

Minutes, Delaware Health Fund Advisory Committee

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Attendance:

Rita Landgraf, Chair

Senator Patricia Blevins

Senator Bethany Hall-Long

Senator David McBride

Dr. Charles Reinhardt

Bettina Riveros

Representative Valerie Longhurst

Don Fulton

Dr. Gregory Bahtiarian

Representative Michael Barbieri

Absent:

James Ford

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 2:00 pm

II. Minutes

The minutes of the November 10, 2010 meeting were approved with no corrections.

III. Discussion of Decisions Made at November 10, 2010 Meeting

The Final Recommendations made at the November 10, 2010 meeting were reviewed. The spreadsheet discussed was projected on the wall. The Final Recommendations reflected the motions approved at the November meeting:

Motion #1: Non-profits should not have funding reduced below \$100,000 unless the organization's application requested under \$100,000.

Motion #2: Non-profits provisionally recommended to receive under \$100,200 will be restored to funding at the provisionally recommended amount.

Motion #3: Move \$3.0 million and enough to cover Motions #1 and #2 from the Endowment and apply it to the funds available for non-mandate programs.

Motion #4: Adopt Scenario #1, as modified by Motions #1 - #3.

After the November meeting, committee members realized they had not been clear that the 11.9% reduction, explained at the November meeting, was off of the 34% reduction to non-mandate programs, making the total recommendations a 22% reduction from the October 26, 2010 recommendations. Committee members thought that the total recommendations were an 11.9% reduction from the October 26, 2010 recommendations. This is the reason the Committee convened the meeting today.

The amount of the endowment on December 8, 2010 is \$25,867,844.83.

IV. Discussion of Funding Priorities & Final Recommendations

Scenario #2 was presented to the committee and projected on the wall. Under this scenario, the floor set in Motion #1 in November would be raised from \$100,000 to \$200,000 at a cost of \$224,000 more from the endowment. Thus, non profits would be recommended to receive \$200,000 or the amount recommended at the October 26, 2010 meeting, whichever is lower and the total recommended amount to be used from the endowment would be \$3,324. This would provide a big impact for the non profits and the Delawareans they serve for a small cost in the total budget.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Scenario #2 (Fulton/Reinhardt).

An amendment to the motion was made (McBride/Bahtarian) to increase funding for the Wellness Community to \$200,000. After discussion that focused on the difficulty in singling out one group for special treatment, the amendment to the motion was withdrawn.

The Motion to approve Scenario #2 was approved unanimously.

Committee members asked that a draft of the Recommendations memo be circulated to members for comment; that it be shared with the members of the Joint Finance Committee; that it explain the methodology and reasoning behind the recommendations; and that it state that "switch funding" or supplanting state funds is not permitted.

The Chair thanked the Committee for their diligence and commitment to recommendation process and she thanked the public for the great work they are doing.

V. Public Comment

Emily Knearl of Planned Parenthood, who thanked the Committee for taking the time to have this conversation and to think about the impact the reduction would have had on Delawareans.

VI. The meeting concluded at 3:15 pm.