

**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
PROGRAM COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 21,, 2014**

Attendance:

Members

Director Mark Grimm, Chairman

Director William Grimm, DO

Staff

Kathy Greco, Chief Executive Officer

Donna Craig, Chief Grants Officer

Steve Brown, Director of Community Relations

Committee Members

Allen Howe, Community Member

Juan Rodriquez, Student Member

Absent Committee Members

Kim McNulty, CVEP

Bev Greer, CEO, Stroke Recovery Center

Matthew Keane, CEO, Community Clinic Assoc. of San Bernardino County

Mitch Nieman, Grants Manager, City of Coachella

Joseph Pradetto, Constituent Outreach, Office of John J Benoit, 4th District Supervisor

Guest

Brenda Eisenacher, Controller, Desert Cancer Foundation

Larry Parrish, Interim CEO, Desert Cancer Foundation

Rob Bernheimer, Board Member, Desert Cancer Foundation

Stu Bailey, Board Member, Desert Cancer Foundation

Lisa Houston, CEO, FIND Food Bank

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman Grimm.

INTRODUCTION

Director Hazen was introduced as the new program committee member. Director Grimm was introduced as the chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A Motion was made by Director Hazen and seconded by Committee Member Howe to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion was made by Committee Member Howe and seconded by Chairman Grimm to approve the minutes of November 12, 2013. Motion passed. Director Hazen abstained since she was not present at the meeting.

GRANTS

a. Outstanding Grants & Grant Payment Schedule

No comments.

b. Final Reports

1. Grant #691 – Desert Cancer Foundation

No comments.

2. Grant #728 – Jewish Family Service of the Desert

No comments.

3. Grant #712 – CVEP

Director Hazen had a few questions regarding the final report and requested CVEP attend the next board meeting.

b. Pending Grant Request for Consideration

1. Grant #811 – Desert Cancer Foundation – Integrated Cancer Assistance Program - \$372,360.

Ms. Craig reported that this was a continuation grant for underinsured/uninsured cancer patients. The only additional request was a \$5000 line item for technology upgrades.

Mr. Bernheimer commented that the last grant was a two year grant however this new grant is just one year. In an ideal world, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would eliminate the need for a Desert Cancer Foundation. At the end of this grant, if funded, there will be more insight into where the holes in the ACA may be. To date, the only impact the ACA has had on the Desert Cancer Foundation is the need to pay a monthly insurance premium.

Director Hazen suggested a short evaluation component measuring the patients' experience with the ACA. This tool could be used with other non-profits. That way there is a measurement of what was before the ACA and what is now.

A Motion was made by Director Hazen and seconded by Committee Member Howe to recommend approval for Grant # 811 to the Desert Cancer Foundation for the Integrated Cancer Assistance Program in the amount of \$372,360 with the addition of an evaluation component measuring the patients' experience with the Affordable Care Act to be included in the deliverables. District staff will work with DCF staff to develop the metrics. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Grant #812 – FIND Food Bank – Year 2 Project Produce 2013-2016 - \$530,000.

Chairman Grimm summarized the grant request which is \$300,000 to purchase produce and \$230,000 for delivery and handling. Ms. Houston added that Project Produce is a more efficient

model for distributing fresh produce. The gleaming of the fields has slowed down, since the growers are harvesting more produce for the secondary market. However, food insecurity is increasing. FIND is providing food for 94,000 people per month up from 73,000 per month last year at this time.

Director Hazen commented that this project provides healthy food into the food distribution system. Hidden Harvest and FIND Food Bank are working together, adding in healthy foods in their distribution, increasing safety and quality.

Ms. Houston commented that in year 2 of this project she will distribute more than 3 million pounds of fresh produce. This will be distributed to more than 100 food providers in the Coachella Valley.

Committee Member Rodriquez added his observation while he worked at the Boys & Girls Club in La Quinta last summer. On the days the club received free fruits and vegetables they purchased less snacks from the vending machines. The club members preferred the produce over processed snacks.

A Motion was made by Committee Member Rodriquez and seconded by Committee Member Howe to recommend approval for Grant # 812 to FIND Food Bank for the Year 2 Project Produce 2013-2016 in the amount of \$530,000.

Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review and discussion of the purpose and structure of the Program Committee going forward.

Chairman Grimm reported that there have been discussions on reconstructing the Program Committee to involve community members in the beginning of the grant process. The changes will be discussed at the board strategic planning sessions.

Ms. Greco provided an update on the health portal. A Technical Assistance Committee will be assembled to define the scope of the portal. The next step would be a Request for Proposals to design and operate the portal.

CEO REPORT

No new items to report.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

No comments.

STAFF COMMENTS

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.