

## Chapter 75. Federally Qualified Health Centers Policy<sup>1</sup>

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### **75.001 Purpose and Intent**

It is the purpose and intent of Travis County Commissioners Court, hereinafter referred to as "Court", concurrent with the City of Austin, to create a Governance Board for the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), hereinafter referred to as "Board", of the City of Austin Health and Human Service Department/Travis County Health Department to improve the health status of the Community (focus on low income) through the delivery and coordinated delivery of services that prevent and treat disease. These goals will be achieved valuing customers and the community.

### **75.002 Creation and Composition**

- (a) There is hereby created and established the Board which shall be composed of 15 members, 8 of which shall be FQHC Customers, hereinafter referred to as "Customers" and 7 At-Large. Four (4) Customers will be appointed by Travis County Commissioners Court and four (4) will be appointed by City of Austin City Council. One (1) At-Large member will be appointed by City of Austin City Council.
- (b) The Board will, as a minimum, be comprised of the following officers, each elected by the Board members: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary. The Board may elect from its membership such officers and committees as it may determine necessary for the proper performance of its duties.

### **75.003 Duties**

- (a) While the Travis County Commissioners Court and The City of Austin City Council will retain the ultimate responsibility for establishing fiscal and personnel policies for the FQHC Clinics, the Board will provide direction in the following areas:
  - (1) Scope of Services;
  - (2) Distribution of resources and adoption of the budget of the FQHC;

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 75 was adopted by Travis County Commissioners Court on 3/28/1995, Item 3.

- (3) Development of community-specific health care initiatives;
  - (4) Assessment and improvement of patient satisfaction;
  - (5) Assessment of community need;
  - (6) Determination of the appropriateness of hours of service and other facility-specific operational issues;
  - (7) Linkages with in-patient and other providers;
  - (8) Administrative and clinical personnel issues; and,
  - (9) Initiation of new programs and policies.
- (b) In addition, the Board will supervise the planning of services, setting of goals and objectives, and meeting goals and objectives to assure the following are met:
- (1) The design of services and the selection of service sites will be based upon factors that affect prevention and earliest possible diagnosis;
  - (2) Services are targeted at the highest risk population;
  - (3) Community need is proactively anticipated;
  - (4) Community members (especially users) have input into service design;
  - (5) Coordination occurs with other agencies serving the user population;
  - (6) Services are responsive to the users;
  - (7) Quality services are delivered with care and understanding in the most efficient manner; and
  - (8) Services delivered are sensitive to community diversity (economic, cultural, demographic).

**75.004 Procedures**

- (a) The Board will meet at least once a month and more frequently as may be determined necessary by the Board. At reasonable times and in a reasonable manner the Board shall have access to information such as budget, expenditures, revenue, and other such information that the Board deems necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Board and the provisions in Part 3 above.
- (b) A quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of active members in good standing.

**75.005 Severability**

If any portion of this Order, or the application of it to any person or set of circumstances, is held to be unconstitutional, void, invalid or for any reason unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this Order or its application to other persons or sets of circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

**75.006 [Passed December 14, 1993]**

Introduced, read and passed by an affirmative vote of the Travis County Commissioners Court on this 14th day of December, 1993.