treatment must have been recommended by, or received from, a Physician.

29. Professionals refers to Physicians and Practitioners.

30. Program refers to the medical cost-sharing program administered by Solidarity HealthShareSM.

31. Providers refers to Hospitals, Facilities, Physicians and Practitioners.

32. Reasonable means, in the discretion of Solidarity HealthShareSM, services or supplies, or fees for services or supplies which are necessary for the care and treatment of Illness or Injury not caused by the treating Provider. Determination that fee(s) or services are Reasonable will be made by Solidarity HealthShareSM or its delegate, taking into consideration unusual circumstances or complications requiring additional time, skill and experience in connection with a particular service or supply; industry standards and practices as they relate to similar scenarios; and the cause of Injury or Illness necessitating the service(s) and/or charge(s). Solidarity HealthShareSM retains discretionary authority to determine whether service(s) and/or fee(s) are Reasonable based upon information presented to Solidarity HealthShareSM.

33. Service(s) or Services and Supplies refers to services, procedures, treatment, care, goods and supplies the provision of use of which is meant to improve the condition or health of a Program Participant. A reference to Services with regard to a procedure, treatment or care, unless otherwise indicated, shall be deemed to refer also to the goods and supplies provided or used in such procedure, treatment or care.

34. Sharing Limitation refers to medical expenses arising from or associated with a

condition not eligible for sharing.

35. Sharing Member is a person who qualifies to participate monthly by contributing the suggested Monthly Share Amount for the medical expense needs of others and who qualifies to receive gifts from fellow Sharing Members for medical expense needs they may submit for sharing.

LEGAL NOTICES

The following legal notices are the result of discussions by Solidarity HealthShareSM or other healthcare sharing ministries with several state regulators and are part of an effort to ensure that Sharing Members understand that Solidarity HealthShareSM is not an insurance company and that it does not guarantee payment of medical costs. Our role is to enable self-pay patients to help fellow Americans through voluntary financial gifts.

GENERAL LEGAL NOTICE

This program is not an insurance company nor is it offered through an insurance company. This program does not guarantee or promise that your medical bills will be paid or assigned to others for payment. Whether anyone chooses to pay your medical bills will be totally voluntary. As such, this program should never be considered as a substitute for an insurance policy. Whether you receive any payments for medical expenses and whether or not this program continues to operate, you are always liable for any unpaid bills.

STATE SPECIFIC NOTICES

Alabama Code Title 22-6A-2

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary because no other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payment for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Arizona Statute 20-122

Notice: the organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company and the ministry's guidelines and plan of operation are not an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be completely voluntary because participants are not compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. Therefore, participation in the ministry or a subscription to any of its documents should not be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payment for medical expenses or whether this ministry continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Arkansas Code 23-60-104.2

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation is an insurance policy. If anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills, it will be totally voluntary because participants are not compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. Participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive a payment for medical expenses or if this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Florida Statute 624.1265

Solidarity HealthShareSM is not an insurance company, and membership is not offered through an insurance company. Solidarity HealthShareSM Share is not subject to the regulatory requirements or consumer protections of the Florida Insurance Code. 6.2.3

Georgia Statute 33-1-20

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary because no other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payment for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Idaho Statute 41-121

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary because no other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payment for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Illinois Statute 215-5/4-Class 1-b

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation constitute or create an insurance policy. Any assistance you receive with your medical bills will be totally voluntary. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Whether or not you receive any payments for medical expenses and whether or not this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Indiana Code 27-1-2.1

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor its plan of operation is an insurance policy. Any

assistance you receive with your medical bills will be totally voluntary. Neither the organization nor any other participant can be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Whether or not you receive any payments for medical expenses and whether or not this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Kentucky Revised Statute 304.1-120 (7)

Notice: Under Kentucky law, the religious organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and its guidelines, plan of operation, or any other document of the religious organization do not constitute or create an insurance policy. Participation in the religious organization or a subscription to any of its documents shall not be considered insurance. Any assistance you receive with your medical bills will be totally voluntary. Neither the organization or any participant shall be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. Whether or not you receive any payments for medical expenses, and whether or not this organization continues to operate, you shall be personally responsible for the payment of your medical bills.

Louisiana Revised Statute Title 22-318,319

Notice: The ministry facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company. Neither the guidelines nor the plan of operation of the ministry constitutes an insurance policy. Financial assistance for the payment of medical expenses is strictly voluntary. Participation in the ministry or a subscription to any publication issued by the ministry shall not be considered as enrollment in any health insurance plan or as a waiver of your responsibility to pay your medical expenses.

Maine Revised Statute Title 24-A, §704, sub-§3

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary because no other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. Participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive payment for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Maryland Article 48, Section 1-202(4)

Notice: This publication is not issued by an insurance company nor is it offered through an insurance company. It does not guarantee or promise that your medical bills will be published or assigned to others for payment. No other subscriber will be compelled to contribute toward the cost of your medical bills. Therefore, this publication should never be considered a substitute for an insurance policy. This activity is not regulated by the State Insurance Administration, and your liabilities are not covered by the Life and Health Guaranty Fund. Whether or not you receive any payments for medical expenses and whether or not this entity continues to operate, you are always liable for any unpaid bills.

Mississippi Title 83-77-1

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary because no other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payment of medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Missouri Section 376.1750

Notice: This publication is not an insurance company nor is it offered through an insurance company. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary, as no other subscriber or member will be compelled to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, this publication should never be considered to be insurance. Whether you receive any payments for medical expenses and whether or not this publication continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Nebraska Revised Statute Chapter 44-311

IMPORTANT NOTICE. This organization is not an insurance company, and its product should never be considered insurance. If you join this organization instead of purchasing health insurance, you will be considered uninsured. By the terms of this agreement, whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills as a participant of this organization will be totally voluntary, and neither the organization nor any participant can be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. Regardless of whether you receive payment for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills. This organization is not regulated by the Nebraska Department of Insurance. You should review this organization's guidelines carefully to be sure you understand any limitations that may affect your personal medical and financial needs.

New Hampshire Section 126-V:1

IMPORTANT NOTICE This organization is not an insurance company, and its product should never be considered insurance. If you join this organization instead of purchasing health insurance, you will be considered uninsured. By the terms of this agreement, whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills as a participant of this organization will be totally voluntary, and neither the organization nor any participant can be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. Regardless of whether you receive payment for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills. This organization is not regulated by the New Hampshire Insurance Department. You should review this organization's guidelines carefully to be sure you understand any limitations that may affect your personal medical and financial needs.

North Carolina Statute 58-49-12

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company and neither its guidelines nor its plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be voluntary. No other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payment for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally liable for the payment of your own medical bills.

Pennsylvania 40 Penn. Statute Section 23(b)

Notice: This publication is not an insurance company nor is it offered through an insurance company. This publication does not guarantee or promise that your medical bills will be published or assigned to others for payment. Whether anyone chooses to pay your medical bills will be totally voluntary. As such, this publication should never be considered a substitute for insurance. Whether you receive any payments for medical expenses and whether or not this publication continues to operate, you are always liable for any unpaid bills.

South Dakota Statute Title 58-1-3.3

Notice: The organization facilitating the sharing of medical expenses is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary because no other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the organization or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payments for medical expenses or whether this organization continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Texas Code Title 8, K, 1681.001

Notice: This health care sharing ministry facilitates the sharing of medical expenses and is not an insurance company, and neither its guidelines nor its plan of operation is an insurance policy. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary because no other participant will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, participation in the ministry or a subscription to any of its documents should never be considered to be insurance. Regardless of whether you receive any payment for medical expenses or whether this ministry continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Complaints concerning this health care sharing ministry may be reported to the office of the

Texas attorney general.

Virginia Code 38.2-6300-6301

Notice: This publication is not insurance, and is not offered through an insurance company. Whether anyone chooses to assist you with your medical bills will be totally voluntary, as no other member will be compelled by law to contribute toward your medical bills. As such, this publication should never be considered to be insurance. Whether you receive any

payments for medical expenses and whether or not this publication continues to operate, you are always personally responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.

Wisconsin Statute 600.01 (1) (b) (9)

ATTENTION: This publication is not issued by an insurance company, nor is it offered through an insurance company. This publication does not guarantee or promise that your medical bills will be published or assigned to others for payment. Whether anyone chooses to pay your medical bills is entirely voluntary. This publication should never be considered a substitute for an insurance policy. Whether or not you receive any payments for medical expenses, and whether or not this publication continues to operate, you are responsible for the payment of your own medical bills.