



PHPDA Program Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Location: Quarters 2 Building, Pacific Tower, 1200 12th Ave S., Seattle, WA 98144

Virtual Location: Meeting ID - 878 4201 1777

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87842011777?pwd=V9DUYMDqMaZbevamLuM2pXXZH8qGrq.1>

Phone Option: +1 253 215 8782

Password: 918007

MEMBERS PRESENT		NOT PRESENT	ALSO PRESENT	
Nancy Sugg	Douglass Jackson		Christina Bernard	Nicole Porcello
Doris Koo (arrived 7:33am)	Martine Pierre-Louis (arrived 7:34am)		Whitney Regan	Mallory Fitzgerald

Call to Order

Nancy Sugg called the meeting to order at 7:35am. A quorum was present. There were no public comments.

Consent Calendar Minutes

Several members did not receive the meeting packet ahead of time and were not able to review the minutes before the meeting. The Committee agreed to postpone the August Meeting Minutes approval to the next meeting.

Program & Grantmaking

2024 New and Renewal Major Grant Final Reports

The PHPDA Grants & Program Specialist presented the compiled 2024 New and Renewal Major Grant Final Reports to the Committee. She highlighted the trends that she and PHPDA staff noticed in the reports.

- In general, she noted that performance was good across the board. Most grantees met some or most of their outlined metrics goals and outcome benchmarks.
 - She pointed out that in Year 3 grantees, we can see their progress year over year.
 - Across all 24 grants, a little more than half revised their budgets for the year, and half got close to spending 100% of their funds.
 - A common challenge among all the grantees is staffing. In both large and small organizations, having the capacity to meet the high demand of the populations they are serving is challenging.
- The Grants & Program Specialist said that we are starting to see tangible impact on grantees and those they serve due to the current political landscape.
 - These grants started in July 2024, and a lot has changed in the 12 months since. Namely, uncertainty around certain policy changes. This has especially impacted some grantees that work with immigrants and seniors.
 - She noted that a lot of grantees had “unknowns” reported in terms of demographics they may have served. Some organizations are no longer directly asking participants for this data about themselves.



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- The Grants & Program Specialist opened the conversation for questions. She invited Committee members to send any questions about specific grantees via email as well.
 - A couple of Committee members asked if she could provide them with a written summary of these main points, which the Grants & Program Specialist said she would do going forward.
 - The Governing Council Chair noted that he would like to look through the data to see which grantees met their goals, and to highlight which ones might be struggling the most with meeting them. He said he is also curious to see which ones might have budget issues. They are looking for trends, outliers, and challenges. He asked for the summarized report to note which grantee reports to look more closely at.
 - The PHPDA Grants & Program Specialist reminded the Committee that underperforming data can be subjective. It is not unusual to see underperforming data from first year grantees with programs that are just starting. There is a longer ramp-up time in the first year, with the barrier of staffing/hiring delays.
 - The Governing Council Chair suggested that we have a differential threshold for first year grantees, knowing that is the case, and in years 2 and 3 maybe have tighter expectations.
- The Acting Executive Director noted that staff will send the final version once we get additional responses to follow up questions from grantees. She invited the Committee to ask more questions afterward.

Discussion of 2026 Grantmaking Plans

The Program Committee Chair began discussion about preparing for 2026 grants by December, and the processing needed to make that happen. She said that the Committee needed to really think about the next season 2026-2027, the short term and the long term. She indicated her hope that the meeting would result in progress being made on the decision of what they will be doing this next grant season.

- The Program Committee Chair started by reporting on some meetings that PHPDA staff and board recently attended, and what they learned from those meetings.
- The Acting Executive Director discussed a luncheon she recently attended hosted by the Sheng-Yen Lu Foundation, in which she was also able to invite some of PHPDA's grantees.
 - It was an opportunity for organizations to share with funders how things are going, how they are handling things, and anything else they want funders to know—but not a space to ask for money.
 - She noted that it was not surprising to hear, but organizations spoke about how they are facing a lot of challenges right now, related to both policy and funding.
 - The main themes that came from this event were that funding is challenging, especially for immigrants and refugees; and that organizations feel they are in competition with one another for funding—they all need funding, and unfortunately the system created makes



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- them compete to get it. They discussed ways that they believe this could be addressed, such as through partnerships and referrals.
- Other topics touched on in this luncheon were advocacy by funders, technical assistance, funding challenges, and worries about staff shrinking and staff burnout.
 - Overall, the Acting Executive Director indicated that it was heavy conversation with so many different challenges they must address all at once. However, she noted that organizations appreciated the chance to come together to have conversations like this. They appreciate the space to come together and share what they are dealing with. It is hard to find that space for those conversations outside of these spaces.
 - The Program Committee Chair brought up another meeting that she attended with the Governing Council Chair and the Acting Executive Director, Mending Health Care Through Community, which was hosted by Northwest Health Law Advocates.
 - At the event, legal experts presented on Medicaid cuts and executive orders.
 - Additionally, 4 or 5 community groups talked about how things were impacting them. They discussed the discrimination they continue to face and the expected cuts to programs.
 - The Governing Council Chair said that a big takeaway from this event was that the solutions are in the community and listening to and trusting the community's voice.
 - PHPDA Acting Executive Director said that as a member of the Washington Women's Foundation, she attended an annual convening with various panels.
 - She said the panels she attended reinforced the other themes from the other events. There was discussion from nonprofits regarding the potential for federal funding cuts. Many will try to find a unique way to do what they do if this does happen.
 - There was discussion about spaces for advocacy later in 2026.
 - The Governing Council Chair said that the event he attended really showed the monetary impact. He wondered, with the government shutdown, how many people will lose coverage? How much will that add to the burden of poor health?
 - He said that the presenters did an excellent job of telling them what the impact will be. They did not put a silver lining on it—even though Washington is a state that has better policies in place, specific populations will be hit harder.
 - Another Committee member, the Finance Committee chair, presented her thoughts about next year's funding to the Committee.
 - She said she is grateful that PHPDA has the privilege of having consistent funding to give. She believes we should try to give whatever we have in the best way we know how to have the best impact possible.
 - Based on the summary of reports, she believes 2026 will be a unique year for funding. It will be difficult to say who we should fund, what focus areas should be. From the data we have discussed: the community knows. She liked the comment about trusting the community.



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- She said that the populations facing the greatest disparity are usually still facing it during the best of times, and thinking of what they might endure during worse times is difficult.
- She suggested changing the process for 2026 to address the changing needs and to provide one-time funding for past partners to address these changes and complete scenario planning. They would be only for previous PHPDA Major grantees that are not currently receiving funding, allowing them space for one year to consider how they adapt to the changing climate and policy impacts. The Committee discussed some of the pros and cons to this idea, including maintaining focus on the communities that need it, but the challenges of being strategic in a time of crisis.
- The Governing Council Chair stated the main other option he sees:
 - to stay the course that we have been doing, continuing Major grants, but narrow the focus area.
 - He said he likes the proposed idea from the Finance Committee Chair, but maybe not for this round of guidance for 2026. He suggested that the idea could work for a separate type of grant introduced later during 2026.
- The Program Committee Chair shared that she is not ready to make any drastic changes to major grants, as they are a vital part to us listening to the community.
 - She said that we have always wanted to keep the door open to the community, and having those major grants is a step into the community.
 - Having innovation and proof of concept grants is important to do that. For the near-term, she suggested we keep the major grants but trim the focus, mentioning a few she thought would be strong options for 2026.
 - She believes we should continue major grants but also potentially plan for additional spending on some of the other ideas brought up by the Committee.
- The Committee also discussed various aspects of both ideas, discussing gap funding, new versus expansion projects, the added challenges of the current climate, and funding direct services versus partnerships or upstream funding.
- The Governing Council Chair noted that logistically, it will take time to institute an entirely new funding idea and process. While it may not be possible for January, it is something we could do later in the year. More information could emerge with some of this work being a step in the transformation planning process with the new consultant that is likely to come on board.
- PHPDA Acting Executive Director suggested that she sees some of the ideas coalescing in the conversation—almost a 3-step process moving towards transformation, with more targeted major grants in early 2026, perhaps some one-time funding for scenario or partnership planning later in the year, and finally a new program or idea that may emerge from the planning process, expected to take up to a year.
- The Governing Council Chair agreed that if we do this well, this will be capturing community voice. We are funding them to design and plan something we may continue to fund moving forward.
- The Committee continued to discuss some of the pros and cons to the ideas proposed in this meeting. There are concerns around continuing the same process and not being responsive to the



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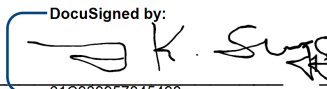
moment; continuing funding for specific programs instead of broadening it to allow more flexibility; closing funding to a limited number of invited grantees; limiting the time frame to even shorter than the current three years. There remain some open questions in these areas for both main ideas discussed, as well as communications challenges regarding any changes. The Finance Committee Chair reiterated her previous proposed idea. She believes that waiting to complete the transformation process to make changes may not be addressing the moment, while others raised concerns about community response to making such a drastic change regarding eligibility and funding length.

- The Program Committee Chair noted the meeting would end soon and said we are going to need more conversation about this. She wants to do something but does not want major decisions to be too rushed or reactive. She wants to ask the community what they need.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:03am.

Minutes Approved: _____

DocuSigned by:

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(Date)