

LOUISIANA'S PUBLIC HOSPITALS

- CARE FOR THE UNINSURED IS THE PRIMARY SERVICE MISSION OF LOUISIANA'S STATE PUBLIC HOSPITALS -

Louisiana has long faced a crisis of access to health care, more extensive than the rest of the country. One response has been the creation of a statewide safety net of public hospitals and clinics in which all citizens are eligible for care regardless of ability to pay. These facilities are the principal source of health care for the 850,000 who remain uninsured even after Medicaid covers over 900,000 patients.

LOUISIANA'S NEED FOR THE SAFETY NET *Extent of Insurance Coverage*

