



Medical
Debt

TO LEARN MORE CONTACT

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WHO ARE WE?

We are a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit whose purpose is to abolish financially burdensome medical debt around the United States.

Since being founded in 2014, we have erased over \$20.3 billion of medical debt for over 13 million families.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Our model mimics for-profit debt buyers by using fundraised dollars to purchase medical debt in large, bundled portfolios for pennies on the dollar. One dollar donated erases an average of \$100 of medical debt. We purchase medical debt from various sources including hospitals, physician practices and debt collectors. Once we own the debt, we notify the thousands of individuals whose debt(s) we purchased that we are freeing them of any obligation to pay (and removing negative credit marks associated with the debt).

We work with diverse donors across the country to abolish medical debt. Our model creates giving opportunities at all financial levels. Donor pathways include: individual and corporate giving, public-private partnerships, and government contracts ([read more from the NYT](#)). As medical debt gains attention, people and communities are demanding relief. We provide a powerful solution while highlighting the broken healthcare financing system through storytelling and education. Lasting solutions will require all stakeholders coming together.

OUR PURPOSE

1 —

Be a source of justice in an unjust healthcare finance system, by combining the generosity of donors with the existing debt industry to produce a high volume of debt relief (reducing mental and financial distress for millions of people).

2 —

Furnish healthcare providers with a way to strengthen communities by relieving debt. We also offer to partner with them to refine their financial aid programs to better serve people.

3 —

Bring attention to the negative impacts caused by medical debt to spur change toward a more transparent, equitable and affordable healthcare system.

WHY IS OUR WORK IMPORTANT?

- Medical debt is the leading cause of bankruptcy in the United States.
- Data shows that people nationwide owe at least \$195 billion in medical debt.
- People fear medical debt and often delay or avoid care.
- More than 100 million Americans have medical debt, nearly 1 in 3 adults.
- No one chooses to become sick, have a chronic illness or be in an accident. These are debts of necessity that we cannot allow to ruin lives.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR DEBT RELIEF?

4X Earn less than 4x the federal poverty level.

5% Debts are 5% or more of annual income.

HOW WERE WE FOUNDED?

We launched in July, 2014, by former collection industry executives with decades of experience who put their industry knowhow to work to abolish debt rather than collect it.

[More Info](#)