



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

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.

2. Governance Meetings

The Governance Committee conducts bi-monthly meetings held on the first Monday of each month and additional meetings as needed, 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.

3. Governance Grant Proposal and Funding Review Process

UDOH (www.health.utah.gov/governance) has a website 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. The Governance Committee has undertaken a review of all federal grant funding and a report will be given to the Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee in October. Documents provided to the Committee are included with this report.

4. Governance Staff Training

Governance Committee staff met with UDOH grant writing and management staff to discuss the Governance process and the steps that are required to gain Governance approval for a grant to be submitted to the granting agency. UDOH procedures have been written to help guide staff in submitting grant information. Future trainings are planned for local health department staff.

5. Number of Grants Reviewed

Since January 2011, the Governance Committee has reviewed 49 grants. 28 were approved for submission and 21 were exempted from review.

6. 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. In the past year, three programs have received extensive

review through the Governance process, the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, the Immunization Program and the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.

Final Approved 10-17-11