

# OPRA MEMBER UPDATE

MARCH 26, 2020

## OPRA Develops Local Coordination Memo

As we enter into "phase 2" of responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, OPRA has developed this guidance to help providers and local teams make connections, develop emergency plans, coordinate resources and prepare for a potential infection or outbreak of Covid-19. This guidance is not exhaustive and your own response and planning will be dependent on your community and local partners. We hope you find these items helpful in coordinating a local plan in your community.

The local coordination memo can be found in the ['Member Resources' section of the new www.opra.org](#) or can be downloaded [here](#). Please feel free to share this document with partners in your community.

## CARES Act Passes Senate

Late Wednesday evening, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act, approving \$2.2 trillion in a response and economic stimulus package, expected to pass the House of Representatives Friday and be signed into law by President Trump. Highlights of the act important to Disability service providers include;

- Inclusion of "Margie & Isaiah's Law"—legislation led by ANCOR and introduced by Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Rob Portman (R-OH) in late January—to enable disability service providers to be reimbursed by Medicaid for the time direct support professionals spend supporting people with I/DD during short-term hospitalizations.

- Medicaid-funded disability service providers are eligible to apply for federal small business loans, some of which will be forgiven under provisions of the new law. We appreciate OPRA members reaching out to their US Senators to help ensure medicaid-funded providers were included in these loan opportunities.

- Short-term reauthorization of funding through November for the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program.

There is still much work to be done to ensure resources, support and provisions for disability service providers, DSPs and people with developmental disabilities in future relief packages. We will continue to work with national partners to advocate and help ensure adequate resources for the disability supports. To read the text of the bill, click [here](#). For more information, please contact Christine at [Ctouvelle@opra.org](mailto:Ctouvelle@opra.org).



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## DODD Updates:

With so many changes and memos coming from DODD this week, we have attempted to compile all of the week's updates here below. Contained are information about relaxed processes, billing concessions and other steps taken by DODD to support the system.

[Latest DODD Guidance and Resources: Including guidance on service authorizations, Behavior support, emergency tele-health, expediting background checks and non-medical transportation](#)

[Guidance: Certification Span Extensions for Upcoming Renewals](#)

[MUI Registry Unit: Updated Guidance](#)

[Service Authorization Requirements Frozen](#)

[What Ohio's Stay-at-Home Order Means for Ohio's Developmental Disabilities System](#)

[Guidance: Certification Span Extensions for Upcoming Renewals](#)

[OSSAS Suspends Scheduled Compliance Reviews, Regulatory Work](#)

[Guidance: Home Waiver Settings](#)

[Guidance: Day Support Service Options](#)

[DODD's Statewide Support Teams Available for COVID-19 Response](#)

[Guidance: Providers of Waiver-Funded Services](#)

[Guidance for ICFs Regarding COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19: Updates for ICFs](#)

[Guidance: Rule Relief for Medication Administration Certification Renewals](#)

[Latest DODD Guidance and Resources](#)

## Covid-19 Resources

We understand that during this time it can feel like the proverbially firehouse of information. We wanted to take the moment to provide several links and resources we hope are helpful in sorting through the most pertinent information out there.

[The Ohio Department of Health dedicated Covid-19 Homepage](#)

[OPRA's Covid-19 Resource Center:](#) Our new website including shared member resources, vendor partner resources, information on small business loan assistance, HR resources, and much more!

[The Center for Disease Control's Covid 19 Home Page](#)

[Ohio EMA's Tabletop Exercise Toolkit](#)

[DOL Covid Resource Page:](#) This page contains many useful resources for navigating the many labor/HR issues changes happening in response to Covid-19

[Red Cross Online CPR/First Aid Training Courses](#)

[DODD Statewide Support Teams](#)

[DODD Resources and Support](#)



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## US Department of Labor Wage and Hour Resources on the FLSA, FMLA, and FFCRA

The US Department of Labor (DOL) released some new resources (found [here](#)) on the Families First Coronavirus Response Act leave and sick time requirements for employers with fewer than 500 employees including a fact sheets, question and answers, posters and field assistance bulletins. The posters found on the website can be used to help satisfy the requirement to notify employees about the new benefit. Many of the questions we have received are addressed in the various resources, however additional guidance is still forthcoming.

Additionally, DOL is soliciting feedback and ideas on “shaping the development of USDOL's compliance assistance materials and outreach strategies related to the implementation of the FFCRA. USDOL will use the ideas and comments gathered from this dialogue to develop compliance assistance guidance, resources, and tools, and outreach approaches that assist employers and employees in understanding their responsibilities and rights, respectively, under the FFCRA. We need your input by March 29, 2020.” You can provide feedback [here](#).

Please let Christine at [Ctouvelle@opra.org](mailto:Ctouvelle@opra.org) or [covidqs@opra.org](mailto:covidqs@opra.org) know what questions you have!

