**MINUTES OF THE Advisory Council on Organ and Tissue Transplants and Donations**

**Meeting of MAY 2, 2014**

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON ORGAN AND TISSUE TRANSPLANTS AND DONATIONS**

**AGENDA**

**Friday, May 2, 2014 10:00am Public Health Council Room**

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Update on Organ Donation Report
4. Discussion of Organ Transplant Fund
5. Discussion of Organ & Tissue Donor Registration Fund
6. HRSA Grant with RMV
7. Donate Life Month Review
8. Council member appointments

**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON ORGAN AND TISSUE TRANSPLANTS AND DONATIONS**

Presented below is a summary of the meeting, including time-keeping, attendance and votes cast.

**Date of Meeting:** Friday May 2, 2014

**Beginning Time:** 9:25 am

**Ending Time:** 11:42am

**Attendance and Summary of votes**

| **Board Member** | **Attended** |
| --- | --- |
| Jennifer Barrelle | Yes |
| Rachel Bain | Yes |
| Tim Miley | Yes |
| David Hanlon | Yes |
| Sandra Duffy | No |
| Richard Luskin | Yes |
| Ann Linehan | No |
| Dr. Heung Kim | Yes |
| Dr. Joren Madsen | Yes |
| Dr. Adel Bozorgzadeh | No |
| **Summary** | **7**  **members attended** |
|  |  |

**PROCEEDINGS**

A regular meeting of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health’s Advisory Council on Organ and Tissue Transplants and Donations (M.G.L. Chapter 17, Section 15) was held on Friday, May 2, 2014 at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, 250 Washington Street, Henry I. Bowditch Public Health Council Room, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02108.

**ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes**

There were no changes made to the minutes of November 13, 2013.

Mr. Miley made a motion to approve the minutes, Dr. Kim seconded that motion, all approved.

**ITEM 2: Update on Organ Donation Report**

Organ donation report was approved by council at the Nov. 2013 meeting, and was sent to the legislature May 2014. Chairs of the Public Health Committee and Senator Clark will receive copies of the report. The Department will post under the DPH/HCQ link.

**ITEM 3: Discussion of Organ Transplant Fund**

Fund oversight has bounced around with DPH staffs who are overseeing. Currently the responsibility belongs to BCHAP. Those who receive funds send in their insurance bills or prescription receipts. The Council should work on revamping the guidelines to ensure that individuals truly in need are receiving compensation. This would include updating the criteria of need for those applying.

The council, DPH and stakeholders should work to present a communication plan that notifies others about the fund. Transplant social workers from all centers are not aware of this fund and should be updated. Likewise, they don’t know who are on receiving funds, what the qualifications.

The council may seek to invite those from the trauma centers to speak to this issue.

The Auditor’s report of 2007 may provide some insight into how the fund should be established:

* Allocations- vetting through transplant program, social worker assessment, financial analysis
* Annual renewal
* Discussion about how this should be a fund of last resort- reserve for those with no other resources.
* How to spend the money
  + Distribute to transplant centers proportionate to the size of their transplant team
* Should there be some time limit how long you can be receiving the funds?
  + Hardships

**ITEM 4: Discussion of Organ & Tissue Donor Registration Fund**

Monies for the Organ & Tissue Donor Registration Fund are collected by RMV. The RMV along with DPH should work towards increasing donation rates and awareness. Monies are accumulating and not being used. Council come up with guidance/guidance how to use the funds, issue an RFQ for advertising etc. to go forward and try to build a campaign. The campaign could target all individuals of all ages, emphasizing that donations are based on health not age, or could be certain groups (racial/ethnic, geographic) that have low registration rates.

There are 17 televisions in 40 RMV branches which advertise to donate. Should look at locations where they could be put, with the most representation, and where there is diversification; data in the move should be geared toward that location. Additional usage of AAA centers.

**ITEM 5: HRSA Grant with RMV**

End of 2 year grant; website is a priority.

**ITEM 6: Donate Life Month Review**

Dr. Madsen spoke at State House event and the success of that event, and all events that occurred in April to promote awareness.

**ITEM 7:** With the nearing of the new administration and some appointments expiring in late 2014/early 2015, Jen will be reaching out to council members to determine if they are interested in reappointment or stepping down from the council.

**Next steps:**

Revisit guidelines

Review application form

Jim Rodrigues data presentation

RFP