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I appreciate the opportunity to submit a brief overview of the work that the Policy Committee has been engaged with since we restarted our work in April of this year. Rest assured that even during the pandemic, work continued in some of our existing areas of concerns related to policy issues that the OFCA was engaged with.

We have divided the Policy Committee into the following three subcommittees to maintain effectiveness and allow our work to proceed to cover different areas of interest:

- Peer Support & PTSD – Steve Kelly, Chair
- Time Critical Diagnosis (TCD) – Paul Gallo, Chair
- Training & Scope of Practice – John Donahue & Jonathan Westendorf – Joint Chairs

Currently, we are gathering information and engaging the members of each subcommittee to manage the workload. We are also coordinating with the Legislative Committee to ensure that we are staying on top of any developments with regard to legislation and the need for a recommendation on a formal position to the Executive Board. We hope to be able to transition to more of a proactive approach for 2022 and beyond after we get caught up in 2021 after the pandemic and once the legislative sessions in the State House start back up.

One of the largest issues the Policy Committee is actively engaged with is the current work and draft legislation that we anticipate regarding peer support and the ability to afford that function the same protections that exist for CISD/CISM in the ORC. We look forward to more advancement on this issue this fall.