***OPRA Board of Trustees***

***Consent Agenda***

***November 19, 2014***

***NOTE: Some of the information is carried over from the prior month. Updates are in red font and underlined.***

***A. Efficiencies and Simplification Focus Area***

**1. Licensure and County Board Accreditation/National Accreditation**

The Partnership is continuing to pursue abbreviated reviews for county board accreditation and licensure. Nancy Neely and Mark Davis are coordinating this effort for the Partnership. The Partnership recently agreed to send a letter to Director Martin, requesting a meeting to discuss making this effort a priority. The Partnership co-chairs decided to go ahead and send the letter to Director Martin in November.

**2. Background Checks - Rapback**

The Automated Registry Check System (ARCS) is now available to all HCBS waiver providers in Ohio. It is also available for ICF providers. It is one portal for providers to enter data for all registries. The state is preparing to extend Rapback to DD and other providers soon.

**3. SSA and Program Management**

DODD continues to refine expectations in light of the CMS transition plan. Current discussions are focused on Person Centered Planning. The conflict of interest issue is being addressed “outside” of the transition plan. DODD had a call with CMS to better understand what it is they would like to see. CMS told DODD that the current state of TCM/HCBS waiver providers needs to change and that CMS will consider a revised firewalls document. DODD has informed OPRA, the state will propose closing the front door on ADS enrollees to county boards, unless there is no other willing and qualified provider. County boards will be permitted to continue providing both TCM and waiver services for their existing enrollees.

**4. Behavior Support Rule**

After the rule was filed, other stakeholders submitted comments similar to ours. It is believed that DODD plans to proceed without further changes.

**5. Threshold for Exempt Status**

As part of an ANCOR contingency, Than Johnson and Mark Davis met with the US DOL. The DOL is considering changing their regulations to increase the $455 weekly threshold for exempt status. OPRA presented data from the salary survey and members, that indicated a cut in DSP wages if DOL pursued this course.

**6. Video Conferencing**

We are researching other options that are less expensive. Our contract with Blue Jeans expires in August of 2015. We may terminate our contract with Blue Jeans and select another, lower cost provider.

**7.** **ODH and DODD Streamlining**

No Update.

***B. Reimbursement Transformation for Workforce Sustainability Focus Area***

**1. Waiver Pilot**

The Waiver Pilot continues to move along. The following are updates by county on the programmatic side of the project.

**Athens and Havar**- are working closely together to improve ISPs. Outcome development has been a big focus of their work together.  They are slowly but surely updating ISPs to reflect outcomes.

**Clark, CRSI, CHOICES**- new assessment and ISP rolling out, which got reviewed in July with special guests from Monty Kerr’s shop at DODD.  Clark has been working with Gatekeeper to make sure the software keeps up with the thinking and it all seems to be going well.  The Clark creativity is leading to the generation of some very exciting plans.

**Champaign , Shelby, CRSI**- In the throes of finalizing new assessment and ISP procedures; the products are to be shared with CRSI next week and they will launch the beta testing soon. The Shelby/Champaign assessment was featured at the Good Life Planning Academy in Cincinnati a few weeks ago.

**Hamilton, OVRS-** also finalizing new assessment and ISP procedures as well as working hard on integrating behavioral supports information into the new ISP, per the almost finalized Behavioral Supports Rule.  OVRS has really jumped into the Imagine person-centered tools.

**Madison, CRSI**- Madison County met with Gatekeeper very recently and is trying to figure out the best way to maximize the software and keep building great plans for people.  CRSI and Madison are working on implementing remote monitoring, balancing increased independence and safeguards.

**Preble, CRSI, CHOICES**- Preble has also developed a new assessment package and ISP, which they presented to CRSI and CHOICES a couple of weeks ago.  The products look good to go and should launch soon.  Preble’s contracted behavioral specialist has been working with the new Behavioral Rule and sorting out what integration into the assessment and ISP looks like. The County Board set up a fund for innovation opportunities so it will be fun to see what the applications look like and how they prompt even more growth and development in Preble County.

**Logan**- County Board staff are working up a new assessment and ISP process.

**Cuyahoga and Koinonia**- doing great things as our control group and leading all of us in cost savings so far.

**The Illuminators**- Mark Davis chairs this national group, which is serving as an advisory body to the project. Interesting information is shared regarding what other states and our friends in Vancouver are doing to manage resources more efficiently and use cost savings for the greater good.

**Continued focus will remain on**- cost savings and the justification to get rid of the 15-minute billing conundrum.  We’re not there yet. This will not be the project that Director Martin was promised until /if we can get there.

**2. ICF Reimbursement Work Groups**

The stakeholder groups (OPRA, VFA, OHCA and the Boards) met with DODD in October and presented budget recommendations. We anticipate that some of these will be included in the biennial budget. We also anticipate different reimbursement/admission processes for large (16+) and small facilities. The reimbursement work groups established by DODD have not met in several months.

**3. AOF Direct Care Workforce Coalition**

Advocates for Ohio’s Future has a health and human services direct care workforce coalition including: Aging, Developmental Disabilities, Disabilities, Behavioral Healthcare and Other Disabilities. We have formed three workgroups. The rate rationalization workgroup will gain an understanding of rates in all systems and will recommend rate requests for each system.

The quality workgroup will recommend how quality outcomes should be measured in human services and also in each specific system.

The direct care staff work experience workgroup will recommend strategies for improving employee satisfaction and decreasing direct care staff turnover.

The work of the three workgroups will be compiled in a multi-system budget ask to: improve direct care wages, benefits, training and supervision; reform our systems to move to outcome focused; improve the direct care worker’s experience of work and decrease direct care turnover.

The workgroups are making progress and will meet next on November 25th.

***C. Future Opportunities and Unmet Needs Focus Area***

**1. Health Home Project**

We obtained the claims data requested from MA, which consisted of over 385,000 lives of which over 87,000 are specifically Ohioans with I/DD. (We were told that this is the first time MA has ever done this outside their own department.) The I/DD HH interested OPRA members provide services in 72 of Ohio’s 88 counties, so the capacity to complete a productive pilot is there.

On August 28th we had a productive meeting with Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) Director McCarthy and his staff. The data that we received from ODM was interesting and we are continuing our data analysis. We have engaged Care Management Technologies (CMT) to provide us with a national perspective, comparing like groups of individuals (with IDD) that will provide us a better picture of the opportunities an IDD-specific health home could provide. The goal is to create a model with cost saving opportunities combined with improved outcomes for individuals with I/DD.

The first planning meeting with CMT was held on September 16th. CMT’s comparison data with full report is due back to us on or before September 30th. Our Health Home Leadership Group is scheduled to meet and analyze the report on October 7th.

We received comparison data from two states via CMT (the data analytics company we contracted with). The leadership team met on October 21st to analyze the data and compare to the claims data received from Ohio. The data did reveal some opportunities, however the team felt that it was necessary to ensure that both sets are equal in comparison. We are continuing to work with CMT for greater clarity. We anticipate requesting a meeting to Director McCarthy in the near future to discuss the opportunities we found and if he supports an I/DD health home in Ohio.

**2. OOD Scorecard**

We discovered that OOD is planning to go forth with publishing their scorecard It is unsure how much influence the VR providers had on the content since they withheld the comments and feedback presented to OOD. From what we have heard, the scorecard was not adjusted to clearly represent provider services and their success toward outcomes, which has the potential of misrepresenting providers and misleading VR recipients. Jason is looking into this further.

**3. Adult Foster Care (Shared Living Services)**

DODD asked OPRA to lead a workgroup of system stakeholders to identify ways to increase the use of Adult Foster Care statewide. During the June 16, 2014, meeting at Goodwill/ Columbus, hosted by OPRA, committee members discussed the need for *clear messaging* regarding the re-branding of Adult Foster Care (AFC) services, and the *change in terminology* needed to move away from AFC to a new name for the services,

We now have 18 counties who have indicated an interest in working with us. We are in the process of setting up meetings with those counties an interested providers. Our goal is to create working relationships between providers and the individual counties to allow a proactive approach to matching individuals with potential new waivers.

**4. Building System Capacity for Individuals Experiencing Intense Challenges.**

No Update.

**5. Trauma Informed Care**

DODD is sponsoring several training sessions over the next few months. The first one is full. Nursing and Social work credits available.

***D. Business Intelligence Tool***

In October 2014, the modification of our current website and our member service database to better support our BI tool started being developed. Emily and Watson are coordinating this development and plan to roll out this initial phase by January 2015.

***E. Dropout/DSP Pilot Project***

Community Connections Career Partnership Ohio – C3P(O) has a developed plan. Loveland High School is highly engaged in the project and have been very supportive. OADSP is also on-board and will be providing the curriculum needed. Two private providers from the Cincinnati area are on-board to be the intern locations.

We met with Educational Services Center (ESC) in Cuyahoga County. They seem very interested, but it was decided that they would wait until we meet with ODE.

Meeting with ODE is scheduled for November 25th to ask for funding.

We may meet with a Franklin County school system also.

***F. Member Relations Data***

A member tracking system is being developed and the data is being processed to track member related communications. This data will be used to track trends, identify training needs and address member concerns. Staff will coordinate the development of training and information resources for our members in 2015.

***G. Communication Plan***

Mark Watson and Emily Bach are working on updating the OPRA Communication Plan, assessing what has been accomplished, what is no longer relevant and what work remains to be done. Any expense for the updated communication plan will be incorporated into the draft OPRA budget for 2015.

***H. New Member Orientation***

New member orientation has been scheduled for February 5 - 6, 2015. To date, 27 new members and 13 associate members have joined OPRA in 2014. New members and their guests will be invited to a one-day orientation at OPRA. Based on the number of interested participants, the orientations may be spread over a two-day period. The agenda is being developed with the goal of assisting new members with the benefits of membership, designed discussions of managing their business effectively, presentation of tools that could benefit their organizations and networking among members.

**I. Intern at OPRA**

An OSU graduate student from the Masters in Social Work program may begin field placement at OPRA starting in January 2015. The intern would learn the skills of macro social services. OPRA would be responsible for developing a learning agreement and providing input to the university of the progression of the intern.

***J. Website and Member Services Site***

Emily Bach is meeting weekly with the IT vendor selected for the concurrent website overhaul and BI Tool development projects. Emily will continue to work with them on a weekly basis through at least the website-renovation phase of the project.

***K.* *Roundup, Magazine and Website Advertisements***

We are considering paid advertisements in OPRA Roundup, OPRA Website and other OPRA publications. We have received very positive comments regarding our latest efforts in communicating with our members and see the opportunity to offer additional services to those organizations that might benefit from advertising in our publications. OPRA Roundup circulation exceeds 800 readers and is growing monthly.

***L. OPRA IT Workgroup***

The Gadget Room at the 2014 Fall Conference was once again well received. The hours of the Gadget Room were extended. The committee reviewed OPRA’s current Strategic Plan to ensure the relevance and criticality of the plan and that the focus of our efforts aligns with our mission.