

Opening Minds through Art (OMA)

**Quarterly Progress Report
to the Ohio Department of Medicaid**

Timeframe: July 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020

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INTRODUCTION

Due to COVID-19 isolation measures all recruiting and in-person training sessions have been postponed to 2021. During this quarter, we successfully launched OMA's first fully online Facilitator Training program. We have also completed the development of a program fidelity tool and piloted it with the current cohort of online trainees.

OMA FACILITATOR TRAINING

The fully online OMA Facilitator Training program consists of three parts as follows:

Part 1: Methodology Training

12-15 hours completed within four weeks at the nursing home's own pace. During the four-week period, we hold half-hour weekly live sessions (synchronous online sessions) with OMA staff and the other trainees as a way to help trainees stay on track and feel connected with the instructors and the other trainees in the group. We start each session with a fun creativity-booster activity that anyone can do and then open up the floor for trainees to bring up whatever questions they may have.

Part 2: Art Making

These are live online sessions with OMA staff on two consecutive days, 1.5 hours each day, 12:00-1:30 pm. We held two art-making sessions on July 28-29, 2020 and on August 17-18, 2020 to accommodate trainees' schedules.

Part 3: Observation & Debriefing

Trainees conduct a mini OMA practicum and are virtually observed by OMA staff followed by online debriefing discussion a few days later. These observations and debriefing sessions are conducted virtually and scheduled for each grantee site on a mutually convenient day and time. The newly-developed fidelity tool is used by OMA staff to take notes during the observation. The trainees also complete the fidelity tool after they conducted their mini practicum. During the debriefing sessions, OMA staff and the trainees go through a set of debriefing open-ended questions and compare notes on entries in the fidelity tool. After the debriefing session, the trainees submit their final reflection of their mini practicum.

Certification

Completion of all three parts is required to become a certified OMA Facilitator.

OMA FORMATS DURING COVID-19

To meet the Part 3: Observation & Debriefing requirement, we have developed five OMA delivery formats that trainees can select from during this pandemic.

1. OMA for One (In person)

Trained OMA facilitators who are permitted to enter care communities during COVID-19 prepare an OMA art project to be done one-on-one with residents in their own

apartments/rooms. The facilitator also serves as the volunteer partner in the art-making process.

2. OMA in Small Groups (In person)

Care communities that allow small groups of residents to gather for meals and other activities hold OMA in small groups by training other staff members to serve as OMA volunteers. These other staff members may come from any department within the community and must be trained as OMA volunteers.

3. Virtual OMA in Small Groups

This format is for people with dementia who have a family or professional caregiver available to them without physical distancing. The OMA facilitator trains the caregiver to serve as an OMA volunteer. The facilitator prepares the art projects, sends the OMA large print handouts and art supplies/kits as needed, and holds a virtual art-making session with up to five pairs at a time.

4. Virtual OMA with Breakout Rooms

The OMA facilitator virtually trains a group of people (students, family members, service/religious organization members) to serve as OMA volunteers. On the weekly agreed upon time/day, the OMA facilitator invites all volunteers to meet virtually and go over the art project (referred to as the “huddle”). Then the volunteers are sent to “breakout rooms” within the virtual platform to meet with their elder partners one-on-one. The OMA facilitator prepares the art projects and sends the OMA large print handouts and art supplies/kits as needed to the residence of the person living with dementia. This format can be conducted with any number of people since they are meeting one-on-one in breakout rooms.

5. Virtual OMA One-on-One

This format is similar to the #4 format, but without using breakout rooms. On the weekly agreed upon time/day, the OMA facilitator invites all volunteers to virtually meet and go over the art project (the huddle). The OMA facilitator sends the OMA large print handouts and art supplies/kits as needed to the residence of the person living with dementia. The volunteers and the person with dementia meet virtually in pairs at their own agreed upon day/time.

GRANTEES’ STATUS AS OF THIS QUARTER

The table below is an updated list of recruited nursing homes and their university partners, indicating where they are in the training process.

Nursing Home	City	Partnering School	Department	Training Status
Bayley Place	Cincinnati	Mount St. Joseph University	Physician Assistant Studies	Part 3 in progress
Diversicare of St. Theresa	Cincinnati	Country Day High School	n/a	Part 2 completed
Geriatric Center of Mansfield	Mansfield	Ashland University	Nursing	Withdrawn
Grande Lake Healthcare Center	St. Marys	St. Marys High School	n/a	Postponed to 2021
Hickory Creek of Athens	The Plains	Ohio University	Medical School	Postponed to 2021
Hill View Health Care Center	Portsmouth	Shawnee State University	Occupational Therapy	Postponed to 2021
Kimes Nursing & Rehabilitation Center	Athens	Ohio University	Speech Language Pathology	Part 2 completed
Ridgewood Manor	Maumee	The University of Toledo	Speech Language Pathology	Part 2 completed
St. Catherine's Manor of Findlay	Findlay	University of Findlay	Occupational Therapy	Part 2 completed
The Laurels of Mt. Vernon	Mt. Vernon	Mount Vernon Nazarene University	Speech Language Pathology	Part 2 completed
The Laurels of Norworth	Worthington	The Ohio State University	Speech Language Pathology	Postponed to 2021

FURTHER RECRUITMENT

Recruitment for the 12th nursing home in the first cohort had to be suspended because of COVID-19 and the fact that universities are struggling with returning to campus this fall while the number of positive cases continue to rise in Ohio campuses. In 2021, efforts will be made to recruit the 12th nursing home in the first cohort to replace the Geriatric Center of Mansfield who has withdrawn from the project and to recruit another 12 nursing home/university pairs for the second cohort. The timing for this recruiting process depends on the resolution of the pandemic situation.