



OPRA Policy Committee
September 17, 2018
10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1. Introductions and attendance: All core committee members were present.
2. Committee purpose and reorganization rationale
 - a. The Policy Committee is being reorganized. The rationale for the change emerged from committee and member feedback indicating that by identifying consistent core committee membership, increased consistency, accountability and follow through might be achieved. Core committee members include: Kurt Miller, Jo Spargo, Wylie Jones, Tim Neville, Dave Rastoka, Mary Vail, Ryan Knodel, Abbey Summers, Rich Johnson, Diane Beastron. Mark Davis and Jeff Davis will routinely staff the committee. These members are tasked with creating a clear, defined work plan, communicating to the full membership, creating notes after each meeting to be distributed, ensuring connection to the board of directors.
 - i. New core group of voting committee members.
 1. Core group has already been selected by Policy Committee Co-Chairs with OPRA staff input. Efforts were made to create a representative group among members and those who are committed to working on policy issues important to the membership.
 - ii. Core members are expected to attend all committee meetings and actively participate in all discussions.
 - iii. OPRA members not on the core group are invited to attend and participate in discussions but are not voting members, should a vote be needed.
 - iv. Will always have a call-in option but core members are expected to attend in-person.
 - v. Minutes will be sent to the Policy Committee list serve and will be submitted to the OPRA Board.
3. Scope of authority, responsibility, and accountability. How will committee interface with general membership, other committees and the Board?
 - a. Overarching goal of the Policy Committee is to drive the state's policy agenda not react to it.
 - i. Find new methods like white papers to drive change and make OPRA's stance on subjects known.
 - b. Policy Committee will make recommendations to the OPRA Board.
 - c. Mark Davis provided a document, which was distributed, illustrating how the various committees and board interface. This needs to be updated and some suggestions were made for changes. This will be shared with the committee, board and membership when completed. Ultimately, anything that has to do



with policy related issues should go through the policy committee. The objective is consistency in message, focus, and alignment of efforts.

4. Priorities for focus and work – these topics were generated through brainstorming of key issues:
 - a. Potential issues for the Policy Committee to address:
 - i. Staffing crisis
 - ii. Reduce administrative burden
 1. Reduce regulations and regulatory burden
 2. Reduce provider requirements
 - a. Review provider certification rule
 - i. How to get consistent enforcement and interpretation of certification requirements
 3. Potential for provider deeming with accrediting bodies like CARF or CQL.
 4. Reduce unfunded mandates
 - iii. Base rates for all programs
 - iv. EVV
 - v. Managed care
 - vi. Technology and tech enabled supports
 - vii. Waiver funding structure
 - viii. On site on call - eliminate
 1. New administration policy platform - How to position the Policy Committee to influence the new administration's policy platform
 - ix. Develop OPRA policy agenda – create our own white paper
 - x. 1 set of quality indicators across all funding
 - xi. 50% of minimum wage federal rule and vocational habilitation services
 - xii. Consistent application of rules by DODD and county boards
 - xiii. Rule simplification and review
 1. Development rule
 2. Provider certification
 3. 50% rule
 4. Inducements to participants
 5. Transportation
 - xiv. Role of the county board
 - xv. DRO
 - xvi. OOD – rules and relationship with the agency
 - xvii. Alternate funding
 - xviii. Provider collaboration



- b. Questions to think about as new policy issues are brought to the group:
 - i. How does the policy issue fit into OPRA's Strategic Plan? Policy committee will take a closer look at the strategic plan to provide input this fall as it is updated.
 - ii. Should the issue go to another committee for vetting before Policy reviews the issue and makes a recommendation to the OPRA Board?
 - 1. Does a time-limited workgroup need to be established?
 - iii. Is the issue a long-term or short-term issue?
- 5. Other items to discuss
 - a. Strategic Plan
 - i. Mark Davis gave an overview of OPRA's strategic planning process
 - ii. Will begin to solicit feedback from Policy Committee members
 - iii. Will be voted on at the Fall Conference
 - b. 50% rule – federal rule regarding wage in vocational habilitation
 - i. This will go to the Adult Day workgroup to submit to the Policy Committee their recommendations for a compliance strategy, looking at what over states are doing. This info is requested for the October Policy meeting.
 - c. Electronic Visit Verification – OPRA has not established a workgroup on this topic at this point.
 - i. Christine Touvelle gave an update on the development of Electronic Visit Verification
 - 1. A stakeholder meeting specific to the implementation of DODD services will be held soon. Christine will present the updates at the Policy Committee next meeting.
 - 2. What are the next steps in terms of advocacy?
 - a. Ohio delegation letter?
 - b. Potential legislative fix?
 - ii. A review of EVV developments can be found here:
<http://www.opra.org/electronic-visit-verification-evv/>
 - iii. EVV will be on the October Policy meeting agenda. It was recommended that representatives with billing and IT expertise be added/included in the conversation.
 - d. Provider Certification
 - i. Jeff Davis gave an overview of the OPRA Provider Compliance Rule Workgroup that met a few weeks ago.
 - 1. The group is looking at where revisions can be made throughout the entire rule.



- a. Are the high school diploma/GED and current age requirement valid requirements?
 - i. Looking to strip requirements only for DSPs who do not pass medication or drive, DSPs under the age of 18 would not be able to work alone. Perhaps these staff would have a different job title given different duties allowed.
 - 1. Agencies can always implement more stringent requirements if they desire.
 - ii. Group discussed what the benefit would be from the change in requirements.
 - 1. Unintended political ramifications?
 - iii. Suggestion of implementing a tiered rate system based on the education of the DSP?
 - iv. Discussion from today's committee meeting will be given to the OPRA Board for review.
 - v. Board's feedback will be distributed to committee members after the Board meeting.
 - 1. Policy Committee will then vote on their recommendation to the Board.

e. Quality Incentives

i. Workforce

- 1. Mark Davis gave an overview of the Workforce Quality Incentives that were developed and vetted by group of Members.
 - a. A part of DODD's technical assistance grant through CMS to get consulting from Truven and IBM Watson.
 - b. Intended to be included in DODD's supplemental budget.
 - c. Intended to be across all services but DODD has pushed backed and said it would only be for H/PC.
 - d. New money to providers intended to be passed down to DSPs.
- e. Based on 5 categories of workforce best practices
 - i. Agencies sign attestation saying they are meeting at least one of the best practices under each of the five categories.
 - ii. Designed as a bonus to be paid at least monthly.
 - iii. Exact distribution and amount of bonus depends which services are privy to the bonus and amount appropriated.



- f. The Policy Committee discussed pros and cons of the proposal. The Committee believes it should be renamed and not associated with “quality”.
- g. The Policy Committee discussed if OPRA should spend their time focusing on increasing the unit base rates instead of incentives like this.
- h. If DODD or other stakeholders push back on the proposal and ORPA needs to develop an alternate plan then Kurt Miller, Scott DeLong, Rich Johnson, and Mark Davis will help draft the plan.

ii. ICF

- 1. The ICF Workgroup at DODD is still refining the Quality Incentives project. Gina Kerman is the OPRA provider representative on this workgroup.
- 2. Gary Brown and Anita Allen gave an overview of the process. They have been involved in the workgroup since its inception.
 - a. Originally intended to be additional finds into the ICF program but has since changed.
 - i. Current proposal now is that ICF’s will lose their DSPPS and have to earn it back through the quality incentive process.
 - ii. OPRA is asking this funding be restored and become an add-on again for this upcoming state budget ask.
 - b. ICFs will select the quality incentives they want to participate in. Providers will be responsible for uploading information pertaining to the selected incentives.
 - c. Providers will get points for meeting certain quality indicators with the opportunity to get 70 points. Providers must get at least 25 points to get some of the incentive.
 - d. DODD will do an audit of one incentive. If the agency meets the first incentive then DODD will assume the agency meets all of their selected incentives. If the agency does not meet the first selected incentive, DODD will go to a second incentive.
 - e. The distribution of money is based on how many providers meet all or some of the quality indicators. More providers meeting quality indicators = less money.

6. Next steps

- a. Topics for next meeting
 - i. Keep working on the ICF Quality Indicators – draft rule is expected before end of 2018; then piloted for 3 months and data collection
 - ii. Develop a process to vet policy recommendations across all systems
 - iii. PUCO – Lisa to update in October
 - iv. Non-Medical Transportation – Lisa to update in October
 - v. On-Site/On-Call
 - vi. Electronic Visit Verification

7. Meeting schedule

- a. Third Monday of every month
 - i. Next Meeting: October 15, 2018