

# HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

## TRUSTEES' CHOICE AWARDS

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 13, 2008

### **Purpose and Policy:**

On October 26, 1999, the Board of Trustees established the Trustees' Choice Award program. The program recognizes the volunteer service of members of the Board of Trustees by allowing them to recommend discretionary grants to qualified recipients. The amount that may be awarded by each Trustee on an annual basis is \$10,000. The amount is determined, and can be revised by the Board so long as the awards remain *de minimus* in nature.

### **Definitions:**

Trustees' Choice Awards: A grant made by the Foundation at the discretion and behest of an individual Trustee of the Healthcare Initiative Foundation.

Qualified Recipient: A qualified recipient is an organization or entity that the Foundation may legally support. Examples of such organizations include educational institutions, state and local governments, and non-profit agencies designated as 501 (c)(3) organizations by the Internal Revenue Service.

### **Scope:**

According to legal counsel, because Trustees' Choice Awards are *de minimus* in amount, they are not legally required to fall within the Foundation's programmatic and geographic scope. Nevertheless, the board intends that the awards do so. Thus, unless an exception is requested of and approved by the Board Chair, the Trustees' Choice Awards will adhere to the foundation's focus of improving the health of residents of Montgomery County, Maryland. Should the Chair wish to make an award falling outside of the Foundation's mission, s/he will seek such an exception from the board as a whole.

### **Procedure:**

- A. Requests for Trustees' Choice Award discretionary grants will be submitted on a brief form to the Executive Director who will: (1) confirm that the intended recipient is qualified; (2) compile and submit a list of all the Awards for approval of the Board of Trustees; and finally (3) issue the Awards in the Foundation's (as opposed to an individual trustee's) name.
- B. Discretionary grants may not be used to satisfy a personal pledge or commitment or provide any benefit that has an economic or tangible value. Trustees and employees of the Foundation may not receive tickets to an event/activity or receive the right to attend and event/activity, e.g., a dinner or reception, based on the Award made.

- C. Review of a proposed Award by the Executive Director will normally be sufficient. If there is a question or concern about a recipient, the Award's purpose or the potential for conflict of interest, the Award will be reviewed by the Chairman of the Board.