

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HARRIS

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, the undersigned, all being resident citizens of said State and County, have formed and do hereby form ourselves, our associates and successors, into a corporation under and by virtue of the laws of Texas, and for said corporation do hereby declare and adopt this instrument as the CHARTER thereof, with terms as follows:

1. The Name of this corporation shall be "HOUSTON HOSPITAL FOR NEGROES".

2. The Purposes for which this corporation is formed are purely benevolent, charitable and educational, and not for financial gain, and no financial gain shall ever accrue to any member of this corporation, nor to any other person or institution, in the conduct of same, but any receipts of this corporation in excess of the expense of purchase, or erection, and maintenance of the said institution provided for herein, shall be applied by the directors to the care of charity patients, and to the equipment and enlargement of said institution to carry out the purposes of its organization and operation as they, in their judgment, may deem wise.

It is organized to acquire, or erect, and to equip, conduct and maintain on the broadest humanitarian principles a hospital

and training school for nurses, to care for the sick and injured and to educate and train persons in the care of the sick and injured, issuing to such persons diplomas upon graduation.

In order that only competent, legal, skilled and reputable physicians and surgeons shall practice, operate and/or treat patients in the hospital, the Board of Directors, on approval of the Advisory Committee hereinafter to be provided for, shall have full and plenary power to elect and select, in the manner such Board of Directors may deem best, the physicians and/or surgeons who shall be permitted to so practice, and to prescribe and promulgate laws, rules and regulations for the government of such hospital, and of such physicians, surgeons, and of the patients, nurses, officers, visitors, employees, and others therein or connected therewith.

3. The Principal Office and Place of Business of this corporation shall be in the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas.

4. This corporation shall exist for a period of fifty years from and after the filing of its original Charter.

5. This corporation shall have nine Directors (with the right to increase or decrease such number under the law) to be selected annually in the following manner:

On the second Tuesday in January of each year all negro citizens of Harris County, Texas, who have contributed and

Calendar

paid Five Dollars in cash, or more, during the preceding year for the benefit of the hospital shall meet at some convenient place in the City of Houston (to be designated from time to time by the Secretary of this corporation in written notice to such persons, to be given through the mails or through some daily newspaper published in the City of Houston, at least five days before date of such meeting) and nominate from their number Fifteen persons who will be certified to the Advisory Committee, and from whom such Committee will select the Board of Directors for the ensuing year. After the Advisory Committee shall cease to exist such nominations shall be certified to the Mayor of the City of Houston, and the selection of the Board of Directors from such nominations shall be made by him and the City Council.

If for any reason such meeting of negro citizens be not held, or should there be disagreement among them as to who shall be nominated, the Advisory Committee or the Mayor and City Council, as the case may be, are fully authorized and empowered to name the Directors from among the negro citizens of Harris County.

No physician or surgeon shall ever be elected a member of the Board of Directors of this corporation.

6. During the first 100 years of the life of this corporation it shall have an Advisory Committee of 50 white

citizens of Harris County, to be appointed by these incorporators, who shall prescribe the general policies to apply in the administration of the institution, and whose advice, counsel and direction in all matters shall at all times be observed and carried out by the Board of Directors.

Any vacancies occurring for any reason in the Advisory Committee during said time may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members.

7. This corporation has no capital stock, but it shall have power to own and acquire such property as it is permitted to own under the laws of Texas.

The Board of Directors shall have no power to mortgage or otherwise encumber the property of this corporation, except in assuming indebtedness on property acquired by it, or to secure the purchase money of any property acquired by it, or for the purpose of new buildings and equipment and of enlargements, improvements, or repairs of the property of this corporation.

WITNESS our hands at Houston, Texas, this the _____ day of _____, 1924.

