Stephanie Loucka, JD Executive Director of the State Medical Board of Ohio

Stephanie Loucka was appointed as the Executive Director of the State Medical Board of Ohio in November of 2019. In her role, she oversees the operations of the SMBO, provides guidance and advice to the 12 members of the Board, and serves as the Board's liaison to the Governor, the legislature, and many stakeholder groups. The SMBO regulates almost 100,000 licensees, including over a dozen license types, and has approximately 90 staff members. Prior to her current role, Stephanie served on Governor John Kasich's cabinet as the Director of the Ohio Department of Aging. She also served as the Chief of Staff and the state's Chief Human Resources Officer at the Ohio Department of Administrative Services. Stephanie focuses on helping public employees drive tangible results through good public policy and common-sense regulation. She received a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Otterbein College and a law degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Law.



SMBO and Ohio PHP Program Changes

DATA

We used data from the OhioPHP's provider burnout survey to inform our next steps.



RELATIONSHIPS

We relied heavily on the expertise of our partners to establish safe, effective rules and policies.



Program Implementation







Expansion of Confidential Monitoring Program A transition of board ordered impairment monitoring to OhioPHP A transfer of the board's treatment provider network to OhioPHP

New questions on the initial and renewal licensure applications



License Application Question FY22

In the past five years, have you been diagnosed as having, or been hospitalized for a medical condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety? Medical condition includes both physical and mental conditions. You may answer "NO" to this question if you hold a current training certificate to pursue training in Ohio and the only such medical condition is an alcohol or other substance use disorder, and you have been found to be eligible for the One-Bite Program and are in compliance with or have completed a monitoring agreement with the One-Bite monitoring organization. Any questions concerning approval can be directed to the board offices.



License Application Question FY22

Question - Are the limitations or impairment caused by your medical condition reduced or ameliorated because you receive ongoing treatment or received treatment in the past (with or without medication) or participate in a monitoring program?

Question - Are the limitation or impairments caused by your medical condition reduced or ameliorated because of the field of practice, the setting, or the manner in which you have chosen to practice?

Question - Do you use chemical substance(s) which in any way impair or limit your ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety?



License Application Question FY22

Question - Are the limitations or impairment caused by your use of chemical substances reduced or ameliorated because you receive ongoing treatment (with or without medication) or participate in a monitoring program?

Question - Are the limitation or impairments caused by your use of chemical substances reduced or ameliorated because of the field of practice, the setting, or the manner in which you have chosen to practice?

Question - Are you currently engaged in the illegal use of controlled substances?

Question - Are you currently participating in a supervised rehabilitation program or professional assistance program which monitors you in order to assure that you are not using illegal controlled substances?



New License Application Question

Question - Are you currently suffering from any condition for which you are not being appropriately treated that impairs your judgment or that would otherwise adversely affect your ability to practice in a competent, ethical, and professional manner? Condition means both physical and mental conditions, including substance use disorder. You may answer NO to this question if you are currently in compliance with a monitoring agreement with Ohio Professionals Health Program.



Early Indicators of Success

- From July 1, 2023-April 1, 2024:
 - 61% increase in non-Board referrals to the CMP
 - 59% increase in Board referrals to the CMP
 - 42% increase of licensees in CMP
- Specialized handling of referral types
 - Substance Use = 68%
 - Mental Health/Behavioral Health = 23%
 - Physical Health = 9%