



## Guidelines for Church-Sponsored Health Fairs

Church parishes and apostolates may find the need to, as part of community-outreach, to sponsor health fairs where attendees can learn about health resources in the local community. This is often to help people that lack such information due to economic and cultural barriers. The following are guidelines that should be followed to minimize liability and ensure conformity with Church teaching.

- A health fair should seek primarily to educate attendees and connect them to government, community, and other outside healthcare resources.
- No healthcare provider or vendor may be present if the provider's business in any way promotes or provides abortion, contraception, euthanasia, or other actions contrary to Church teaching. This is even if the provider provides other legitimate, moral healthcare services.
- Church representatives, whether paid or volunteer, should not themselves offer healthcare screening, diagnostic advice, or related services.
- Companies that provide medical screening services may be utilized if such screenings are non-invasive. If such screening companies are utilized, a Catholic Mutual-provided contract between the church and the screening company must be executed and the screening company must provide a certificate of insurance naming the Archdiocese of New Orleans and the parish as additional insured.
- Church insurance does not automatically cover the services of those defined by Catholic Mutual as a medical professional. Catholic Mutual must be consulted before such individuals participate, whether directly for the parish or through an outside vendor.
- If the parish has a formal, year-round "nurse/healthcare ministry," all procedures required by Catholic Mutual must be followed. Please see the Catholic Mutual CARES document, "Catholic Mutual Guidelines for Parish Nurse/Health Ministry Programs" available through Catholic Mutual on their website [www.catholicmutual.org](http://www.catholicmutual.org) for further information.
- Catholic Mutual recommends obtaining "special events" coverage at a cost of \$95 for health fairs.
- Further questions may be directed to the Archdiocesan Office of Pastoral Planning and Ministries at 504-861-6294 or [planningandministries@arch-no.org](mailto:planningandministries@arch-no.org).

**DEFENSE, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF HEALTHCARE SERVICE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH/SCHOOL LOCATION:  
\_\_\_\_\_

DATES OF SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of the non-profit corporation \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parish Corporate Name)

\_\_\_\_\_, Louisiana's (hereinafter "Parish") providing space to HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION, as noted above, free of charge to perform certain services to the general public, the above-named HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION agrees to defend, hold harmless and indemnify Parish and The Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans from and against any and all claims arising from the negligence, intentional acts or fault of any type or kind of the HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION, its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, nurses, and/or other medical professionals, in connection with the performance of the type of healthcare services set forth above.

The above name HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION agrees to provide a certificate of insurance to Parish that provides evidence of workers compensation insurance, general liability coverage of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) aggregate and medical professional liability coverage of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) aggregate. HEALTH CARE INSTITUTE also agrees to have Parish and The Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans named as Additional Insureds under the aforementioned policies, not merely as certificate holders, and to have such policy or policies endorsed as such for the healthcare services provided at the above-named location and for any and all claims made by any patients, clients, employees, agents, volunteers, guests, customers, partners, family members, organizational members and associates, medical professionals and nurses. It is agreed that HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION also agrees to ensure that its general liability and medical professional liability insurance policies will be primary in the event of a covered claim or cause of action against the Parish and/or The Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

HEALTHCARE INSTITUTION further agrees to provide to Parish a certificate of insurance evidencing the forgoing prior to beginning any healthcare services at Parish.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Health Care Institution

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

(Must be signed by officer or principal of Health Care Institution)

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Representative of parish)