June 25, 2018

**OHA Physician Leadership Council Commitment to Clinician Well-being and Resilience**

The Ohio Hospital Association (OHA) is the nation’s oldest state-level hospital association founded in 1915. OHA focuses on advocacy, health economic sustainability and patient safety and health care quality. OHA supports 233-member hospitals and 13 health systems that manage nearly 34 million patient encounters each year. Physician leadership engagement with our member hospitals and health systems continues to be a focus for OHA.

Health care is experiencing profound transformation. Beyond their leadership role in the clinical setting, physicians are entering the hospital’s C-suite as change leaders and strategic decision makers. To help them meet the challenges and opportunities as a hospital leader, OHA is committing resources to support their responsibilities.

In 2017, the OHA Board of Trustees launched the Physician Leadership Council which brought together Chief Medical Officers, VPMAs, and other C-suite physician leaders from throughout the state to design initiatives to improve clinician engagement throughout their medical staff. Focus areas of the Council include: 1) Burnout assessment and individual support, 2) EHR optimization to improve clinician engagement, and 3) Clinician leadership education.

In the short time since our inauguration, we have had many successes. In February 2018 the Council launched a statewide, online burnout inventory in collaboration with the AMA. We had over 2600 respondents and are providing feedback to our member hospitals to help them guide their work. We piloted a telehealth assessment and support system for clinicians suffering from burnout through a neutral and trusted statewide entity that works with impaired physicians. We joined forces with other state entities to form the Ohio Physician Wellness Coalition which pools resources on resilience among the members to maximize impact. We launched a grant-funded program to provide burnout and resilience training for ED physicians and other caregivers, ED staff, EMS, and First Responders in areas hardest hit by opioid epidemic.

Going forward, OHA’s Council will continue to share best practices among health systems around burnout and resiliency. It will help systems thrive as they pursue optimization of EHR as means to promote engagement and maximize resilience. It will serve as an advocate for decreasing the regulatory burden on state and national level. And will continue to provide leadership education statewide through the Ohio Physician Leadership Institute and education at the OHA Annual Meeting.

As an association, we are in a unique position to help our members achieve success through strategic collaboration that inspires creativity, teamwork and innovation that will serve the greater good. The Ohio hospital community is proud of our accomplishments, in fact our quality programs have been recognized with national and state accolades.

The Physician Leadership Council is committed to improving the lives of all clinicians and in so doing, improve the lives of our patients. As we journey to pursue best practices and programming we hope to join...
the prestigious National Academy of Medicine’s Network Organizations of the Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience.

Sincerely,

Grant Varian, MD  
Chair  
Physician Leadership Council

Robyn Strosaker, MD  
Co-Chair  
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Mike Abrams  
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