

Commission on Minority Health

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- The Commission awarded 102 community-based grants in FY 2004.
- Minority Health Month activities served more than 19,991 people in FY 2004.

OVERVIEW

Duties and Responsibilities

Created in 1987, based on the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Black and Minority Health, the Ohio Commission on Minority Health was the first state-level office in the United States formed exclusively to address the condition of minority health. Today, 35 states and the federal government have minority health offices. Through a federal contract the Commission serves as the lead agency to organize the 35 State Offices of Minority Health in the creation of a national organization. The mission of the Ohio Commission on Minority Health is to promote health and prevent disease among economically disadvantaged African-American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native-American Ohioans. An 18-member Commission provides guidance for the agency, including its grant administration.

The Commission's staff focuses on meeting six long-term goals. First, MIH aims to develop nontraditional service protocols designed to reduce the effects of targeted diseases and conditions, namely, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, infant mortality, substance abuse, and violence. The Commission also strives to develop and institutionalize an accessible delivery system for people with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). Other Commission goals include providing access to culturally appropriate health information for under-served minority populations and increasing access to culturally relevant health services by funding demonstration projects. And last, in the long run MIH expects to increase minority recruitment and retention in health education and to provide advocacy leading to system changes that improve minority health. In the upcoming biennium the Commission will concentrate on the following areas of focus: policy issues including creating a diverse public health/medical workforce, organizational development including technology enhancements, and community outreach.

Agency in Brief

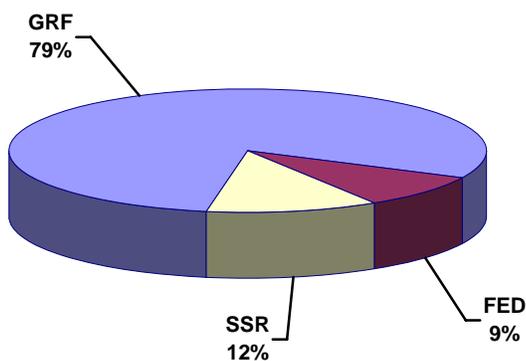
Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
8*	\$1.75 million	\$1.65 million	\$1.35 million	\$1.35 million	Am. Sub. H.B. 66

*Employee count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 2005.

Summary of FYs 2006-2007 Budget Issues

The Commission received \$1,746,410 in FY 2006 and \$1,646,410 in FY 2007. The Commission's GRF appropriation, which is \$1,346,410 in each fiscal year, makes up approximately 79% of the total appropriations for the biennium (see Chart 1).

Chart 1: Total Budget by Fund Group



Vetoed Provisions

The Commission on Minority Health had no vetoed provisions.

ANALYSIS OF THE ENACTED BUDGET

Program Series 1

Program Grants

Purpose: To promote health and prevent disease among economically disadvantaged African-American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native-American Ohioans through innovative strategies and financial opportunities, public health promotion, legislative action, and public policy and system change.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the Program Grants, as well as the enacted funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2006	FY 2007
General Revenue Fund				
GRF	149-321	Operating Expenses	\$539,319	\$539,319
GRF	149-501	Minority Health Grants	\$670,965	\$670,965
GRF	149-502	Lupus Program	\$136,126	\$136,126
General Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$1,346,410	\$1,346,410
Federal Special Revenue Fund				
3J9	149-602	Federal Grants	\$150,000	\$150,000
Federal Special Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$150,000	\$150,000
Total Funding: Program Grants			\$1,496,410	\$1,496,410

This analysis focuses on the following specific programs within the Program Grants program series:

- **Program 1.01: Demonstration Grants**
- **Program 1.02: Lupus Grants**
- **Program 1.03: HIV Grants**
- **Program 1.04: Minority Health Grant**

Program 1.01: Demonstration Grants

Program Description: The Commission on Minority Health provides two-year demonstration grants as seed money to organizations that address one or more of the six diseases and conditions (cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, infant mortality, violence/homicide, and substance abuse) or risk factors, responsible for excess, premature deaths in the minority community. The program promotes behavior change by tapping into the attitudes, values, and beliefs of the target populations. Projects are required to demonstrate measurable behavior change of participants and engage an independent evaluator. After the two years, the organizations awarded grants are expected to get funding from outside sources.

Implication of the Enacted Budget: The Commission received a total of \$931,455 in each fiscal year for the Demonstration Grant program. The Commission received \$500,000 in each fiscal year in GRF appropriation item 149-501, Minority Health Grants, which provides the funds for the community health grants and \$431,455 in each fiscal year in GRF appropriation item 149-321, Operating Expenses, which provides for operating expenses associated with the program. The enacted funding levels will fund up to five demonstration grants over the biennium. For FY 2004, six grants were funded, while the grant amount was reduced by 6% in FY 2005 (which was passed on to the grantees).

Program 1.02: Lupus Grants Program

Program Description: This program funds support services for people with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), their caregivers, and children. The administration of the Lupus Program was transferred from the Department of Health during the 120th General Assembly. Lupus is a chronic inflammatory disease that affects many parts of the body. Approximately 90% of lupus sufferers are women. The disease is also two to three times more prevalent in minorities. However, the program is not a minority specific initiative. Agencies awarded grants must provide information through quarterly reports that specifically state the program goal and outcomes of the program.

There were ten grant projects awarded by the Commission during FY 2004. In 2004, disbursement of grant funds was made quarterly for a maximum of \$14,000 per year.

Implication of the Enacted Budget: The Commission received \$136,126 in each fiscal year in GRF appropriation item 149-502, Lupus Program, which provides the funds for the lupus grants and \$53,932 in each fiscal year in GRF appropriation item 149-321, Operating Expenses, which provides for operating expenses associated with the program. This funding will allow the awarding of ten grants per fiscal year, the same as in FY 2005. However, the maximum grant amount awarded to each subgrantee will be reduced from \$14,000 to \$13,000 per year.

Program 1.03: HIV Grants

Program Description: The HIV Grants Program addresses the needs of the HIV minority community through the establishment of statewide coalitions. The coalitions assess prevention and service needs in their local areas; identify minority community-based organizations to provide culturally specific HIV programming, build agency and volunteer capacity by offering training on best practices and technical assistance from organizations nationally and in Ohio, serve as members on state and local HIV community planning groups and the Ryan White Care Act, and continue to build upon their own capacity and infrastructure to become free-standing agencies. The outcome of the coalitions is measured through quarterly reports that measure the goals of the program. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Minority Health. The Commission initially received a three-year infrastructure grant in 1999. The Commission received an additional three-year grant in 2002.

Implication of Executive Recommendation: The Commission received \$150,000 in each fiscal year in appropriation item 149-602, Federal Grants. Federal funding from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Minority Health for this program will end September 29, 2005. The Commission should receive approximately \$45,000 from July 1, 2005 through September 29, 2005, which will be used to fund the seven statewide coalitions that address HIV needs in the minority community. These statewide coalitions will not receive funding from the Commission after this date. To continue providing HIV/AIDS services, the Commission has entered into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and will receive funds from the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resource Emergency Act (C.A.R.E.) for \$217,414 through March 30, 2006. These funds will be used to target African-Americans located in Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus that are HIV positive to increase enrollment in ODH's C.A.R.E. Services. The Commission anticipates a continuation of funding up to \$70,000 for the period of April 1, 2006 to March 30, 2007 for this initiative.

Program 1.04: Minority Health Grants

Program Description: This program is used to fund community-based agencies statewide to participate in a 30-day wellness campaign held in April (Minority Health Month). The program consists of numerous activities designed to solicit the interest and participation of minorities or providers of health services to minority populations. The purpose of the program is to promote healthy lifestyles, provide crucial information to allow individuals to practice disease prevention, showcase the resources for and providers of grass roots health care and information, and highlight the resolution of the disparate health conditions between Ohio's minority and nonminority populations.

The grants are awarded on a competitive basis with a two-tier review process. The proposals are rated by a standardized tool and then ranked from highest to lowest before being presented to the Board for approval. The grants are awarded on a reimbursement basis, with grants not to exceed \$2,000 per applicant. The outcomes of the programs funded are measured through a final report that is due 15 days after the final program activity.

Implication of the Enacted Budget: The Commission received total funding of \$224,897 in each fiscal year for this program. The Commission received \$170,965 in each fiscal year in GRF appropriation item 149-501, Minority Health Grants, which funds minority health grants, and \$53,932 in each fiscal year in GRF appropriation item 149-321, Operating Expenses, which covers operating expenses associated with the program. In FY 2004, 78 projects were funded for up to \$2,000. This number will be reduced to 65 grants for FY 2006 and 65 grants for FY 2007.

Program Series 2**Capacity Building & Education**

Purpose: To sponsor a conference to recognize individuals and groups who have shown commendable efforts toward improving the health of Ohio's minority citizens, and conduct other minority health initiatives.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the Capacity Building and Education Program Series, as well as the enacted funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2006	FY 2007
State Special Revenue Fund				
4C2	149-601	Minority Health Conference	\$250,000	\$150,000
State Special Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$250,000	\$150,000
Total Funding: Capacity Building and Education			\$250,000	\$150,000

This analysis focuses on the following specific programs within the Capacity Building and Education program series.

Program 2.01: Minority Health Conferences

Program Description: The program develops culturally relevant conferences, symposiums, etc. to build capacity for service delivery in communities of color. The activities typically focus on new bodies of scientific information, modalities for culturally competent service delivery, etc.

Implication of the Enacted Budget: The enacted funding levels provide for \$250,000 in FY 2006 and \$150,000 in FY 2007. This funding will allow this program to continue at current levels. Of the \$250,000 appropriation for FY 2006, \$100,000 is provided for a statewide health disparities conference.