

The Affordable Care Act's Definition of a Health Care Sharing Ministry

<p>Excerpt from 26 U.S.C. § 5000A(d)(2)(B): US Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act:</p>	
<p>(2) RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS. (B) HEALTH CARE SHARING MINISTRY. (i) IN GENERAL. Such term (,or penalty,) shall not include any individual for any month if such individual is a member of a health care sharing ministry for the month. (ii) HEALTH CARE SHARING MINISTRY. The term 'Health Care Sharing Ministry' means a faith based organization:</p>	<p>Sharity Ministries is a faith-based organization also known as a Health Care Sharing Ministry (HCSM) that specializes in medical cost sharing programs. The IRS has issued a determination letter, therefore Sharity Ministries members claim code "D" on their tax return using Form 8965. Effective January 1, 2019 the fee for not having coverage is reduced to \$0 in most states. The federal mandate along with the accompanying tax penalty were repealed. This means that individuals will not have to pay a penalty, regardless of whether they are currently members of a health care sharing ministry OR covered by traditional health insurance. Thus, an exemption is not needed in most states.</p>
<p>(I) which is described in section 501(c)(3) and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a),</p>	<p>Sharity Ministries is a 501(c)3 Non-profit organization exempt from taxation under 501(a).</p>
<p>(II) members of which share a common set of ethical or religious beliefs and share medical expenses among members in accordance with those beliefs and without regard to the State in which a member resides or is employed,</p>	<p>Sharity Ministries' members agree to a common set of religious beliefs when they join, and and ethical beliefs during enrollment, and share medical needs accordingly and without regard to the State in which a member resides or works.</p>
<p>(III) members of which retain membership even after they develop a medical condition,</p>	<p>Sharity Ministries does not "raise contribution amounts" or "terminate" a member because of a health condition.</p>
<p>(IV) which (or a predecessor of which) has been in existence at all times since December 31, 1999, and medical expenses of its members have been shared continuously and without interruption since at least December 31, 1999, and,</p>	<p>Sharity Ministries is proud to uphold the longstanding tradition of sharing members' medical expenses continuously, without interruption, since 1997.</p>
<p>(V) which conducts an annual audit which is performed by an independent certified public accounting firm in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and which is made available to the public upon request.</p>	<p>Sharity Ministries conducts an annual audit by an independent certified public accounting firm, which is made available to the public upon request.</p>