



Mission: To support and provide advocacy for providers to ensure the availability of high-quality programs, services, and funding adequate to support the individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities they serve to achieve a life of increasing independence, productivity and integration.

Board Report

11.17.22

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Safe Place Statement

We would like to thank you for attending this meeting. This meeting, like all of the OPRA Committee meetings, are designed to offer a safe place for OPRA Members to share thoughts, opinions and ideas. The OPRA Team and the OPRA Board relies on these discussions to inform our efforts to provide Advocacy, Information and Resources. We are respectfully asking you, as a participant, to assist us to make this a safe place for professionals to openly share without fear. It is important that when personal experiences are shared, there is an assurance that what is shared stays within this group. We are looking forward to an open and honest conversation and we would like to thank you for being a part of this important meeting.



OPRA Board Meeting Agenda
November 17th, 2022
10:00am – 12:30pm

- Welcome/ Call to order (Adam Guinther)
- Safe Place Statement (Adam Guinther)
- Approval of Meeting Minutes (Adam Guinther)
- Financial Report (Liz Owens)
- Governance Committee Report
 - Board Elections Update
- Board and Policy Report (Pete Moore)
 - 6.5% Retention Bonus update
 - State Budget updates/discussion
 - DRO Hearings
 - 14c
- CEO Report (Pete Moore)
 - OPRA Team update
 - 2023 Membership
 - Fall Conference Review
- Open Discussion
- Next Meeting December 14th, 2022 to Approve 2023 Budget

OPRA Board Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2022

Call to Order and “Safe Place” statement

Chair Adam Guinther called the meeting to order at 10:08 am and read the “Safe Place” statement.

Board Minutes

- Dennis Grant motioned to accept the minutes, Diane Beaström seconded. Motion carries.

Financial Report

- Liz Owens gave the Financial Report. There was a question about the Vorys retainer. John Swanson motioned to accept the Financial Report and Jeff Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
- Michelle Madden motioned to approve the payment of \$30,000 check for Silfes Media to create a series of videos to encourage vaccination of DSPs as part of a grant from the DD Council. Liz Owens seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Governance Committee Update

- OPRA Districts and Elections
 - Bob Gaston overviewed the proposed changes to the by-laws on the Districts and Board of Directors elections.
 - Board Members asked questions and provided feedback and suggestions on the proposed changes.
 - A proposed revision to the amendments to Section 4.2:
 - Remove 21 to “no less than 14 Directors”
 - Section 4.6 revisions:
 - “If the seat of any District Director becomes vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, a successor District Director shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board of the Director for the remaining unexpired term for which the vacancy exists. The appointed District Director must otherwise be eligible for election in that District for which the vacancy exists per Section 4.3.”
 - Michelle Madden made the motion to accept the revisions, Jamie Steele seconded. Motion carries.

Strategic Plan

- Scott Marks overviewed the actions taken by the OPRA staff to further the guiding principles under the Strategic Plan. See retreat packet for full presentation and commentary.
- Board Members provided feedback and asked questions on the updates.

Budget Updates

- Pete Moore overviewed the current status of the budget advocacy request and marketing campaign.
- Messaging: See page 19 of retreat packet for marketing materials developed by The Impact Group. The Impact Group is the PR organization hired by the budget coalition to develop these materials.
- Board Members provided feedback on the materials developed by The Impact Group
- Pete Moore reviewed the budget one-pager handout included in the handouts
- COLA/Rate Elevator/Sustainability- Scott Marks reviewed conversations with the coalition about continuous increases for budgets beyond the next biennium.
 - Conversations are just beginning and no hard plans have been established

14c

- Scott Marks and Christine Touvelle gave an overview of HB 716 which is the bill to eliminate the use of 14c certificates no more than 18 months after the bill goes into effect.
- Board of Directors provided feedback on the bill and potential approaches.
- A small committee is being formed to look at different possible positions for OPRA to formally take on the legislation.

Retention Bonus

- DODD is still on track to roll out the 6.5% retention payment. DODD is putting together communication and training on the program.

OPRA 2023

- 2023 Board Schedule
 - Next year the meeting schedule will have meetings every month; some will be virtual and some will be in-person. See packet for dates and in-person/virtual designations.
- Membership
 - See page 31 in retreat packet for information on membership breakdown
- Conferences
 - Registration is open.
 - Top Golf PAC fundraiser before the conference is open.
 - Awards ceremony is being refreshed. The ceremony will be held on Thursday afternoon instead of Friday at lunch time.
 - The OPRA team has been exploring taking the conference to other cities in the state for the Spring Conferences with possible changes to structure and content. The current contract with Nationwide ends after 2023 and we are exploring different cities and conference centers.

Scott Delong motioned to adjourn at 1:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Madden, Secretary



Present Board Members

District 1 – Jamie Steele, Melissa Morelli

District 2 – Ashley Brocious, Dennis Grant, Michelle Herndon

District 3 – Edgar Barnett, Lisa Reed, Mary Thompson-Hufford

District 4 – Roy Cherry, Tim Menke

District 5 – Jeff Johnson, Michelle Madden- Secretary, Phil Miller

District 6 – Adam Guinther – Chair, Liz Owens – Treasurer

District 7 – Diane Beastrom, Tammy Honkala, Beth Lucas

District 8 – John Swanson, Felicia Hall, Scott DeLong – Vice Chair

At-Large – Bob Gaston, Kurt Miller

OPRA Staff – Pete Moore, Scott Marks, Christine Touvelle

Policy Committee

The policy committee serves as the clearinghouse for most issues affecting any aspect of DD services, and makes recommendations for action to OPRA's board of directors. Every effort is made to allow sufficient time to discuss issues in detail in order to understand the impact on individuals and providers, and to consider what position OPRA should take on a given issue. OPRA Committees examine issues and may pass them on to the Policy Committee for review. Ad hoc workgroups may also be established from time to time to examine issues more fully. The policy committee is chaired by the vice chair of the board of directors with a representative provider group selected to serve as the core committee. This core committee is tasked with convening and commenting on policy issues as they arise, whether during a meeting or between meetings. Other committee work flows through policy committee to the board of directors, and vice versa.

Committee Chair: Scott DeLong, (CRSI)

Policy Core Committee Representatives: Scott DeLong, Chair, Diane Beastrom, Anne Hanning, Jeff Johnson, Jennifer Marshall, Kurt Miller, Tim Neville, Jo Spargo, Shelly Wharton

OPRA Staff Lead: Pete Moore, Christine Touvelle

OPRA Policy Committee Notes

11-9-22

Core Committee- Scott DeLong, Chair, Diane Beastrom, Anne Hanning, Jeff Johnson, Jennifer Marshall, Kurt Miller, Tim Neville, Jo Spargo, Shelly Wharton

- Welcome/Safe Place
 - Scott DeLong and Pete Moore welcomed the committee and recited the safe place statement
- Biennium Budget Updates
 - The Coalition- Pete Moore gave an update on the weekly coalition work that has been done to this point. The Coalition includes OACB, OHCA, OPRA, The Arc of Ohio, Values and Faith, Ohio Waiver Network.
 - The financial ask and justifications- Pete shared the results of a data collection process to help facilitate communication with DODD as they build their budget request. Data included results of a survey shared with OPRA and OHCA members, the results of an ANCOR survey, the OPRA salary survey, DODD wage verification tool, a deep dive in the finances on a small number of ICF providers, the pay rates of similar positions employed at developmental centers, and the administrative costs associated with running a business. The presentation reviewed by Pete is the justification for the financial asks.
 - Policy committee members had questions about county board contributions, the path of the services, and capacity of providers.

- Tim Neville gave an overview of the work a group of ICFs have put together as justification for the increase in funding for the ICFs.
- Ask- \$498M over the biennium for certain waiver services; \$150M over the biennium for ICFs.
- Messaging- Pete shared an update on the coalition's messaging development. The primary debate is how dramatic the messaging should. OPRA has advocated for a more tempered approach to messaging with the coalition handouts for the General Assembly and using the more emotional pieces during in district meetings with legislators.
- System reform- Pete shared the work the coalition is developing for nine different reform areas. They include- reimbursement/billing reform, individual choice and autonomy, remote supports, waiver nursing and medication administration, residential capacity and innovation, provider compliance and county board accreditation, provider certification, MSY and intensive behavioral support add-on, ICF modernization.
- Next steps (Governor's draft)- The Governor and his team will be meeting next week to start firming the budget. The budget will be introduced sometime in mid to late February.
- Member advocacy efforts- Continue to nurture the relationships you have with your elected officials.
- 6.5% Retention Payment Project
 - Messaging- OPRA's main concern with the messaging in the GA is that GA members will get confused about the funding and refuse to support our services through the budget process with GRF
 - Legislative effort- Now that the elections are over, we are hoping to get legislation passed during the lame duck period to enact the payments. OPRA is meeting with DODD to discuss a few concerns brought by providers about getting such large lump sum payments.
 - Questions and concerns
- ARPA funds and essential workers
 - \$1.9 billion to distribute
 - OPRA is writing a letter to Senator Romanchuk to with ideas on how ARPA funding can be used to support providers before the budget.
- 14c discussions and strategy
 - OPRA is planning on having a discussion with the other primary sponsor next of HB 716 next week. The outcomes of this conversation will determine next steps for OPRA.
- DRO hearings and OPRA's role
 - DRO Committee
 - The first hearing of the joint committee was held last week. Most of the testimony was from parents and guardians of a few ICF residents.
 - What will the end result be?
 - Still undetermined at this point but may have insight after the next hearing.
- CMS ICF QSO
 - Rachel gave a quick recap of the QSO CMS released last week. Please refer to her powerpoint shared during the OPRA Friday Member update call or her previous emails in the ICF listserve for additional information.

Regulatory Reform Items

Introduction

Over the past several years, Ohio’s system supporting people with Developmental Disabilities has made incredible progress in promoting self-determination, person-centered planning and services that allow people to live and thrive in their homes and communities. But the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing staffing crisis threaten that progress. Our system struggles to recruit and retain the workforce and other resources needed to ensure the high quality supports that Ohioans with disabilities need, and so many have worked so hard to attain. The workforce shortage continues to intensify, severely challenging our ability to fulfill the plans and promises made, and threatening the safety and welfare of the people we collectively support.

Stabilizing our system requires a significant investment in funding, resources and regulatory advances, enabling us to turn the corner away from the crisis pose of the last few years and pivot towards a sustainable and successful future. The ideas presented below are intended to confront the workforce crisis and continue the progress Ohio has made towards a person-centered system that meets the needs and accommodates the choices of Ohioans with Developmental Disabilities. To meaningfully address the challenges posed by the workforce crisis, we need flexibility and creativity, and the ability to reimagine aspects of service delivery directly impacted by the shortages.

The COVID-19 pandemic taught us that the system can change, and we are capable of adapting to crisis and working together to ensure that Ohioans with Disabilities have **services** to remain healthy and safe. We present the policy proposals here in the spirit of that partnership and future collaboration on ideas and initiatives that address the current crisis and preserve the progress Ohio has made towards person-centered, high-quality disability services.

System Reform Topic #1: Reimbursement and Service Design Reform

Summary

As part of the Waiver Reimbursement System Modernization Project, we will be presenting a separate proposal that will include actions and items that must be included in the effort and some things that we believe should not continue in order to simplify and prepare our DD system for long-term sustainability. Part of the proposal will include a variety of issues that complicate the current financial structure of DD waivers including reimbursement structures, acuity factors, prior authorizations, etc. Additionally, the proposal will include some recommendations for redefining services in a way that recognizes the broad range of service needs and thus skill sets required for direct support professionals. We strongly believe that a well-rounded workgroup will be essential to the success of this important redesign.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Debbie Jenkins, OHCA and Scott Marks, OPRA, Monica Juenger, OACB

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 “experts” who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p>Becky Sharp Scott DeLong Neil Townsend Amber Gibbs Joe Harmon</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p>Josh Anderson Shelly Wharton</p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #2: Individual Choice and Autonomy

Summary

This proposal seeks to promote individual choice, self-direction and autonomy to the greatest extent possible. To that end we propose:

- a. To decrease the over reliance of traditional paid DSPs, the system should fully embrace self-directed services, including expanding participant directed HPC options in our 3 waivers. PD-HPC expansion would allow more non-traditional providers to be selected by people and their families decreasing the demand on agencies. However, to do so, this service needs to be

less complex and simplified. We have an opportunity now to redesign this service with the new FMS which would require the providers to have an agreement with GT Independence and not be required to also be certified in the state system.

- b. Implementation of the new self-directed transportation will provide new options for people with disabilities to get transportation without DSPs which will provide much needed relief to the system. In addition, Participant Directed Goods and Services (DGS) now available to both Level One and SELF waiver enrollees, provides increased access to equipment, goods and services that are available to all citizens and can reduce the reliance on paid staff. Enhanced training on self-direction will be necessary to achieve these objectives.
Consider expanding Participant Directed Goods and Services to the IO Waiver after reviewing its use within the Level 1 Waiver.
- c. Promote additional self-advocacy at the local level to ensure people with disabilities speak up for themselves, are trained on exercising their rights and understand their responsibilities. Utilize, among others, People First & OSDA to provide additional support to county boards to strengthen their local processes and regional groups as needed. OSDA, People First and other advocacy organizations will work with OACB to identify specific steps that can be taken by county boards that will strengthen the ability of people to speak up for themselves.
- d. DODD will take a leadership role in strengthening and developing Supported Decision-Making as a tool available to consumers across Ohio. This would create a new alternative to guardianship in Ohio that will strengthen our DD system. Ohio Revised Code Section 5126.043 currently provides for the designation of authorized person to assist with decisions but the statute is not widely understood and/or utilized by consumers. This statute is also not viewed by Probate Courts as an alternative to guardianship. The proposal would be to rescind Ohio Revised Code Section 5126.043 and replace it with a more robust statute which directly recognizes and empowers Supported Decision-Making as an alternative to guardianship.

There are presently twelve states that have supported decision-making laws in place and Ohio should join those states by empowering its individuals with developmental disabilities with this great tool.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Lisa Comes, OACB

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 "experts" who will drive the work. (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p>Nancy Richards Leia Snyder Gary Tonks</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #3: Remote Supports Rule

Summary

Ohio has shown its dedication to being a Technology First state and we believe this service in the waivers can be modified to promote the use of various technology driven supports. Increased flexibility could lead to increased usage and benefit to those who utilize remote supports.

- a. Redefine the relationship between the residential provider and the technology supports provider. Need to address “free choice of provider” in connection with expectations of both the residential provider and the technology provider.
- b. Reconsider rates for active vs. passive remote supports.
- c. Create rate structure that covers small units of service such as virtual health related supports, verification, or assistance with self-administration of medications or well checks.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Monica Juenger, OACB; Scott Marks OPRA

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 “experts” who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p>Scott DeLong Michelle Madden Jamie Steele Scott Marks Lisa Comes Jimmy Finley Jarrod Hunt Kyle Corbin SSA directors as needed</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p>Debbie Jenkins</p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #4: Waiver Nursing & Medication Administration

Summary

Waiver Nursing & Medication Administration: One of the lessons learned during the pandemic is that there is a desperate need to increase nursing capacity within our DD system. Although waiver nursing was added as a service years ago, utilization is extremely low due to the complex nature of accessing the service. This proposal seeks to make changes in the following areas:

- a. Short-term: work with DODD to develop a streamlined process to permit county boards to authorize waiver nursing to provide much needed reimbursement with severe nursing shortage in Ohio.
- b. Build on current work with DODD, enhance structure and processes to allow for expanded use for medication dispensers and other technology solutions for health-related needs.
- c. OAC 5123-9-37 needs to be revised to voluntarily permit county boards and councils of governments who choose and are able to provide nursing services now due to lack of willing and able providers.
- d. Consider various models of “tiered DSPs” to review a number of nursing functions with a matching rate to align with the services.
- e. Long-term: work with DODD to find a way to allow expanded access to waiver nursing, including adding the service to Level 1 and SELF, and increase flexibility for these services. We believe this is being done in other states and would like to reduce the barriers for DD providers to provide waiver nursing services. In addition, we believe that technology related health care services, such as Station MD, should be covered by Medicaid.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Lisa Comes, OACB, Debbie Jenkins, OHCA and Rachel Hayes, OPRA

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 “experts” who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s))</i></p> <p>Jen Meadows, Hamilton county Matt Costello Guernsey Karin Crabbe, Franklin Kristi Black Gina Kerman</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p><i>Echoing Hills Rep</i></p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #5: Residential Setting Capacity and Innovation

Summary

Develop a workgroup to facilitate discussions with stakeholders to discuss increased flexibility in development of residential settings that includes parameters in unlicensed and licensed settings. In particular, specialized services for multisystem youth and adults with significant behavioral challenges are sorely lacking and need bold solutions. Conversations about setting size, while difficult, are necessary to address the sustainability of the system due to the severe workforce shortage.

In addition, flexibility in our current rules may allow for the creation of “intentional integrated communities” or multi-unit living situations which are desired by many people receiving services and their families.

Provide an opportunity for Shared Living to permanently permit HPC services in the Shared Living (OSL) setting on the same day with some limitations. Ongoing promotion of OSL and expansion statewide would have a positive impact on services for people, as well as assist with the workforce crisis long term.

As future assessments are considered to replace the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Profile, consider the elimination of scoring which provides a lower funding level for individuals choosing to live within the family unit.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Gary Tonks, The Arc, Pete Moore, OPRA, and Debbie Jenkins, OHCA

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 “experts” who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p>Scott DeLong Sarah Zimmerman Kara Brown</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p>Pete Van Runkle Aleta Baird Sara Eppard Buffie LaBelle Ray Schmidt</p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #6: Provider Compliance and County Board Accreditation

Summary

We believe that provider compliance and county board accreditation need revamped to allow for increased partnership when providers or county boards are in good standing. This to include agency and independent providers.

- a. Compliance should be focused on providers/county boards who are struggling and not those who have demonstrated consistency in their ability to be in significant compliance with rules and regulations. Providers/county boards in good standing should have access to technical assistance and support rather than being subject to ongoing compliance reviews.
- b. County board accreditation: Given the nature of county board services, we recommend a compliance structure that is different than that of providers and more focused on the actions required from the county board.
- c. Create a very limited self-review compliance tool to be utilized for providers who are in good standing and also otherwise accredited.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Pete Moore, OPRA & Monica Juenger, OACB

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 “experts” who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p>Becky Sharp Julie Monroe Theresa Schnipke Carl Brass Michele Byrne</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p>Debbie Jenkins Ryan Knodel Eric Matheny Jo Spargo</p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #7: Provider Certification

Summary

Provider Certification Requirement: Limited revisions to the Provider Certification rule would assist with addressing the staffing crisis. This to include agency and independent providers.

- a. Permanently remove the 18 year old requirement for DSPs. Agency providers only.
- b. Permanently remove the high school diploma/GED requirement for DSPs, including Independent Providers.
- c. Discuss appropriate staff orientation, including which Appendix K flexibilities should be made permanent.
- d. Discuss training requirements focusing on adult learners, addressing various ways of comprehension. Explore ways to reduce duplication in training such as permitting substitution of previous experience and education for specific training requirements (ex. requiring Medication Administration Training for a nurse), creating a database to capture employee specific training that would be portable to new employers, etc.
- e. Include a provision that permits both Independents and Agencies to substitute previous experience and education for mandated training in the certification rule. (Registered Nurses that must currently receive Medicaid Administration Training or Master’s Level Special Education Teachers who must also go through the same training as an 18 year old with no experience, as just two examples.)

Coalition Team Leader(s): Scott Marks, OPRA

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 “experts” who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p><i>Becky Sharp Jason Umstot David Lewis</i></p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p><i>Debbie Jenkins Ray Schmidt Jo Spargo</i></p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #8: Multi-System Youth/Intensive Behavioral Support ICF Add-On

Summary

Unfortunately, the design of this program has not led to the intended outcome of creating additional residential options for children with intensive behavioral support needs. We would like to work with DODD to redesign the program in a way that can meet the variety of needs across the state. A specific proposal will be submitted on the rule with recommendations for changes.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Lori Stanfa, OACB

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 “experts” who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p>Brent Baer Jason Umstot Ed Stark Steve Williams Emily Martinez Larry MacIntosh Michele Giess Rich Johnson Tami Honkala</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p><i>Debbie Jenkins Josh Anderson Dustin Watkins</i></p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

System Reform Topic #9: ICF Modernization

Summary

There are several modifications needed for the ICF program to ensure long term sustainability.

- a. While the department and stakeholders spent a lot of effort on creating the current reimbursement structure, there were several concerns that all agreed needed to be addressed in the future.
 - i. The acuity scoring for people with high behavioral needs does not accurately reflect the resources needed to serve these individuals, especially if they do not have other medical or adaptive needs in addition to their behavioral needs.
 - ii. The group agreed to capture additional information on active treatment costs and then revise the reimbursement to address active treatment. Additionally, since then, DODD is getting ready to implement service and reimbursement changes to day and vocational services funded through the waiver. ICF reimbursement should be in-line with waiver reimbursement to allow ICF residents choice in where they receive their day services.
- b. The cost reporting for ICFs needs reviewed and streamlined to ensure that only necessary data is being requested. A comprehensive review of the ICF cost report hasn't been completed in over a decade and it is time to complete this and hopefully reduce some of the administrative expense in completing this function.

Coalition Team Leader(s): Debbie Jenkins, OHCA, Rachel Hayes, OPRA, and Dan Connors, St. Joseph Home

Core Team	Key Advisors	DODD Representative(s)	Action Steps /Timelines
<p><i>Group of 3-4 "experts" who will drive the work (these are people who will join the Team Leader(s).</i></p> <p>Scott DeLong Josh Anderson Michelle Giess</p>	<p><i>Key stakeholders who the core group can rely on to React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p> <p><i>Accounting Firms as needed</i> Pete Van Runkle Dustin Watkins Shelly Wharton Ray Schmidt</p>	<p><i>DODD will assign an internal expert who can React and Enhance/offer value added input and support.</i></p>	<p><i>Action steps with due dates.</i></p>

OPRA Committee Reports



Day Array

This committee provides a platform for information sharing, networking, deliberating, and problem-solving topics and issues unique to leaders in the day array. Topics covered in meetings may include, but are not limited to, updates from the field, national and state trends, policy and rule review, best practices in organizational leadership, operating fiscally sound organizations, and identifying and mitigating organizational risk as relates to the broad array of services and supports, including day programs, active treatment, vocational training, career development, and employment. Policy recommendations from this committee are taken to the policy committee for review and action.

Committee Chair: Anne Haning, (Belco Works)

Policy Core Committee Representative: Anne Haning

OPRA Staff Lead: Scott Marks

The day array committee has two standing subcommittees:

- **Day Services Committee:** This committee is designed for program directors, frontline supervisors, and direct support professionals who are providers of adult day support. Meetings include information sharing, networking, problem-solving and discussion of best practices and trends in day support for adults with DD. Training and updates from the state concerning adult day supports, vocational habilitation, career planning, and non-medical transportation is provided. Policy recommendations from this committee are taken to the Day Array Committee for review and then forwarded to the policy committee.

Committee Chairs: Greg Ferrell (Auglaize Industries), Nicole Smith (RHDD)

OPRA Staff Lead: Scott Marks

- **Employment Services Committee:** The employment services committee is designed for program directors, frontline supervisors, certified employment support professionals, job developers, and job coaches. This committee is a platform for information sharing, networking, deliberating, and problem-solving topics and issues unique to providing integrated, competitive employment services. Topics covered may include, but are not limited to, policy and rule review, state trends, understanding and implementing DODD, OOD, and ODM rules, braiding funding, best practices service delivery, establishing relationships with employers, supervising remote employees, operating fiscally sound programs, and dual customer model, and identifying and mitigating individual and programmatic risk. Policy recommendations from this committee are taken to the Day Array committee for review.

Committee Chairs: Paul Soprano (UCP of Greater Cleveland), Justin Blumhorst (Capabilities)

OPRA Staff Lead: Scott Marks

Health

The healthcare committee is comprised primarily of nursing staff but does include other members who are interested in health and healthcare related issues. The committee focuses on nursing and medical services in the waiver and ICF settings. Areas of focus include, but are not limited to: rules and regulations that affect the DD nursing community, training, education and best practices.

Committee Chair: Shelly Wharton (The Society)

Policy Core Committee Representative: Shelly Wharton (The Society)

OPRA Staff Lead: Christine Touvelle

Human Resources

The HR committee is comprised of HR professionals, or anyone responsible for the life cycle of employment for his/her agency. This group of professionals meets to discuss best practices in HR, from recruiting and hiring process, to keeping abreast of upcoming new regulations that affect employment law and/or training requirements.

Committee Chair: Michelle Madden (IOPC), Rachel Murphy (RHDD)

Policy Core Committee Representative: TBD

OPRA Staff Lead: Christine Touvelle

ICF

The ICF Committee provides a platform for information sharing, networking, deliberating, and problem-solving topics and issues unique to leaders in ICF services. The committee examines issues which have a direct impact on the programs, services and funding necessary for the operation of Intermediate Care Facilities. The committee is used to disseminate information, provide updates, and elicit feedback on important issues related to ICF's.

Committee Chair(s): Bob Heinzerling (Heinzerling Community), Kurt Miller (Empowering People)

Policy Core Committee Representative: Kurt Miller (Empowering People)

OPRA Staff Lead: Rachel Hayes

OPRA ICF Committee Report

October 19, 2022

1pm-3pm

OPRA's ICF Committee held their meeting on Wednesday October 19th. The committee is chaired by Kurt Miller and Bob Heinzerling. Guests at today's meeting included Ann Weisent and Stacy Collins from the Department of Developmental Disabilities

- Ann Weisent provided updates from the department. Additionally, she discussed taking a look at local systems of support with County Boards and providers. She informed the group that in November, the department will be hosting a retreat for the county board Provider Liasons where they will look at developing a crosswalk of what that position will be able to assist with and how they can streamline all 88 counties to ensure all are providing the same knowledge and assistance.
- Stacy Collins from DODD provided an update on the OISP and how implementation within ICF's is progressing. Members were provided the opportunity to give feedback related to their experience utilizing the OISP. Members were also assured that DODD has had many conversations with ODH and that NO citations will be given for the OISP plan until the surveyor has a conversation and reviewed the OISP with their manager prior to issuing a citation.
- Tim Neville from Echoing Hills presented information to the group regarding the advocacy work on behalf of the budget. He emphasized the need for "stories" and data to help paint a picture of why the ask is so important. 3 questions were identified as critical to the data being collected:
 1. What are the adjustments providers have had to make due to the workforce crisis.
 2. Where are staff going and why?
 3. How can we bring technology into the system?

- Additionally, members engaged in discussions regarding recent surveys, the continued frustrations with CMS regarding masking, temperature checks, as well as other survey related issues.

The next meeting of the ICF Committee will be on Wednesday December 21, 2022.

Residential Waiver

The residential waiver committee provides a platform for information sharing, networking, deliberating, and problem-solving topics and issues unique to leaders in residential waiver services. The committee examines issues which have direct impact on the programs, services and funding necessary for the operation of and provision of services to individuals in waiver funded settings. This includes licensed and non-licensed settings and shared living. The committee is used to disseminate information, provide updates, and elicit feedback on important issues related to residential waivers.

Committee Chair(s): Jamie Steele (OVRs) and Susan Berneike (Help Foundation)

Policy Core Committee Representative: Jamie Steele

OPRA Staff Lead: Rachel Hayes

OPRA Residential Waiver Committee Report

October 19, 2022

10am – 12pm

OPRA's Residential Waiver Committee held their meeting on Wednesday October 19th. The committee is chaired by Jamie Steele and Susan Berneike. Guests at today's meeting included Ann Weisent from the Department of Developmental Disabilities.

- Ann Weisent provided updates from the department. Additionally, she discussed taking a look at local systems of support with County Boards and providers. She informed the group that in November, the department will be hosting a retreat for the county board Provider Liaisons where they will look at developing a crosswalk of what that position will be able to assist with and how they can streamline all 88 counties to ensure all are providing the same knowledge and assistance. Members suggested other areas for the liaisons to look at including the relationship between MUI CB's and providers as well as referral packet information that is often lacking.

- The group participated in a lengthy discussion regarding the upcoming budget ask. Lots of conversations with legislators are currently happening now. Additionally, an update regarding the 6.5% was held. There are many concerns regarding the “hoops” that need to be jumped through including drafting legislative pieces prior to the money going out. OPRA continues to work with our partners on this while also stressing the urgency of getting this done.
- Group discussion included discussions on Provider Collaboration with DODD, continued issues with the OISP (particularly surrounding the length of it), and a discussion on the topic of remote supports.

The next meeting of the Residential Waiver Committee will be on Wednesday December 21st, 2022