

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

APRIL 17, 2020

Ohio Submits Emergency Waiver Applications

Earlier this week, Governor Mike DeWine announced that Ohio submitted emergency 1135 and Appendix K waiver applications to CMS. These waiver requests codified many of the regulatory relaxations put into place by DODD since early March. The relief application did not, however, contain any of the financial relief proposals for disability providers as submitted to the Ohio Dept of Medicaid by DODD. OPRA is still pursuing strategies to ensure necessary funding through the crisis, including signing on to a coalition letter to Governor DeWine sent last night.

[To read the coalition letter and learn more about the waiver applications, click here.](#)

Governor DeWine Signals Phased-in 'Re-Opening'

During Thursday's press briefing, Governor DeWine announced that Ohio would begin developing plans focusing on 'reopening' the economy gradually, beginning with businesses that are able to demonstrate safe social distancing practices. Due to Ohio hospitals currently being under-capacity, DeWine signaled that elective surgeries would be opened up again next month. To read more about the plans to reopen Ohio's businesses and economy, [click here.](#)

OPRA Holds Committee Meetings and Listening Sessions

Throughout the week OPRA held committee calls and listening sessions with many of our committees including the residential waiver, ICF, Day Service, Employment Service and Facility-free workgroup. We gained valuable feedback from the membership on how all of you are working through the crisis and what lessons have been learned for when the crisis subsides. The day and employment services committee provided updates on innovative ways day service are being delivered, including one member who is doing 'virtual vacations' with the people they are supporting.

OPRA Distributes Donated PPE to Members

Following last weekend's article in the Columbus Dispatch, OPRA received large mask donations that we were able to distribute to members throughout the state. OPRA will continue to source distributors for PPE as well as work with members to deliver donated items. [Please visit OPRA.org to see a list of trusted PPE Distributors.](#)

ODH Orders Notification Requirement

The Ohio Department of Health order issued April 15 requires that all DODD licensed facilities give notice to residents and guardians within 24 hours of the first time they have a positive or probable case of COVID-19 within the facility.

[To read the order and the full guidance from DODD, click here.](#)



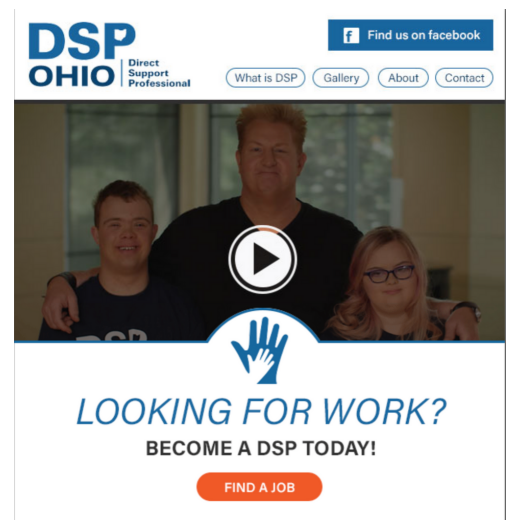
In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Center for Community Solutions Survey: "Please complete a [short survey](#) on how COVID-19 and the stay-at-home order are impacting your organization, your clients and your community. The data Community Solutions collects will go beyond anecdotes to provide a window into the real-time impact to front-line organizations and the clients they seek to serve. We anticipate initial results within a few weeks and will share findings widely to make sure decision makers in governments and communities are informed about responses to this crisis. Thank you for all of the work you all are doing and your partnership." - Tara Britton-CCS

SSI and Stimulus Checks: If you are supporting SSI-eligible individuals, please refer to [this instructional page](#) from the IRS, instructing on how SSI recipients can register to ensure they receive their stimulus check.

DSPOhio: DSP Ohio has launched a time limited campaign to draw applicants to the field during the COVID-19 crisis. This is a social media campaign and will be targeted to people who are actively job searching (have clicked on Indeed or Monster, for example). If you haven't checked lately – make sure your information is current and accurate on the DSP Ohio web site. Thanks for all you do. Please contact Anita for more information or for the social media campaign flyers to post to your own social media!



Upcoming Events

4/21: DODD Webinar: LTSS Pre-Surge Planning Toolkit Training for Community Settings

News and Resources

[Coronavirus: Direct care workers struggle to find protective equipment](#)

[Coronavirus: Developmentally disabled struggle as programs close, services scaled back](#)

[The Latest COVID-19 Updates from ODH and the state of Ohio.](#)



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COVID-19 MUI Data from Ohio's DD System:

Scott Phillips of DODD shared with us the latest data as it concerns the impact of Covid-19 on people supported in Ohio's disability service system.

"In Ohio, we have had 5 deaths reported within our service delivery system. (Lucas County-2 , Miami-1, Hamilton -1 and Franklin -1).

102 people have had Unanticipated Hospitalization MUI's reported and have been tested for COVID-19. (Of the 102 people tested 68 were negative, 30 were positive and 4 are pending).

67% Male and 33% female.

The average age is 55.....With the oldest person 79 and the youngest 12.

31 of the 88 counties have reported hospitalizations involving COVID-19.

Cuyahoga County leads our MUI reports with 14 people hospitalized, followed by Hamilton 11 and Franklin 9. These are overall reports of people being tested not positive results. Positive results (30) have been reported in 6 counties (Belmont, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Lucas, and Miami)

NODC is our only Developmental Center with positive cases at this time.

If you have questions or need any additional information please let me know.

Thanks for all you do.....!!

Take care.....and be safe.....!!

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