

**OPG Commission emergency meeting
Director Report
04.08.2020**

Purpose: The Director Report will provide detailed information about new matters, updates about the previous month's matters, and next steps for the following month. The Director will provide the Director Report to all Commission members. Questions about the Director Report will be addressed at the Commission meetings, if necessary.

- I. **Updated/ratified Operating Policies** will be sent to OPG Commission by 04.10.2020
- II. **Discussion of COVID-19 Policies.**
 - a. SCAO/Judicial policies – Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) is extended through May 15, 2020
 - b. Denver Probate Policies – 30-day delay to hear guardianship petitions (reassess Mid-April); permanent hearings are tentatively scheduled for June 2020
 - c. CO OPG Policy 7. COVID-19 Services Standards – see attached, same as the 03.25.2020 meeting
 - d. **Denver Health, APS, and Medical Legal Partnership collaboration:** Denver Health (DH) is expecting the COVID-19 pandemic to still peak. Therefore, DH is trying to get guardianships in place to discharge patients who have been COVID-19 rule out
 - i. DH will have placement arranged for patients, so CO OPG will not need to locate placement
 - ii. DH will confirm that placements have video-conferencing capabilities, in addition to phone availability, for virtual client visits
 - iii. Options for referrals to CO OPG:
 1. MLP will file legal paperwork to nominate MLP ((DH attorneys are refusing to file for guardianships) as emergency guardian with the understanding that it

will refer/nominate the CO OPG as permanent guardian. MLP will handle placement, etc.

2. Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) will file legal paperwork to refer/nominate CO OPG as permanent guardian (DH attorneys are refusing to file for guardianships). Permanent guardianship hearings are being tentatively scheduled for June 2020

3. APS will file legal paperwork to refer/nominate CO OPG as permanent guardian for cases that do not meet APS criteria for guardianship. These cases will still be DH patients, so locating placement should not be an issue

e. Phase 1: Accept referrals

i. Web site and CMS: OPG Team has provided all necessary information to Revisions to complete the website. **Website should be ready by April 15**

1. While we may be focused on DH and APS referrals at this point in time, we still want referrals completed by all sources for data-gathering purposes

ii. No pro se/in-person ability to assist with referrals; but CO OPG can still assist via phone

iii. Representative Payee/Colorado Fund for People with Disabilities contract is still unknown

iv. Considerations/barriers

1. Accept individuals who have a Rep Payee in place

2. Accept individuals who can be placed in a facility and facility agrees to be Rep Payee

3. Incomplete referrals – no concern about this as we will be working directly with organizations that have the

ability to assist in gathering information. Also, MLP will likely to most of this leg work for non-APS referrals

4. Main office phone line needs to be set up/connected

f. Phase 2: Appointment and initial 30 days

- i. It is my understanding that Denver Probate Court is putting WebX into place for hearings, so it is possible that CO OPG staff do not need to be present at hearings for safety reasons
- ii. Public Guardian will complete the Initial client investigation and meeting/visit, virtually and by phone
 - 1. Clients will have been ruled out positive for COVID-19, so we will need to meet clients virtually and by phone
- iii. Public Guardian to complete Provider/IP investigation and meetings, virtually and by phone
- iv. Considerations/barriers
 - 1. Public Guardian access to personal protective equipment (PPE) & Public Guardian safety
 - 2. Access to client for initial client investigation and meeting – facilities are instructed to not let any visitors inside. Therefore, CO OPG will not have in-person access to clients
 - 3. Facetime/Video conferencing/phone capabilities for facilities and/or clients, ability of client to communicate that way, possible refusal from client

g. Phase 3: Ongoing maintenance

- i. Public Guardian completes monthly client visits, virtually and by phone
- ii. Public Guardian completes regular Provider/IP meetings, virtually and by phone
- iii. Considerations/barriers
 - 1. Public Guardian access to personal protective equipment (PPE) & Public Guardian safety should not

be an issue for a time period, as recommended by medical and facilities

- h. 2-5 cases/Public Guardian as travel will be reduced and most of the leg-work will be completed by MLP and DH