

# BOARD DIRECTED POLICY

**To:** BCC Employees

**From:** Taryn Kryzda, County Administrator

**Subject:** Health Care Responsibility Act

**Effective Date:**

**Created by:** Human Services

**BCC Meeting:**

**Agenda #:**

**Item #:**

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## PURPOSE

Mandated by Florida Statute 154.301, Martin County Board of County Commissioners follows the Health Care Responsibility Act (HCRA) in providing out-of-county emergency inpatient hospitalization for indigent residents of Martin County at participating hospitals.

The intent of this program is to provide qualified Martin County residents with financial assistance to offset hospital charges they incur as the result of an emergency visit to a participating hospital located outside of Martin County.

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## POLICY

As mandated by Florida Statute, the Martin County Board of County Commissioners allocates funding to support the HCRA program. This program is managed by the County's Department of Human Services.

HCRA funding may be used to the extent allowable by the Florida HCRA guidelines to off-set care expenses incurred by the applicant for the visit associated with the application.

The Martin County Board of County Commissioners is authorized and empowered to levy a tax of not less than one fourth mill nor more than two mills per annum on the assessed valuation of all taxable real and personal property in Martin County for the purpose of providing funds for payment of health care services for residents of Martin County. The revenues from this tax are to be paid into the County health care fund.

These funds shall be used by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners to pay for:

1. Hospitalization, administrative costs and costs of doctors' services incidental to and included in the cost of hospital care, within Martin County for indigent residents of Martin County.
2. Health care programs required by Florida Statutes to be funded by counties.
3. Other health care programs based upon a level of service to be determined from time to time by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners.

All unexpended moneys in the County health care fund at the end of each budget year shall remain in the County health care fund from year to year. Disbursements from the County health care fund shall be by check of the Martin County Board of County Commissioners signed by its chairman upon the approval of a majority of its members.

Eligibility is determined by the Florida HCRA guidelines, which can be found on the Agency for Health Care Administration's website ([www.ahca.myflorida.com](http://www.ahca.myflorida.com)). An applicant must have been a resident of Martin County at the time of their emergency hospital visit. Proof of residency is required.

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**DEFINITIONS**

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N/A

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**PROCEDURE (optional if only preparing Policy)**

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**Suppression History:**

Supression History here  
(example: 264 – December 15, 2019)