

# OKPARA A. RICE

1720 Winding Creek Dr.  
Marion, IA 52302

Phone: 319.440.0218  
Email: [orice@tanagerplace.org](mailto:orice@tanagerplace.org)

---

## Chief Executive Officer

A top-performing Chief Executive Officer credited with over 16 years of effective leadership in a nonprofit environment. Strong expertise in child advocacy laws and regulations, and in the organizational management of senior-level staff. Highly accomplished in fundraising efforts, program budgeting, and overall fiscal management. Thorough knowledge of program/project management and implementing processes to maximize the use of resources.

### Areas of Expertise

---

- Clinical Practices
  - Financial Management
  - Strategic Planning/Analysis
  - Networking
  - Risk Management
  - Legal Compliance
  - Relationship Management
  - Program Operations
  - Complex Programs
  - Data Analysis
  - Capital Campaigns
  - Team Leadership
- 

### Key Skills Assessment

---

**STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS** – Proven ability in analyzing data from program evaluations and implementing inventive strategies to ensure program compliance and productivity.

**SENIOR-LEVEL LEADERSHIP** – Committed to fostering team work among senior-level staff, solving complex issues, and engendering an environment in which goals are met and exceeded.

---

### Professional Experience

---

**TANAGER PLACE, CEDAR RAPIDS, IA** 2013 – PRESENT  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (2015 – PRESENT)**

- Direct the agency's operations and programs in accordance with state and federal regulations and agency policies and procedures.
- Provide oversight in the areas of control utilization and financial management, and provide regular reports to the Board of Directors.
- Analyze effectiveness of agency programs and create long- and short-term goals for the organization.
- Promote the agency through public appearances and professionally represent the agency's needs and interests in the Iowa Legislature.
- Direct and coordinate program services and achieve quality standards of service to clients.
- Oversee the preparation of the annual budget and adhere to the approved budget.
- Research and follow through on avenues for funding extensions and additions to service programs.
- Oversee risk management assessments and activities.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (2013 – 2015)

- Provided effective and inspiring leadership and kept abreast of clinical practices, methods, and trends.
  - Strategized and developed performance measures for new and current programs and analyzed those measures in order to uncover areas for improvement.
  - Led implementation processes and addressed organizational challenges.
  - Managed the annual operational budget and provided sound financial management.
  - Maintained compliance with federal, state, and local authorities.
  - Actively engaged in relationship management with existing and potential funders while expanding revenue.
-

## Professional Experience (cont.)

**STARR COLUMBUS, COLUMBUS, OH** 2011 – 2013

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Oversaw all operations in the state of Ohio for a nonprofit specializing in residential, community-based, educational, and professional training programs.
- Maintained the high standard of excellence in the foster care, residential, and in-home counseling programs.
- Routinely defined and met strategic goals.
- Ensured legal compliance with all licensing, accreditation, and regulatory bodies of the clinical programming and treatment modalities.
- Assisted in resource development, approved expenditures and capital projects, and secured financial viability of all programs.
- Efficiently led the internal continuous quality improvement (CQI) process to measure treatment outcomes.
- Collaborated with community stakeholders regarding topics such as education, violence prevention, juvenile justice, and juvenile mental health.
- Engaged in personnel matters, to include hiring, disciplinary issues, separations, etc.

**PLEASANTVILLE COTTAGE SCHOOL, PLEASANTVILLE, NY** 2007 – 2011

### DIRECTOR

- Oversaw the operations of a 12-home residential treatment program servicing 175+ youth annually.
- Effectively led a team consisting of two deputy directors, 11 supervisors, and 120 team members, ensuring adherence to the set standards of practice.
- Liaised for local regulatory bodies, the school district, and the police department, and maintained compliance.
- Reviewed all critical incidents and led the investigatory process.
- Confirmed the effectiveness of the service delivery model in meeting the needs of the youth, their families, and agency departments.
- Kept abreast of national and local trends affecting residential treatment and led the forming and implementation of strategic goals based on those trends.
- Created and maintained a \$16 million annual budget.
- Headed work groups which addressed and found solutions for issues including personnel management, teen pregnancy, family engagement, substance abuse, etc.

### OTHER EXPERIENCE:

**MERCY HOME FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, CHICAGO, IL** 2004 – 2007

### DIRECTOR OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

**THE YOUTH CAMPUS, PARK RIDGE, IL** 1999 – 2004

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

## Education & Training

**Master of Social Work**, Washington University, St. Louis, MO  
**Bachelor of Science**, Social Work, Loyola University, Chicago, IL  
**Executive Management Certificate**, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.  
**Kellogg Nonprofit Executive Scholar**, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

## Professional Affiliations

Children's State System Board Appointee 2018-2022  
 Cedar Rapids School District Diversity Committee ▪ Committee Member, 2015-2018  
 City of Marion Civil Rights Commission ▪ Commissioner, 2018-2019  
 Linn Country Juvenile Detention and Diversion Advisory Committee ▪ Advisory Board Member, 2015-2018  
 National Alliance on Mental Illness of Linn County ▪ Board Member, 2014-2018  
 Marion Cares ▪ Board Member, 2015-2018  
 American Association of Children's Residential Centers ▪ President, Board of Directors, 2014-2016  
 Rotary Club of Cedar Rapids ▪ Member, 2014-2018  
 American Association of Children's Residential Centers ▪ President-Elect, Board of Directors, 2012-2014  
 National Alliance on Mental Illness of Franklin County ▪ President-Elect, Board of Directors, 2012-2013  
 Governor's Council on Juvenile Justice, State of Ohio ▪ Appointee, 2012-2014

Human Service Chamber of Franklin County • Steering Committee Member, 2011-2013