

Ohio Department of
Mental Health

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To: ADAMH/CMH Boards
Behavioral Health Providers

From: Don Anderson, Deputy Director for Administrative Services, ODMH
Carolyn Givens, Assistant Director, ODADAS

RE: New Operations Committee Formed and Issue Resolution Process Announced

To provide an effective mechanism for resolving operational issues with statewide implications within the behavioral health system, executive leadership from State, County Board and Provider communities are announcing the formation of the Behavioral Health Operations Committee. It is the intent of this committee to review and address statewide issues reported from the community that are or will be affecting Providers' and Boards' ability to effectively manage their business practices. Issues can include addressing the application of existing policy as it affects business operations, but it is not the intent of the committee to set or change policy.

The committee will be chaired by the Deputy Director of Administrative Services for the Ohio Department of Mental Health and will include the Assistant Director of the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, the Chief Executive Officer of the Ohio Association of Behavioral Health Authorities and the Chief Executive Officer of the Ohio Council of Behavioral Healthcare Providers. The committee will augment its membership with representatives from the Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, the Family Service Council of Ohio, staff from the two departments and other representatives of the associations, as necessary to deal effectively with issues at hand. Additional work teams may be formed to resolve specific issues as needed.

Issues for consideration by this committee can be submitted by Providers, Boards and State staff using an Operational Issues Form. This form will be routed to the State Operations Committee support staff, logged in a central database and distributed to members of the committee for review in advance of their monthly meetings. For a copy of the form and a complete outline of the issue management process, refer to <http://www.mh.state.oh.us/bhoc/index.html>.

It is important to note that this committee and its related issue management process will replace the issue management process announced in HIPAA Alert #14 (<http://www.mh.state.oh.us/hipaa/alert.14.pdf>) on January 15, 2004. This step is being taken to provide a forum for addressing issues affecting operations which are broader in nature than just HIPAA issues.

Attachments:
Issue Management Process
Operational Issues Form