Looking for comment on Treasurer Folwell's report on medical debt

Hi Rose. Please see our statement below which you can attribute to Atrium Health. I ask that you include as much as possible in your reporting and include the statement in its entirety for any online version of your story.

Thank you.
Kate

With over 15 million patient interactions each year, Atrium Health has the privilege of caring for each community member in a way that is personalized for their specific needs. Atrium Health doesn’t turn away anyone needing medical care, regardless of their ability or inability to pay for their care. In 2021 alone, we provided $2.46 billion in free and uncompensated care and other community benefits.

When patients accumulate bills and need help, and we are provided with the proper information, we can help them select plans or programs that could help them resolve – and eliminate – their debt. In fact, an average of 275 patients each day never receive a bill for the care they received, totaling over $437 million each year. We recognize that each patient's financial situation can change quickly or over time and we have over 150 teammates dedicated to working with them to determine if financial assistance is available for their specific scenario. This can be in the form of full or partial forgiveness of balances, discounts or establishing an interest-free payment plan that works for the patient. As a current practice, Atrium Health does not file any lawsuits against patients, nor do we execute on any liens or foreclose on property that were filed previously.

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Atrium Health
AtriumHealth.org

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From: Editor Editor <editor@northcarolinahealthnews.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 2:03 PM
To: Hacker, Brian E <Brian.Hacker@atriumhealth.org>; Fogleman, Daniel <Dan.Fogleman@atriumhealth.org>; Atrium Health Media <Media@atriumhealth.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Looking for comment on Treasurer Folwell's report on medical debt

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