***OPRA Board of Trustees***

***Consent Agenda***

***March 25, 2015***

***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 sent a letter to Director Martin, requesting a meeting to discuss making this effort a priority.

**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. Several members have reported problems accessing the system. Although not widespread, ODM has been experiencing IT problems and is fixing issues one provider at a time. Anita is coordinating with ODM one member at a time. There have been no issues in the past month.

**3. SSA and Program Management**

CMS has informed DODD that an end date is needed, for county boards to discontinue delivering HCBS as the boards also deliver TCM. It is expected that DODD will attempt to negotiate a 10 year timetable for county boards to be out of delivering HBCS.

**4. Behavior Support Rule**

OADSP has developed a training curriculum and training dates have been set through April. DODD will also be offering webinars. “Preview” training sessions brought to light issues that will conflict with ICF regs. Kate Haller will be the point person when there are conflicting citations and will coordinate efforts with ODH. We have received inquiries from members on the content of the training sessions, specifically around rights restrictions/access to food and the involvement of the guardians. DODD sent out a memo clarifying the use of the behavior add-on. The language is more direct than previous versions and will allow for an increased use of the add-on. DODD sponsored one day training on 3/19.

**5. Threshold for Exempt Status**

The US DOL is expected to release a proposed rule. ANCOR will respond according to the content of that rule. 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. Urban computing is working on getting us set up with Go to Meeting.

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

The governor’s proposed budget contains language that would give DODD the authority to delegate licensure reviews to ODH. The administration intends to follow this path.

***B. Workforce Sustainability and Quality Focus Area***

**1. Waiver Pilot**

There is language in the governor’s budget that DODD would request authorization from CMS to do a daily or weekly rate in the IO waiver.

***C. Compassionate and Accountable System Reform Focus Area***

**1. Health Home Project**

We are evaluating our strategy moving forward. It may be best to pursue an integrated, coordinated system of care rather than an IDD-specific health home. We continue our discussions with people interested in helping start a Center for Epidemiological Studies for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

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

No update.

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

No Update.

**4. 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. OPRA is partnering with Kim Kehl of OMHAS in an effort to get regional training and meeting notices out to our members. Kim attended the joint Policy and Program Directors meeting and presented information on MHAS’ TIC efforts. We met with the AP group which specializes in TIC training and implementation. We are discussing regional training opportunities. Kevin Aldridge and Lara Palay are presenting at the OPRA Spring Conference on I/DD & trauma-informed care: what science is telling us.

***D. Business Intelligence Tool***

No update.

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

OADSP presented to South-Western Schools earlier this month.  School officials were extremely impressed at the curriculum and the structure of the program, even mentioning that this is better than any CBI program they currently offer.  They wish to run their C3P(O) program in two years.   First year the students would earn their CIP and the second year they would earn their CAP.  They also mentioned that ODE recently introduced new requirements for graduation that apply to the Class of 2018.  One of these requirements is that students must have the ability to learn and develop specific job-related skills  that are directly connected to a job-in-demand in Ohio.  With this said, it firms up the idea that this is a perfect collaboration.  Jason is now contacting agencies to see if they are interested in being a host site for the internships.

We had another meeting with South Western City Schools this month. They will be piloting C3P(O) at Franklin Heights High School. This school has a career based intervention (CBI) class of about 40 students – all sophomores. The CBI instructor has been with the school district from many years and has a great relationship with the students and parents. Although he is planning to retire at the end of this year, South Western City Schools is going to ask him to stay on part-time just to oversee the C3P(O) program. We could not be more happy with the support they are giving OPRA to get this pilot started.

Each one of the 40 students have already completed a career assessment. Using this tool, along with teacher recommendations, we anticipate 20 will apply. An interview process will occur to reduce the size of the class to around 10-12 for the first year. Once these students finish their junior year, they will move to the CAP program during their senior year and a new group of juniors will start the CIP classes. It is anticipated that by year 2, we will have a total 20-25 students enrolled in the program.

OPRA member providers: Heinzerling, CCHS and ViaQuest have all shown extreme interest in hosting the students for their internships. Additionally, Mark Davis and Jason met with Jed Morrison, Superintendent of the Franklin County Board of DD who supports and will endorse the program.

The next step is to meet with identified teachers at Franklin Heights High School to begin the selection process and begin to prepare mentors and providers.

We also plan on pursuing a grant to pay for the student graduation stipends and off set some of the OPRA costs associated with promoting and supporting the program.

***F. Member Relations Data***

Training topics have been identified as; Wage & Hour, Housing, Legislative & Policy, Employment & Integrated Services, and Business Development. This information is being developed into sessions for this summer and fall. In addition, training is being created to specifically meet the needs of our members based on size and location.

***G. Communication Plan***

No update.

***H. New Member Orientation***

In August 2015, sessions are being scheduled for 2015 OPRA members to help clarify the benefits of membership, a review of the lists serves, committees, benefits, and member discounts.

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

The OPRA Roundup Edition 11 was distributed on March 10 with a new design and advertisers. These advertisers were provided this space free of charge for donating their time to our member orientation. This also provided an opportunity to see how advertising could play a role in the design and generate non-dues revenue.

***J. Technical Assistance Projects***

OPRA will provide technical assistance to the Kentucky Association of Private Providers (KAPP), in the following areas: website development and maintenance, conference planning and implementation, member services/vendor arrangements.

The Iowa Association of Community Providers has asked for additional information.

**K. CMS Regulations on Definition of Community, Conflict-Free Case Management, Person-Centered Planning – State’s proposed transition plan**

The state submitted the transition plan to CMS. We are reviewing the plan and will provide highlights to OPRA members. Facility-based combination of work/non-work (for settings that are determined to have institutional qualities based on an on-site evaluation) are proposed by the state to be remediated by March 2024.

**L. Internship Program**

Nathaniel Cindrich is a first-year MSW student at The Ohio State University. A meeting was held with the Ohio State University field placement coordinator and discussions were held regarding additional student intern placements for the upcoming semesters. To date, OPRA has benefited immensely from the program. The level of comprehension and contribution from the current intern has been extremely valuable.

**M. Provider Information and Selection Tool Pilot**

Cuyahoga and Coshocton Counties, along with OPRA members in those counties, are designing a provider information and selection tool pilot. The pilot will propose an “Angie’s List”-type tool for people to obtain useful information on providers. DODD is aware and supportive of our efforts.

We have selected Provider Search as the company to proceed with the pilot. We are in the process of contracting with Provider Search. We may request funding from The OPRA Foundation to help pay for the development and implementation of this tool.

**N. Training and Conference**

All Sponsors/Exhibitors/Advertisers and Speakers are confirmed, and Attendee registration is rolling along. We have had an excellent response to our call for session moderators (only 3 sessions remain unfilled).

Watson and Emily are working on streamlining the expenses for the Spring Conference, with a goal of rendering our conferences profitable.

If you haven’t registered yet, please do so online at [www.opra.org](http://www.opra.org).

Watson is coordinating an Ethics Law training with Scott Warrick for early June.

**O. Free Choice of Provider Rule**

The revised FCOP rule is projected to be effective on April 2, 2015. Provisions were revised based on OPRA’s input. We are not completely in agreement with the rule as finalized and will monitor its implementation.