

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brenda Landwehr at 1:30 p.m. on January 15, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

Committee Members: All members were present except: Representative Gordon, Otto, Schroeder, and Neighbor, all of whom were excused.

Committee staff present:

Janet Grace, Administrative Assistant
Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reed Holwegner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norm Furse, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Conferee appearing before the committee:

Billie G. Hall, President & CEO Sunflower Foundation

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Landwehr called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone to the committee, especially the freshmen, and asked the members to introduce themselves.

The Chairman gave the following brief instructions.

- We will be using Electronic Bill Books and attachments when 784 Docking is hard wired.
- An email will be sent to all committee members when the room is done.
- The email will explain how to utilize the electronic bill, attachments, and testimony.
- Options for bills and testimony include bringing laptops, print out a copy, or view the necessary documents with your neighbor during committee meetings.
- Please be sure to use the microphones when speaking.

Billie G. Hall, President & CEO, Sunflower Foundation, provided an overview of the Foundation:

who they are, what they do, how they do it, and their expectations (Attachment). She said that the Foundation is a statewide health philanthropy whose mission is to serve as a catalyst for improving Kansas by serving the poor, uninsured, underinsured, promoting preventive health care; and support activities aimed at reducing the number of Kansans who use and are addicted to tobacco products. This has been achieved through grants to different organizations across Kansas.

The Sunflower Foundation awards grants to nonprofit organizations that are committed to improving access to health care, eliminating barriers, emphasizing prevention and promoting healthy environments that enable and support personal responsibility for health. The grants provide the set-up funds necessary to get a program started and become self-sufficient. The Foundation strengthens community-based nonprofit organizations so they can fulfill their missions, more effectively serve those who rely on their services and enhance their sustainability.

Ms. Hall concluded by saying that the Sunflower Foundation continues to provide grants and to develop the health care advocacy program, which currently includes The Sunflower foundation Advocacy Fellowship, advocacy in health Speaker Series, and the Organization Technical Assistance program.

Question from Chairman and Vice Chairman: What else can we do? Answer: A framework is needed to provide a coordinated school health program. This requires active participation with parents, teachers, students, and administrators. The schools need to work with businesses as partners to accomplish an adequate program.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 02:10 p.m.