



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

# Health Freedom Minute

April 13, 2018

## Charity Care Takes a Nosedive

A nursing association claims steep cuts in charity care at the Detroit Medical Center, owned by Tenet. In 2013, a year before Obamacare enrollment began, charity care was \$22.9 million. In 2016, it only provided \$470,000 in charity care. Tenet says the report fails to talk about bad debt.

But bad debt is money the hospital expects to receive and doesn't get. Charity care is what the hospital provides freely, without requiring payment. The hospital's uncompensated care costs may be the same, but if charity care is down, the hospital is not as charitable as it once was. Perhaps it's limiting charity by pushing people to enroll in Obamacare.

**"Michigan Nurses Blast Tenet Over Decline in Charity Care,"** Meg Bryant, Healthcare Dive, March 23, 2018: <https://www.healthcarediver.com/news/michigan-nurses-blast-tenet-over-decline-in-charity-care/519803/>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 47 states:  
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