

NOTICE OF LIENS

- State law creates an automatic lien against your real and personal property in favor of the county and the state (if your bills exceed \$11,000 and your application is approved, the state may pay some or all your remaining medical bills). This lien became effective as soon as your application was filed with Indigent Services, regardless of who files the application.
- The purpose of a lien is to preserve the county and state's interest in recovering any funds paid toward your medical bills by the county or the state. By law, both the county and the state have a right to recover all or a portion of those funds.
- A lien declares the county's interest in any property you now own or may own in the future.
- The county does not make it a practice to foreclose on its liens. If you buy property in the future or refinance your mortgage, the county's lien will have to be addressed at that time. Have your title company contact the county.
- The county does not freeze assets or bank accounts unless they involve large sums of money.
- Please be advised that the county's liens will interrupt any settlement payments to be made to you from an insurance company, Lottery Winnings, Inheritance, Lawsuit awards, Tax Refunds or any other funds you may become entitled to.
- The liens do not take your property away from you. The liens merely protect the interests of the county and the state who may pay your medical bills.
- If your application is denied, the liens will be removed once the appeal periods have passed; or after all filed appeals have been finally acted upon by the appeals tribunal (the county or the courts).
- If the county pays medical bills it pays at the Medicaid rate (a lower rate than the billed charges) and the providers accept this as payment in full so the patient is not responsible to the providers for the balance.
- The liens will stay in place until the county and the state have been repaid all the funds they expended on your behalf.

- Since liens involve legal issues, Indigent Services staff cannot answer any questions about liens. If you have questions, please consult an attorney.

I have read this document.

Applicant's Signature

Date