

Jacqueline Romer-Sensky
President, The JRS Group, Ltd.

2001 - Present

An organizational leadership, management and public policy consultant who brings a practical approach to each project, Jacqueline Romer- Sensky is the President of The JRS Group, Ltd. The firm's clients include state and county government entities, national and state associations, non-profit organizations, businesses and foundations focused on organizational development, strategic leadership and pragmatic management. With an eye on generating results, the firm provides the assistance needed to help a team of people develop the right strategic approach, corresponding implementation plan - with sensible management and communication tools- to execute solutions to their challenges. The goal is to help an organization be mission-driven and grounded in results.

Ms. Romer-Sensky's consulting is informed by almost 25 years experience as an executive leader, policy maker and manager in the legislative and executive branches of state government. Specialized experiences include leading goal-oriented change initiatives, organizational consolidations and multi-system partnerships. Delivering insightful plenary or workshop presentations on leadership, policy or advocacy challenges, with a touch of humor, is another aspect of the portfolio.

Service Expertise:

- Leading Organizational Change
- Strategic Planning & Counsel
- Governance and Management of Collaborative, Intersystem Networks or Partnerships
- Shared Services / Mergers
- Public Policy Development & Implementation Strategy
- Advocacy approaches
- Communications Planning
- Leadership Seminars, Institutes and Motivational Speaking
- Everything DiSC Assessments

Issues of Policy Specialization Include:

- Early Childhood
- Child Welfare
- Behavioral Health
- Health Care / Medicaid
- Social Services
- Juvenile Justice

A Partial List of Clients of The JRS Group, Ltd.

- Action for Children, Central Ohio
- Brown County ADAMHS Board
- Child and Family Policy Center
- Children's Oral Health Action Team
- Coalition for Healthy Communities
- Columbus City Schools
- County Commissioners Association of Ohio
- County of Los Angeles, CA, Administrator
- The Danforth Foundation
- Delaware County Job & Family Services
- Children & Family Services, Cuyahoga Co.
- Early Care Advisory Council of Ohio
- The Education Commission of the States
- Fairfield County Opiate Task Force
- Fresno Co. CA Department Social Services
- The George Gund Foundation
- Intersystem Service Coordinators of Ohio
- Invest in Children, Cuyahoga County
- Lorain County Mental Health Board
- Maine Governor's Children's Cabinet
- Massachusetts Dept. of Social Services
- Morrow County Developmental Disabilities Board
- National Association of County Commissioners

- National Association of County Human Services Administrators
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Governors Association
- New England Association of Child Welfare Commissioners & Directors
- New Mexico Children’s Cabinet
- Mental Health Recovery Service Board of Delaware/Morrow Counties
- Ohio Air Quality Development Authority
- Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities
- Ohio Business Roundtable
- Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Assoc.
- Ohio Department of Education
- Ohio Department of Health
- Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Ohio Job & Family Services Director Assoc.
- Oregon Children & Families Commission
- Osteopathic Heritage Foundation
- Partnership for Older Adults,
- Public Children Services Association of OH
- Smart Start, State of North Carolina
- Solutions Counseling & Recovery Centers
- Tapestry, System of Care, Cuyahoga County
- US Army OneSource
- United Way of Greater Cincinnati
- Voices for Ohio’s Children
- Wyoming Early Childhood Cabinet
- Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
- Zero-to-Three Foundation

Achievements

Consultative

- Formulated a leadership curriculum based on “The Six Steps of Effective Leaders.” Conducted leadership workshops reaching more than 3,600 participants. Executive Coaching upon request.
- Facilitated the development of strategic plans for dozens of clients ranging from small organizations to mid-size county agencies and non-profit organizations to large-scale operations.
- Consultant to non-profit and governmental consolidations / mergers / shared services constructs.
- Provided organizational development, operational guidance and strategic planning counsel to numerous “Children & Youth Collaboratives” or “Children’s Cabinets” at the county and state levels including for Cuyahoga County’s Invest in Children, Los Angeles County, the states of Kansas, Maine, Missouri, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon and Wyoming as well as in national venues hosted by The National Governors Association and The National Association of Counties.
- Lead Writer/Project Manager for State of Ohio \$80m Federal Preschool Expansion Grant.
- Consultant to benchmark Columbus City Schools Vision of Wellness Plan, Wellness Clinics Feasibility Assessment, and School-Age Oral Health Model.
- Consultant to The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities Futures Group charged with conceptualizing the future role of local Boards in the public behavioral health system.
- Contract adviser to business interests in public early childhood investment.
- Contract National Director of The Network for Child Safety, a non-profit entity that provided consultation and technical support to child welfare state and county agencies in 15 states.

Public Service Executive

- Served as the Cabinet Director of the largest state agency in Ohio government.
- Responsible for launching the Department of Job & Family Services via the merger of the Department of Human Services and the Bureau of Employment Services.
- Oversaw the development and implementation of Ohio’s welfare reform. At the 36-month time-limit mark, 99 percent of the welfare caseload had successfully left public assistance.
- Sponsor of Child Welfare Shareholder reform of state’s child welfare and protective services system.
- Captained the administration’s efforts to overhaul state adoption law.
- Governor’s Office leadership and oversight for Ohio’s successful efforts to become the first state to fully fund Head Start for all eligible children, serving 78,468 children annually.



- Launched the state's birth-to-three initiatives, including the public-private Help Me Grow partnership, as Deputy Chief of Staff. As Director, authorized TANF to more than double the number of infants and toddlers in home-visiting to 30,000 and chartered child care's Step Up To Quality program.
- Captained State effort which eliminated 1,423 state rules and 8 required state plans, closed a major state institution, and secured a compatible confidentiality agreement between seven state agencies.

Current Public Service Position

Chair, Opportunity for Ohioans with Disabilities Commission

Sep. 2005 – Present

One of seven appointed commissioners advising the state agency that provides vocational rehabilitation and other services to people with disabilities. RSC rehabilitated 3,510 Ohioans with disabilities and processed 200,000+ disability determinations in FFY 2013.

Previous Professional Positions

Director, Ohio Department of Job & Family Services

Mar. 1999 – Mar. 2001

Cabinet Director responsible for an \$11+ Billion annual budget, 3,900 state employees, and 1,000 contract employees. Primary program services include: Medicaid, OhioWorks First: TANF & WIA, Unemployment Compensation, Child Support Enforcement, Child Protection Services, Child Care and a host of family support and workforce development services. Many services delivered via a state-supervised, county administered system with 23,000 workers supported by ODJFS computer network.

Trustee, Ohio University Board of Trustees

1998 – 1999

Nine trustees govern Ohio University, the oldest university in the Northwest Territory. A teaching and research institution with five branches, Ohio University enrolled 19,000 students at its main campus with an annual budget of \$335 million.

Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Governor George V. Voinovich

1994 – 1998

Served as a primary advisor on Administration policy development, provided daily management of the Governor's Office and held line authority for the Departments of Aging, Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services, Health, Human Services, Mental Health, and Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities.

Prior to promotion to Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor's Office roles included:

Director of Cabinet Affairs 1994

Director of Policy & Legislation 1993

Executive Assistant for Health & Human Services 1992

Team Leader for the Ohio Family & Children First Initiative

This national-model for Governor's Children's Cabinet focused on a child's school readiness by mobilizing the state's resources and supporting coordinated initiatives directed by 88 county councils.

Controlling Board President, Deputy Director, Ohio Office of Budget & Management

1991

Chaired and served as the Governor's voting representative on this seven-member, bi-cameral, legislative board overseeing state contracting and various state financial transactions.

Director of Communications, Ohio House of Representatives

1983 – 1990

Directed public relations & communications for the 40-member House Republican Caucus.

Education

- Master of Arts, Organizational Leadership, 2006, Graduate Institute of Connecticut
- Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1996
- Bachelor of Science, Journalism, Summa Cum Laude, 1983, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio



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Activities

- Chair, the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Commission
- Member, Board of Trustees, Jo Ann Davidson Ohio Leadership Institute
- Member, Advisory Board for The Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs
- Member, Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children
- Past Member, Board of Trustees, Columbus Early Learning Centers
- Past Member, Voices for Juvenile Justice Initiative, Ohio Department of Youth Services
- Past Member, Early Care & Education Fiscal Workgroup, State of Ohio
- Past Member, Delaware County Workforce Investment/ Community Planning Committee
- Past Member, School Readiness Solutions Group
- Past Member, The Ohio University Alumni Association Board of Directors
- Past Member, Dave Thomas Adoption Center Board of Advisors, Capital University Law School
- Past Member, Women Executives in State Government
- Past Member, National Advisory Board for the Danforth Foundation's Policymakers' Program
- Past Member, Ronald McDonald House Charities Central Ohio Board
- Past Policy Committee Member, American Public Human Services Association
- Past Member, National Association of State Workforce Agencies
- Past Member, The Finance Project, National Work Group on Financing Comprehensive, Community-Based Support Systems for Education & Other Children's Services
- Past Staff Chair, National Governors' Association Leadership Group for Children
- Past Member, Council of Governor's Policy Advisors

Honors

- School Readiness Resource Group, member recognition, 2006
- Massachusetts Department of Social Services Appreciation Recognition, 2006
- Macintosh Leadership Award, Ohio Association of County Boards of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities, 2001
- Vision & Commitment Honor, Public Children Services Association of Ohio, 2001
- Advocate of the Year, Ohio Hunger Task Force, 1999
- Ohio Early Start Honor, 1999
- Leadership for Family Support Activities Award, Ohio Respite Coalition, 1999
- Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, "Janet Voinovich Child Advocacy Award," 1998
- "Resolution of Appreciation" Ohio Association of County Boards of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities, 1997
- Friends of Education Award, Ohio Department of Education, 1997
- Distinguished Alumni Award, Ohio University, Department of Political Science, 1992
- Addie Award of Excellence, 30-second television spot, political advertising category, 1988

