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**OPRA Day Array Committee Notes**

September 5, 2019

9:30-12:00

1. **Attendance** 
   1. In Person Attendees: Julie Abiecunas, Justin Blumhorst, Megan Craun, Bob Gaston, Anne Haning, Amy Krukemyer, Laura LaGodney, Phil Miller, Melissa Morelli, Liz Owens, George Paroz, Rich Patterson, Melissa Skaggs, Kurt Smith, Amanda South, Mary Thompson-Hufford, Jeanne Turner, Greg Ferrall, Linda Evans, David King, Christine Touvelle, Lisa Mathis, Scott Marks
   2. Online Attendees: Emily H., Nichole Smith, James Oliver, Melissa Oxenford, Aimee Rittner, Karen Good, Ashley Bocious, Brandy Holland, Dennis Rhodes, Kyle Miller, Heather Wilson, Tim Menke, Heather Wilson, Ann Ahlers-Cole, Paul Soprano, Nancy, Beth Butler, Tonya Reed, Mary Fe Dearth, and four others who phoned in.
2. **Announcements**
3. **Reports from Partner Agencies**

* **OOD – Shannon Komisarek**
  + Fee schedule training has started, Shannon will ensure that a summary of the training is posted
  + Director Davis and Director Miller and others met about transportation and cross training between agencies (SSAs and VRCs). OOD and DODD has been working on training across agencies and the trainings are scheduled.
  + Member comment: The Mobility grants (5310 grants) must be coordinated with other populations and agencies to requalify for the grant.
  + Member comment: the fee schedule training did not allow for questions, Shannon’s response: send questions to CRP box
  + Discussion about PUCO and mileage - Brad Singer at DODD is in contact with PUCO trying to work things out for providers
* OOD senior staff retreat – changed mission statement to *“Empowering Ohioans with disabilities through employment, disability determinations, and independence”* and added these guiding principle: *“ Listen first, Act with a sense of urgency, Honor diversity, Foster inclusiveness, Value collaboration, Inspire innovation, Be transparent, Be accountable, Celebrate Success”*
* 5 VRCs are now embedded in 15 colleges, entire caseloads consist of student; Business Relations staff have been dedicated to assisting college student. Member Question: Why are students with DD not able to access the 15 embedded counselors? Shannon’s response: those students are able to receive Pre-Ets, but can’t get OOD to pay for the college program because the job does not need a college degree, they cannot tap into the VR counselors because they are not in a degreed or credentialed program, if they are [participating in a degreed or credentialed program , they can use one of the 15 embedded VRCs
* **Court Sturts - Superintendents Association**
  + Workgroups are wrapping up their work and work on one ISP is moving forward
  + The association is looking at the NMT proposed rule and how will impact budgets
  + The association believes that long-term foresting and having the necessary funds available is important
  + Cost reports were due Sept 1st
  + Wait list work is continuing and must be done by the end of the year
  + Starting to plan budgets for next year and elections for officers will happen this fall
  + Court said he still plans to bring up CBs paying for the competency add on for CB funded people
* **Stacy Collins- DODD**
  + Implementation team for new voc hab program had first meeting last Friday and included 36 members that will be assigned for subcommittees. The team reviewed purpose, framework, and history. The rule and waiver subcommittee will need to complete their work by Feb 1st, the systems update subcommittee (authorizations, billing, mss, extensions process on local and state level, etc) has goal to complete by June 2020, the training and communication subcommittee (training and tech assistance) plans to complete their work in summer 2020, and the sheltered workshop TA subcommittee ( rfp for TA, determine deliverables , score frps, monitor grant work) will likely last a year and a ½ . To find information on the workgroup go to EF website, vison and strategies tab, 2018, 2019 workgroup. Member question: is the new voc hab rule intended to roll out July 2020? Stacy: yes, Member question: providers are strategically planning and we need clarification, when will the 24 month limit for voc hab go into effect? Stacy: there will be a phase in plan, it won’t just go into full effect on July 2020, the system subcommittee will figure the phase in details Member: what about 50% calculation, when will it start? Stacy: also will be phase in based on span dates Member: a phase in will make it better to maintain contracts so consideration for this needs to be taken and TA right now would be helpful to do strategic planning and how to keep contracts as soon as possible. The sooner we know the phase in plan, the better. Stacy’s response: she will try to bump up the phase in plan sooner, the rule is expected to go up for review in April, Member: is there a video out explaining this change? S: communication is a priority of the group. All subcommittees will be meeting this month
  + Adult Day workgroup – DODD has picked a facilitator for this workgroup and plans to start to gather information on needs this winter
  + DODD Grants: grants will be released in October, autism, family outreach technology, innovative models
  + Field notice: Kyle Corbin has joined the Life Engagement team
  + Provider resources will be kept on the provider transformation page on DODD’s new web site that will released in about 2 weeks and already lives on DODD site under mylearning .
  + Outcome tracking system opens October 1st, trainings are in my learning on how to use

1. **Policy Committee Report –**

Jeff Johnson: The policy committee discussed the Gary LaVox PSA and how this video might be used to expand the public’s knowledge and recognition of DSPs. Policy also discussed 16 and 17 years olds as staff and limitations of using staff that young and the worth of keeping some flexibility in the rule. The single plan and DSP wage increase verification were also discussed in policy. The policy committee the future of day services, collaborating with DODD, being at the table, and the need to look at what the system is and what it can be.

1. **Board of Directors Report** –

Mary, Liz, and Justin – a call for nominations went out for districts 4, 6, 5 and 8. Voting will go to one point of contact through survey monkey. Make sure to go to regional meetings. OPRA office is working to standardize when and where regional meetings occur

1. **Legislative update** –

Christine Touvelle: OPRA need a healthy PAC , working on strategy with lobbying firm, will likely need some more PAC fund raising events, if you have fun ideas to raise PAC funds please let Christine know. OPRA team is still working building and advocacy army

1. **OPRA Update** –

Lisa Mathis/Scott Marks: Discussion about how, as a membership, we need to determine how we might want the proposed NMT rule language to be written concerning when the per mile rate should be used and when the per trip rate should be used. The original intent was for the “to and from” transportation to be billed as per trip, and the “in-between miles” that will be used getting people around in the community during programming to be billed as per mile. OPRA could advocate for the ability of providers to choose which rate to bill based on the needs of the individuals and the business model of the provider (in a manner similar to the daily rate versus the 15 minute unit rate used for ADS and Voc Hab). Franklin County is already doing something similar to this and Arc industries says it is working well for them. Franklin County authorizes miles, and providers choose how to bill for it. SSAs divvy the miles up between providers if there are multiple providers. If provider choice on the use of per mile and per trip is included in the new rule, it was discussed that some kind of a tool would be to be developed to make it easy for SSAs to calculate and divide miles between providers

\* Committee members attending this meeting both in person and remotely voted unanimously in favor of NMT rule language that allows provider choice in how they bill NMT. \*

It was discussed that it is important to have County Boards and Providers in the same room during training on rules, and that it is important that providers do not get “shut-out” of such trainings.

Anne Haning suggested that OPRA collect updated wage information for day services so that we go into the next budget period more prepared.

1. **Hot Topics NMT –**

Director Davis is supposed to be disseminating a letter explaining the details of the HPC increases to stakeholders

Discussion about impact of the OOD business relations team on members.

**NEXT MEETING:** **Thursday, October 3rd, 9:30am**