Seton Healthcare Family participates in the 340B Drug Pricing Program to help fulfill its Mission of serving the poor and vulnerable in Central Texas, including the greater Austin area.

**Accessing 340B to Benefit Local Patients**
The 340B Drug Pricing Program requires drug manufacturers to provide outpatient drugs to eligible healthcare providers at significantly reduced prices. Only nonprofit healthcare organizations with specific federal designations are eligible to participate and must provide drugs only to eligible patients. In the past seven years, the number of eligible 340B sites at Seton Healthcare Family facilities has grown from one to five because of eligible status determined by community need:

- **University Medical Center Brackenridge** is a disproportionate share hospital (DSH) in Austin
- **Seton Northwest Medical Center** is a DSH in Austin
- **Seton Edgar B. Davis Hospital** is a critical access hospital (CAH) in Luling
- **Seton Highland Lakes Hospital** is a CAH in Burnet
- **Dell Children’s Medical Center of Central Texas** is the only standalone children’s hospital in Austin

**The 340B Drug Pricing Program Needs Your Support**
Seton Healthcare Family has participated in the 340B program for more than 10 years. Its participating hospitals are the first place those most in need turn for treatment. In fact, University Medical Center Brackenridge, the only Level I trauma center in Central Texas and community safety-net hospital, sees more uninsured patients than any other hospital in Central Texas.

“At Brackenridge, we receive many patients who are sent directly to us from other facilities. These facilities send patients because they know we will treat them regardless of their ability to pay,” said Shewan Aziz, Director of Pharmacy at University Medical Center Brackenridge. “We provide inpatient services for almost all of the area’s uninsured.”

Of people who seek care from Seton, 30 to 35 percent are uninsured, underinsured or have Medicaid. As the region’s largest community service organization, Seton contributed more than $481 million in 2014 to care for the poor and to benefit our community. The 340B program provided the hospital approximately $3.8 million in savings in FY2015, and allowed the organization to provide $1 million in drugs to patients at no charge.
OUR APPROACH

All of Seton’s 340B savings are reinvested to maintain and expand pharmacy-run ambulatory clinics, which allow pharmacists to provide routine, follow-up and continuity of care to uninsured and underinsured patients. Savings also support a Coumadin clinic at Seton Burnet Healthcare Center, which would most likely close without funding from 340B.

340B Patient Stories
The patients receiving services at Seton typically have no alternatives for care. This is particularly true of those in need of oncology services to treat cancer. “Many oncology patients come to us when they need to begin a second line of treatment after receiving their first line of treatment at an outside location. Often, the second line of treatment is very expensive and patients can’t afford to pay full price for the medication. They know Seton will help them afford their care,” said Aziz.

“This type of treatment would not be possible, without 340B. For example, at outside locations, patients can expect to pay retail cost of approximately $30,000 for a new skin cancer medication. At Seton, the 340B program helps us reduce the cost to the patient and allows us to continue serving the poor and vulnerable population and remain sustainable,” added Aziz.

Seton Healthcare Family relies on 340B to provide medications to its rural, poor, and vulnerable patients. We ask for your support of this important program.

About Seton Healthcare Family
Seton Healthcare Family, a member of Ascension, is a faith-based non-profit health care system founded in 1902 by the Daughters of Charity. Called to be a sign of God’s unconditional love for all, Seton strives to expand access to high-quality, low-cost, person-centered care and services. In Austin and throughout Central Texas, Seton operates more than 100 clinical locations, including four teaching hospitals that will be training sites for Dell Medical School at The University of Texas starting in 2016. One of those training sites is a world-class pediatric medical center with its own Level I trauma center. Seton conducts research in the prevention and treatment of stroke, traumatic injury, epilepsy and cardiovascular disease. Seton collaborates with employers, commercial insurance companies, community physicians, nonprofit agencies and government entities to create clinically integrated systems of care with providers throughout its 10,000-square-mile service area. Seton employs about 12,700 and is a major contributor to the Central Texas economy. Over the past decade, Seton has donated $2.5 billion in care to underserved patients with help from generous donors and volunteers.

About Ascension
Ascension (www.ascension.org) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world’s largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. In FY2016, Ascension provided more than $1.8 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs. Approximately 150,000 associates and 36,000 aligned providers serve in 2,500 sites of care – including 141 hospitals and more than 30 senior living facilities – in 24 states and the District of Columbia. Ascension has 40 hospitals participating in the 340B program. Of these, 16 are critical access hospitals (small, rural hospitals), 12 are disproportionate share hospitals and the 12 remaining fall into a variety of other categories, including sole community hospitals, consolidated health center programs and rural referral centers. Participation in the 340B program allowed Ascension to save $171 million on prescription drugs last year, which was reinvested in programs that serve those most in need.