



To: Chair Hackett, Vice Chair Tavares and Members

Ohio State Senate Finance Health and Medicaid Subcommittee

Meeting Date: 17 May 2017

Introduction:

Positive Leaps is a Certificated pediatric mental health facility located in District 4. It is owned and operated by founder, Sheree Lynch. Positive Leaps holds C.A.R.F. International Accreditation for Children/Youth: Mental Health Assessment, Out Patient, Intensive Out Patient, Day Treatment and Partial Hospitalization, Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment, and Pharmacologic Management. The Day Treatment Center serves children 18 months old through the end of the 8th year of age with severe behavior problems secondary to psychiatric illness. Children of any age are served in Out Patient and Intensive Out Patient Counseling Services. Positive Leaps does not treat children in isolation, rather parents/guardians are required to attend Family Therapy, to help parents more effectively assist with their child's recovery. Positive Leaps is a very small business, beginning operations in January, 2012. In 2017, Positive Leaps is on track to generate approximately \$1.8 million in revenue.

Discussion Points:

- Positive Leaps welcomes some elements of the Medicaid Redesign.
 - Modernization of the coding systems
 - Much needed updating of reimbursement to mental health providers, last updated over 20 years ago.
 - Positive Leaps supports these changes for immediate implementation.
- Positive Leaps is very concerned about the following aspects of the pending Redesign changes.
 - IT Readiness: as recently as about three weeks ago, Medicaid informed E.H.R. Vendors of a need to report to Medicaid certain types of information (Ordering Provider, Supervisor for General and Direct Supervision) not required in any other state in the Nation. According to at least two E.H.R. Vendors, making these changes will require about 1,000 hours of software development time, in addition to implementation and training time for provider agencies. Our Vendor tells me that In my opinion, this programming effort required by Medicaid is unnecessary. Although the Redesign itself is several years into the project, Medicaid is still communicating required changes to E.H.R. Vendors, while the implementation date remains July 1, 2017.
 - The testing on the new Hewlett Packard's Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) system has not gone well at Positive Leaps. The system is rejecting claims on the following basis:

- Medicaid is claiming that Positive Leaps does not have the Certification required by ODMHAS to provide Pharmacologic Management. As noted in the Introduction section of this document, we do.
- Reduction of reimbursement for TBS services after the first hour
- Medicaid and the Controlling Board approval every six months: Places Positive Leaps in jeopardy of changes in reimbursement twice a year, adversely affecting ability to business-plan, and possibly threatening continuity of care.