



MINUTES
Rural Provider Access and Affordability Advisory Committee
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

Via [Zoom](#), passcode 279779

October 21, 2022, 1:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

- Michelle Mills, Chair, 1:02 pm
- Members Present: Michelle Mills, Nancy Dolson (HCPF), Angela Koch, Kelea Nardini, Zach Weiderspon, Beth Saxton, Stephanie Pugliese, Steve Holloway
- Members Excused: Jeanie Gentry
- HCPF Employees Present: Nancy Dolson, Shay Lyon, Anthony Ciaramella
- Quorum present.

2. Approve Minutes from October 7, 2022 Meeting

- Committee Members, 1:02 pm
- Unanimously approved.

3. Grant Criteria Questions and Scoring Template

- Committee Members, 1:04 pm
- Review of grant criteria questions draft document (see handout).
- Suggestions from members:
- Comparison of criteria to the official SB 22-200 document. References in the Bill to necessary criteria listed are examples of type of projects acceptable for this grant program, not an exhaustive list. Language to be altered to make the grant criteria document more inclusive.
- Pull from ARPA guidance for “Indirect Expenses”. Check on limits and types.
- Add the capped award amount of \$650,000 per entity under “Budget”. Also add budget template for applicants, including quotes and equipment costs where applicable. Include a minimum amount
- Questions to add: If partially funded, would the project go forward? What could be accomplished at lower amounts?

- Age of plant/infrastructure: Clarify why infrastructure should need replacing. What is needed?
- Financial health: use Hospital Transformation Project data set to determine financial health of hospitals. If the applicant doesn't meet the 3 year NPR/fund balance score, they must provide information supporting their stated financial health.
- Establish word or character limit to statements.
- Sustainability: what does "long term" entail? Minimum of 5 years?
- Care referral: change to "care coordination". Name organizations that are being collaborated with.
- Scoring Template review. Overview of 1-5 scoring definitions and N/A (not applicable) choices.
- Move sustainability scoring from impact to affordability and access section to county casemix/financial position section. Weight the score for this criteria separately.
- Build out scoring instructions for Medicare/Medicaid casemix (discuss Mr. Holloway's previous suggestions on this).
- Add N/A option to scoring for "access to specialty care", or impact to affordability/access question.

4. Public comment

- 2:15 pm
- Lynne Jones (from chat): "maybe estimated life of the plant/equipment choosing to replace or upgrade and why?", "maybe how does this proposal align with other community goals and support sustainability for achieving those goals?, should "long term" be defined by the community and the project?", "What is the projected timeframe for impact of the project?, do we need to ask what the justification is for the proposed specialty care?", "do we allow them to describe what care referral process they have in place, rather than asking what they will do? they may already be doing it", "is partner engagement "if applicable" or would it apply on some level for all projects, should we encourage it?", "When Nancy mentioned looking at where the hospitals are located, would being in an "underserved" area of the state warrant a score?"

5. Criteria Questions and Scoring Template (Possible Action)

- No action taken.

6. Next Steps and Adjourn

- 2:19 pm

- Will aim to approve criteria and scoring template next meeting.
- Adjourned at 2:21pm.

7. Next meeting

- November 4, 2022, 1:00 P.M. via Zoom

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