



## FAQ for Community Debt Relief Campaign

**RIP Medical Debt is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit whose sole purpose is to locate, purchase and then abolish unpaid and un-payable medical debt as a benefit to society as well as the recipient.**

RIP was launched on July 25, 2014, by two former collection industry executives who decided to put their industry experience and expertise to work to *forgive* debt rather than collect on it. Working with third-party credit data providers, RIP searches bundled debt portfolios to locate accounts meeting our criteria for financial relief. RIP then negotiates to buy portfolios at a steep discount, on average a penny on the dollar. Prior to RIP's purchase, these bills have passed through several collection agencies and have been pursued for months or years. RIP offers to purchase these accounts at their present industry market value. **The humanitarian difference is that once RIP buys this debt it is forgiven on behalf of our donor.**

### Why Medical Debt?

- 43 million Americans now owe about \$75 billion in past-due medical debt.
- More than 1 in 3 Americans struggle to afford the cost of their medical care.
- Medical debt contributes to more than 60 percent of all bankruptcies in the USA.
- 75 percent of all individuals in medical bankruptcy had health insurance coverage.
- Until resolved, medical debt lingers on one's credit report, negatively impacting the ability to buy or rent a home, buy a vehicle, get a loan or get a job.
- People with medical debt tend to avoid medical care to prevent additional debt.

### How Does RIP Medical Debt Help a Community?

RIP serves its campaign organizers by abolishing their targeted categories of medical debt, i.e., debt for specific geographic areas (states/cities) or even for a community-of-interest (i.e., aged, children or veterans).

### Who Qualifies for RIP Debt Forgiveness?

- People earning less than 2 times the federal poverty level (varies by state and family size).
- Those in financial hardship (out-of-pocket expenses 5% or more of annual income).
- People facing insolvency (debts are greater than assets).

### An Amazing ROI for the Benefactor!

Considering that medical debt can be purchased for a penny on the dollar, **as little as \$10,000** will abolish **\$1 million worth of medical debt**. In four years, RIP has raised enough money to abolish **\$120,000,000** in such debt and intends to abolish **\$50,000,000** in veteran debt in 2018 alone. Their stated mission is to find, buy and forgive **\$1,000,000,000** (yes, billion) in medical bills by 2020.



### **What is the Minimum for a Local Campaign?**

RIP requires a minimum donation of **\$15,000** to abolish about **\$1 million worth of medical debt** for a community. The first \$5,000 covers portfolio purchase and administration. Each additional \$10,000 donation abolishes \$1 million in debt. **RIP offers a big bang for your charity buck!**

**To discuss doing a campaign, contact: Scott Patton @ [spatton@ripmedicaldebt.org](mailto:spatton@ripmedicaldebt.org)**

**If you're a representative of the press (print, online or TV/radio station) interested in a campaign, please contact: Daniel Lempert @ [Daniel@dvmcpr.com](mailto:Daniel@dvmcpr.com)**