



OPRA Board of Director Election Ballot

District 5

**Serving Ashland, Columbiana, Mahoning, Medina, Portage,
Stark, Summit, Trumbull and Wayne Counties**

In accordance with OPRA’s Code of Regulations, votes are being requested from current OPRA Members for OPRA **District 5**. This representative will fill a three-year term beginning **January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028**. Any/all nominees are listed below. The individual selected will have all the rights and responsibilities of an OPRA District Director as outlined in the Code of Regulations and will address the issues of OPRA Provider Members.

Only one (1) Director is to be elected. Please vote for only one (1) candidate.

Jeffrey S. Johnson, Executive Director
Weaver Industries, Inc.

Jo Spargo, Executive Director
REM Ohio

**Ballots must be returned by postal mail or in-person
by Friday, October 24, 2025 to:**

Sonya Summers, Member Communications Manager
Ohio Provider Resource Association
1152 Goodale Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43212
ssummers@opra.org
(614) 224-6772

Signature of Individual Voting

Organization

Date

Meet Your District 5 Candidates

(All candidates are listed in alphabetical order by last name)



Jeffrey S. Johnson – Executive Director, Weaver Industries

Over the past six years, I have had the privilege of being an OPRA Board Member, and more recently have served as the vice-chairperson of the recently restructured OPRA Policy Committee. I am also a regular participant in the Day Array Committee meetings. It has been a great honor to represent our system and District 5 OPRA Members in our continued efforts to impact and improve all areas that impact services, including rules and rates.

The OPRA board work over the next few years will have an unprecedented impact on our systems' future. Navigating the federal and state headwinds will be challenging, including traversing the future of Medicaid funding, property tax uncertainty, county board of DD financial challenges (that impact waiver match) and many others. In summary, we still have a lot of work to do, but over the last few years the OPRA Leadership and Board have made significant progress, and I would be honored to continue to represent District 5 members for another term.

I respectfully ask for your support to serve as a District 5 representative for the OPRA Board of Directors.

I have worked diligently in the Northeast Ohio region to provide adults with developmental disabilities and meaningful work opportunities for the past 30 years.

For the past 25 years, I have worked as the Executive Director of Weaver Industries, Inc. (Weaver), a CARF-accredited provider. Weaver provides a full spectrum of services including ADS, Voc/Hab, Group Employment, Social Enterprise divisions, NMT and all community/OOD services. Through the multiple transitions that Weaver has experienced since its inception, I continue to challenge the organization to fulfill its mission and objectives while acclimating to the ever-changing needs of the State of Ohio funding and service structure.



Jo Spargo – Executive Director, REM Ohio

As Executive Director of REM Ohio, Jo is a leader in DD services across the state of Ohio. Jo would bring to the Board of OPRA knowledge and experience in multiple areas of services including Community supports, ICFIDD, Congregate settings, Shared Living, Day programs, Vocational programs, Transportation, Youth Respite Services, Transitional supports, and more. Under her direction, REM has developed multiple specialized programs supporting people with Autism, Prader Willi, and criminal offenders.

Jo has been involved in OPRA for her entire career in the DD field. She has served on various committees throughout those years in all areas as her responsibilities evolved and the needs of OPRA changed. She has regularly attended monthly OPRA meetings and OPRA conferences and is currently an active member of the Policy committee. As a representative of OPRA, Jo has regularly been chosen to serve on various DODD workgroups, such as the Host Home work group, the Waiver Work group and the Certification Rule Work Group.

As the mother of a son with special needs, Jo is a tireless advocate for people with DD. She served on Ohio's DD Council by Governor's appointment for seven years from 2003 - 2020. While serving on this council she was the Council Chair, Council vice Chair, and Public Policy Chair. Jo attended annual legislative advocacy events in Washington DC, meeting with legislators or their aids to advocate for issues important to the DD community. In addition, Ms. Spargo serves as an OHCA IDD board member for over 5 years.

In her over 35-year career, Jo has been personally involved in helping grow REM Ohio, a member of the Sevia Health company, from supporting people only in residential settings in a single County to a full spectrum of residential and day support services in over 45 counties in the state. Under her direction, REM is committed to providing services that are forward-thinking and focus on the future of DD services.