



26-1-4 Report: Utah Department of Health and the Local Health Departments - Allocation of public health resources and federal grant funding



1. Governance Structure and Meetings

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) and the state's 12 local health departments manage as required by UAC 26-1-4, a committee consisting of three local health officers and three department representatives including the Executive Director of UDOH “ to evaluate health policies and to review federal grants.” The Committee referred to as the Governance Committee or Governance reviews all UDOH proposed and current grant funding and activities. Governance meetings are conducted bi-monthly and held on the first and third Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Cannon Health Building. All meetings are posted in compliance with Utah’s Open and Public meetings laws and posted on the state’s Open and Public Meetings Website. The Committee conducted annual Open and Public meetings training and discussed the option of opening the meetings to electronic participation by the public. After a review with the Assistant Attorney General, it was determined to allow Committee members to join the meetings electronically.

2. Number of Grants Reviewed

During the 2012 calendar year the Governance Committee has reviewed 99 grants. 55 were approved for submission and 44 were exempted from review. To date, 50 of these grants have received a notice of award for funding.

3. Policy and Issue Resolution

The Governance Committee is a mechanism through which local and state public health leadership can work for consensus on statewide policy development and resolution to programmatic issues. To assure state and local processes were working, the Committee extensively reviewed the following grants: Collaborative Chronic Disease, Health, Promotion and Surveillance-Diabetes Control, Healthy Communities, Tobacco Prevention Core, National Cancer Prevention and Control Program, Utah Basic Implementation of HDSPP- Heart Disease and Stroke, Arthritis, Utah Colon Cancer Screening, Utah Wisewoman Program, Prevention and Public Health Fund: Capacity Building Assistance to Strengthen Public Health Immunization Infrastructure and Performance, Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, Prevention Block Grant, Supporting Evidence Based Home Visitation, Maternal and Child Block Grant, and the HIV Prevention Projects. All of the grants that were reviewed in this process were approved to be submitted in calendar year 2012.

4. Governance Grant Proposal and Funding Review Process

UDOH (www.health.utah.gov/governance) website was created to provide all pertinent proposed grant information to the Governance Committee, all 12 local health departments and the public. This information provides transparency for the UDOH grant writing and application process. All 12 local health departments have designated staff that receive this information and in turn can make a determination as to how they will participate in the grant writing process. A new review process to include local staff in the early stages of the grant writing process or the Grant Application Planning Process (GAPP) was undertaken by the Committee this year.

Approved by the Committee 11/19/2012 (Final)