

CHA and Connecticut's Congressional Delegation: *Working Together for Our Hospitals*

CHA thanks all members of Connecticut's congressional delegation for their efforts on behalf of Connecticut's hospitals during the development of healthcare reform. Your assistance on several issues was invaluable, of particular note:

- ✓ The early adoption provision that has allowed Connecticut to file a Medicaid state plan amendment effective April 1, 2010, to move the SAGA population to Medicaid - which we have requested for nearly seven years.
- ✓ A reversal of CMS policy concerning within-state budget neutrality for the rural floor.
- ✓ The specific extension of the 508 wage index adjustment to hospitals in Connecticut.
- ✓ A study of Medicare-dependent urban hospitals that may result in significant benefit to several Connecticut hospitals.

We look forward to continuing to work with you as this far-ranging law is implemented. If you have any questions or need more information about how Connecticut hospitals contribute to the well-being of our state, please don't hesitate to call us.

Each year, Connecticut hospitals:

- Provide care for nearly 430,000 patients admitted to their facilities, accounting for more than 2 million days of inpatient care.
- Treat more than 1.5 million patients in their emergency rooms.
- Provide additional outpatient care to another 2.5 million patients through ambulatory surgery, cardiac rehabilitation, and other services.
- Welcome more than 40,000 babies into the world.

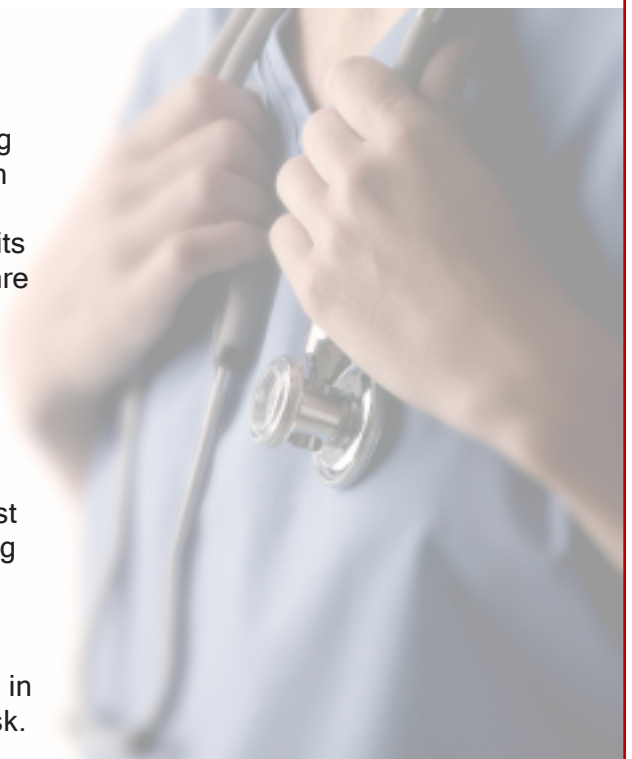
Actions Needed

Continue to work with CHA:

Continue to work with CHA and Connecticut hospitals during implementation of healthcare reform to ensure hospitals can provide the highest quality and safest care. Specifically, we will seek your help in making sure Connecticut administers its Medicaid program consistent with the objectives of healthcare reform and that we take full advantage of all opportunities available through the ARRA.

Pension Funding Relief:

We ask your support for pending legislation that will bring much needed pension funding relief to all employers, including hospitals. This critical relief is necessary to assist employers struggling to recover from losses incurred during the recession while meeting their obligation to employees and retirees. Without pension funding relief, currently being addressed in a House-Senate conference, current pension funding requirements will likely cause an increase in unemployment and put defined benefit pension plans at risk.



Community Benefit Initiatives

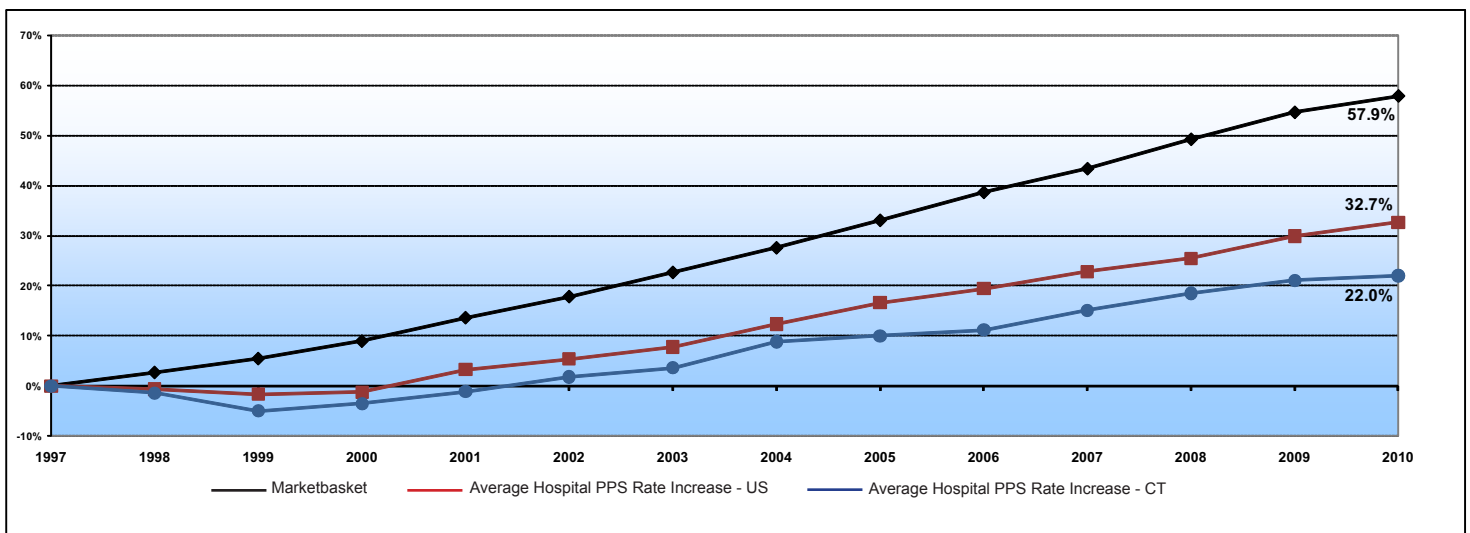
In 2008, Connecticut hospitals spent more than \$789 million on community benefit initiatives - that's 9.6 percent of total hospital revenue - and provided more than 11 million community benefit services to individuals and families.

Hospitals Are Critical Economic Engines

Hospitals play a significant role in the economy of local communities and the state as a whole. Connecticut hospitals have an impact of more than \$12.8 billion annually on the state and local economies - about 6 percent of the Gross State Product.

Financial Challenges Posed by Medicare

Cumulative Connecticut Medicare Hospital Rate Increases vs. Marketbasket Cost Increases (FY 1997 - FY 2010)



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For more information, please visit www.cthosp.org

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