

**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
DIVISION OF POLICY AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION**

REGIONAL LIAISONS: WHY—WHERE— WHAT—WHO—HOW

AUGUST 2015

WHY THIS CHANGE?

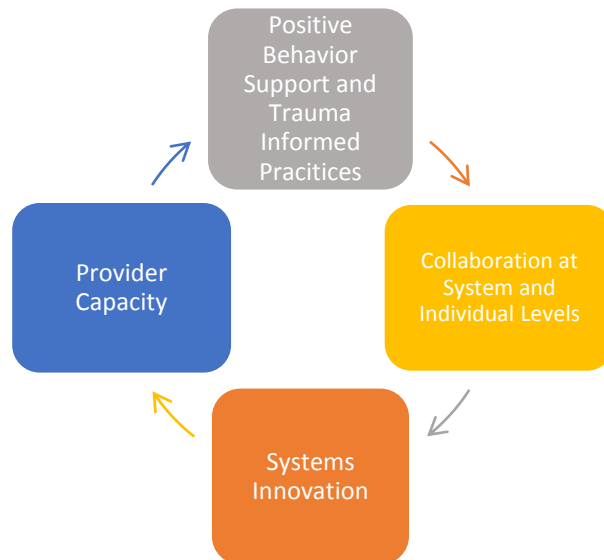
The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) has engaged stakeholders to create a Ten Year Strategic Plan that is responsive to emerging issues and changing demographics. Living up to the commitments of the Strategic Plan hinges on system-wide collaboration to enhance our collective capacity to support children and adults with intensive support needs. The Regional Liaison positions were created in order to focus on four building blocks: building provider capacity, systems innovation, enhancing positive behavior support and trauma-informed practices, and strengthening collaboration.

WHERE ARE THE REGIONS AND WHO ARE THE LIAISONS?

A Regional Liaison has been designated for each of four Ohio regions. See the Regional Liaison Map for an outline of each region and the name and contact information for each of the four Regional Liaisons.

WHAT IS THE REGIONAL LIAISON ROLE?

Regional Liaisons work in collaboration with stakeholders in the region to focus on the four components of capacity building highlighted in the graphic below. They learn about the region's strengths and innovative approaches, and look for ways to sustain and share them. They listen for ways to remove barriers to innovation and positive practices. They link what they learn with other DODD Divisions so that DODD can integrate and coordinate its work. They assist in establishing unique goals for the region and working in partnership with stakeholders to achieve the goals so that people with intense support needs and their families have an opportunity for a better future.



WHO CAN I CONTACT?

This team will be led by Tina Evans. Should you have questions about the role and responsibilities of the Regional Liaisons, please feel free to contact Tina: tina.evans@dodd.ohio.gov or 614-752-9028.

NW Region: Beth Boyle: Elizabeth.Boyle@dodd.ohio.gov, 614-582-1133

SW Region: Pam Berry: Pam.Berry@dodd.ohio.gov, 614-301-2992

NE Region: Molly Shaw: Molly.Shaw@dodd.ohio.gov, 614-593-5923

SE Region: Kim Mayne: Kim.Mayne@dodd.ohio.gov, 614-272-0509



HOW WILL IT WORK?

PHASE ONE: CREATING REGIONAL SNAPSHOTS OF CAPACITY TO SUPPORT PEOPLE WITH INTENSE SUPPORT NEEDS

During this foundation phase, Regional Liaisons will work with stakeholders to create a snapshot of the region's current capacity in each of the four components shown in the graphic. They will gather data and talk with county board staff, provider organization staff, other systems, individuals and families to get a picture of

- ➔ Strengths: What's in place and working well? Where are the pockets of excellence? What helped to create this? What it will take for others to learn from and/or replicate this? What will help sustain these? What might it take for this to be even better? What opportunities are there to build on this?
- ➔ Gaps: What's not working, missing, or causing concern? What's in the way? What might it take to address this?

PHASE TWO: ESTABLISHING REGIONAL GOALS

Each Ohio region is unique. Based on the snapshot of strengths and gaps in each of the four components, the Regional Liaison will collaborate with key stakeholders to develop priority goals for the region. Liaisons will host formal and informal conversations to address:

- ➔ What can this region accomplish over the next few years to build on its strengths and address the gaps so that people with intense support needs and their families are able to have better lives?
- ➔ What are stakeholders (people with disabilities, families, providers, county boards, partner organizations, citizens) willing to do?
- ➔ What help do stakeholders need from DODD? From other regions? From others?

PHASE THREE: COLLABORATING TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS

Regional Liaisons will assist regional stakeholders in working together across typical boundaries to take action to move toward identified goals. They will use a range of approaches to link people who share common interests and expertise, strengthen communication between the region and DODD, and assist with action toward the goals.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: Your Regional Liaison will participate in regularly scheduled regional events to hear perspectives of multiple stakeholders on the questions listed above, including Superintendent/SSA meetings, provider meetings, training events, Regional Trauma Collaborative meetings, Behavior Support Workshops, and cross-system meetings, and family and advocacy events. They will host formal and informal conversations to discuss these questions.

You can expect the Liaison to focus on the REGION and on MOVING THE SYSTEM forward. Liaisons will NOT offer consultation about individual situations or about requirements of rule or law. If you have questions about individuals or rules, you can expect your Liaison to help you link with others who may have information or experience.

HOW YOU CAN ENGAGE: You can also reach out to your Liaison to share your ideas and offer information about any of these questions. You can invite the Liaison to a meeting or an event related to the four essential building blocks for developing capacity to support people with intense support needs (see graphic). If you have questions, you can call your Liaison or Tina Evans.