

Michigan Health Insurance Access Advisory Council (MHIAC)

The Successor Council for
the State Planning Project
for the Uninsured Advisory
Council



Purposes:

- To seek solutions to the current health insurance issues faced by the State of Michigan that would ensure that all citizens of the State of Michigan have access to affordable health insurance coverage.
- To educate the public about issues relating to lack of health insurance.
- To conduct research and education on issues related to health insurance, and
- To advocate for change related to the accomplishment of these purposes.

The Council must be:

- Independent – have its own staff and office
- Non-partisan
- Non-profit
- Non-governmental
- Diverse in membership
- Long-term
- Inclusive of all who support the purposes of the organization.

Participation Opportunities

- Organizations who support the purposes of the MHIAC may apply to participate in the Advisory Council.
- Board of Directors members are elected to provide leadership to the Council.
- Committee membership:
 - Ad Hoc --anyone on the Advisory Council may participate in an Ad Hoc committee -- each must include at least one Board Member.
 - Executive -- includes officers -- Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and Immediate Past-President. The Executive Committee will decide operational issues.
 - Nominating – appointed from among Board Members - makes recommendations for Board Members and officers.
 - Finance – Board Members who oversee finances.

Board of Directors

- 21 to 25 Board Members including:
 - Providers
 - Business and labor groups representing different sectors
 - Consumers
 - Payers
 - Faith-based organizations

How to begin?

- Incorporators would constitute the interim Board. They would elect the first permanent Board and determine whether it should include ex-officio members. Incorporators are:
 - Elaine Beane
 - Rob Fowler
 - Larry Horwitz
 - Spencer Johnson
 - Marjorie Mitchell
 - Kevin Seitz
 - Ed Wolking

Requirements for Board Members

- Be able to speak for their organizations – be highly placed – preferably CEOs.
- Commit to attend Board meetings.
- Be willing to represent the Council to his/her constituency, and constituency to the Council
- Be open-minded and willing to work on issues of uninsurance.
- Be respectful of other participants, and willing to hear their views.

Quorum and Voting Requirements for Board of Directors

- A simple majority (51%) of the full Board shall constitute a quorum.
- A super majority vote (66%) is required for action on issues outside the normal course of business (i.e., Bylaws changes, removal of Board Members, etc.)
- Board members may participate in meetings by telephone or may give their proxy on an important vote to the Board Chairman.

Terms of Office

- Board Members are elected for three-year staggered terms.
- Officers are elected for a one-year term.
- There is no limit to the number of terms an individual may serve in any capacity.

Funding

- The Council shall initially be funded with donations and foundation funds.
 - Currently there are \$22,000 in pledged donations.
 - Kellogg, Mott, and the Council of Foundations are being approached for funding, with the possibility of future discussions with Robert Wood Johnson, Kaiser and others.