

CONNECTICUT HOSPITALS MAKE US BETTER BY CARING FOR CONNECTICUT



Hospitals' doors are always open, their lights are always on, and caregivers are always ready to help.

The cornerstones of their communities...

- **Provide 24/7 care to every patient**, regardless of their ability to pay
- **Deliver nationally recognized, high-quality care** that improves lives and strengthens communities
- **Invest in communities** through initiatives that connect patients to health screenings, nutritious food, stable housing, and other essential resources
- **Support nearly 250,000 jobs** inside and outside the hospital
- **Bolster the economy** as major purchasers of local goods and services

...even when faced with enormous challenges

- **Critical healthcare workforce shortage**
- **Continued financial challenges** exceeding national and regional trends
- **Recent federal policies** – particularly Medicaid cuts and the failure to extend enhanced health insurance subsidies
- **Pressure from rising expenses** related to operational costs; such as prescription drugs, electricity, and supplies; and workforce costs
- **Systemic cost drivers**, including burdensome commercial insurance practices, regulatory roadblocks, and insufficient Medicaid and Medicare payments

HOW YOU CAN HELP

State government and local lawmakers are key partners in providing high-quality, affordable, and accessible care to every patient.

Support Accessible Healthcare

- **Keep hospitals sustainable** so they can continue contributing to healthy communities and a strong economy
- **Ensure the hospital tax supports patient care** by enhancing the Medicaid program and strengthening hospitals
- **Collaborate to increase Medicaid rates** to cover the cost of care
- **Oppose policies that would further strain hospitals**, such as cost growth benchmark penalties, arbitrary caps on commercial payments, site-neutral payment cuts, and additional restrictions on facility fees

Support Healthcare Workers

- **Bolster hospitals' recruitment and retention efforts**, including by easing the path to education and employment, amplifying awareness of diverse job opportunities, and opposing harmful federal policies impacting student loans and access to education
- **Elevate workplace safety** and violence prevention strategies to promote well-being and resilience

Support Vulnerable Communities

- **Partner with hospitals** to advance health equity, improve maternal health outcomes, and address social, economic, and environmental drivers of health
- **Protect against federal policies** that jeopardize patients' health insurance coverage, harm access to care and critical services, and escalate uncompensated care costs
- **Invest in behavioral health** services and care
- **Preserve the 340B Drug Program**, which helps hospitals provide free and reduced-cost care and sustain community benefit initiatives
- **Address unfair commercial insurance practices**, like excessive prior authorization, that impede medically necessary treatment and timely patient discharge to appropriate care settings

QUESTIONS? Contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7301