



Regional Health Improvement Plan (RHIP) Workgroup

Voting Practices

Our work as partners within the Central Oregon Health Council's (COHC) Regional Health Improvement Plan (RHIP) workgroups often benefits many organizations. If we were to ask Voting Partners not to vote because they have submitted an application for funding, many people in the RHIP workgroup might not be able to participate. We all stand to gain from the shared wisdom of our many RHIP workgroup partners.

- It is our practice that you, the Voting Partner, announce a conflict of interest when it occurs during a discussion and vote. Then you can continue to vote in spite of that conflict.
- If you feel your conflict of interest unfairly affects your vote, you may choose not to vote.

It is common for organizations to have more than one person on a RHIP workgroup.

- When it is time to vote, people from the same organization will share a single vote.
- If you are not associated with an organization (i.e. community member) you will have a single vote.

We approach decisions using the Focused Conversation method.

- This technique encourages everyone to participate and brings the group closer to consensus.

The Focused Conversation is followed by a vote.

- A decision is made when 75% of the Voting Partners are in agreement.

Sometimes you might part of a subgroup working on a project.

- Everyone on the subgroup must agree unanimously to take the project to the larger workgroup for additional support.

Consensus is defined as:

- Finding and creating areas of shared understanding.
- A coming together of the common sense of the total group.
- An agreement that everyone can live with.