



WEIRTON MEDICAL CENTER

### **Presumptive Charity Care**

Weirton Medical Center understands that certain patients may be unable to complete a financial assistance application, comply with request for documentation, or are otherwise non-responsive to the application process. As a result, there may be circumstances under which a patient's qualification for financial assistance is established without completing the formal assistance application. For patients who are non-responsive to Weirton Medical Center's application process, other sources of information, such as estimated income and family size provided by a predictive model or information from a recent Medical Assistance application, may be used to make an individual assessment of financial need. This information will enable Weirton Medical Center to make an informed decision on the financial need of non-responsive patients utilizing the best estimates available in the absence of information provided directly by the patient.

For the purpose of helping patients with financial need, Weirton Medical Center may utilize a third-party to review the patient's information to assess financial need. This review utilizes a healthcare industry-recognized, predictive model that is based on public record databases. The model incorporates public record data to calculate a socio-economic and financial capacity score that includes estimates for income, resources, and liquidity. The model's rule set is designed to assess each patient to the same standards and is calibrated against historical financial assistance approvals for Weirton Medical Center. The predictive model enables the hospital to assess whether a patient is characteristic of other patients who have historically qualified for financial assistance under the traditional application process.

Information from the predictive model may be used by Weirton Medical Center to grant presumptive eligibility in cases where there is an absence of information provided directly by the patient. Where efforts to confirm coverage availability have been unsuccessful, the predictive model provides a systematic method to grant presumptive eligibility to financially needy patients. Presumptive screening provides benefit to the community by enabling Weirton Medical Center to systematically identify financially needy patients, reduce administrative burdens, and provide financial assistance to patients who have not been responsive to the financial assistance application process.