

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JUNE 12, 2020

HHS Funding/Portal: Earlier this week, [HHS released information on the Provider Relief Fund](#) monies that were part of the federal government's response to COVID 19 and how to access them through an online portal. It is incredibly important it is to take time to read through all of the information in the instructions and FAQs before submitting your information as once information is submitted, it cannot be edited. Our partners at Vorys have put [together this explainer](#) and will also be [hosting a webinar on 6/17](#) to discuss the process as well as work through many of the outstanding questions about this funding opportunity.

Day & Vocational Reimbursement: On Wednesday evening, [DODD released guidance regarding temporary billing changes for ADS and Voc Hab services](#). Per the guidance, anyone receiving ADS/VH services in a center will be billed at an Acuity C rate. This rate will be in effect as of June 1st and will be reviewed every 30 days for further consideration as restrictions are lifted. MBS will be able to accommodate this billing, although the codes will not be available for authorization through MSS, PAWS and CPT. Between this and the STEP billing, for the time being essentially all ADS/VH services should be able to be billed at the Acuity C rate. DODD will be publishing additional technical guidance in the upcoming Memo Monday

Town Halls: We will have our first Tele-townhall with representative Marcy Kaptur's office next Friday at 1pm. Unfortunately the congresswoman isn't available to join us, so Margaret, her healthcare policy aid will be joining us. We invite you to join us if you provide services in her district (up around lake from Toledo to the west side of the Cleveland area). We will members provide their experience so far, ask questions for Representative Kaptur's office to respond to and give the office an opportunity to share their insight on how things are going on the federal level. We hope to have a simple registration form out later today where you will have an opportunity to submit questions ahead of time. Additionally, on the Friday member call on June 26th, we will be joined by Representative Steve Stivers. He and his staff have been big advocates for our services and represents the district where the OPRA office is located. We are thrilled to have him join us. We will have some additional information on that call coming soon.

State Legislative: We are following 3 bills working through the Ohio legislature impacting Ohio's disability service system. The first, [HB 601](#), which would require adult changing tables in new public buildings had its first committee meeting this week. [HB 679](#), which passed the house and was introduced in the Senate today, would codify the telehealth expansions put in place during the pandemic. Related to HB 679 is [House Bill 13](#) that would create a program to help expand broadband access to under-served communities. The bill has recently picked up significant momentum in the General Assembly due to the pandemic. For more info, contact Christine at Ctouvelle@opra.org.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

ICF 1135 Update: During Wednesday's weekly call between ANCOR and CMS, it was indicated that CMS are moving into a "recovery phase", therefore no longer approving 1135 blanket waivers. CMS went on to say that associations or states can make a compiled request for 1135 waivers on behalf of specific facilities. There are still many unanswered questions on this waiver process and considerations for ICF providers. We will discuss these issues in next week's ICF Committee meeting.

OOD Webinar and 50 Year Anniversary: Per OOD announcement: "OOD has appreciated Providers' enthusiasm and willingness to be flexible in delivering this year's summer youth services under the Summer Youth Foundations (SYF) model...OOD has once again scheduled several informational Question & Answer sessions during the summer for Providers. Sessions will start June 17 and occur every two weeks from 8:30 – 9:30 through August 12TH. During the informal meetings, OOD staff will be available to answer Provider questions about SYF service requirements, reports, and invoicing. Registration is not required - simply click on the respective link at the time of the meeting." The links for all of the dates are 'clickable' here: [June 17th](#), [July 1st](#), [July 15th](#), [July 29th](#) and [August 12th](#).



Upcoming Events

6/17: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee Meeting

6/17: OPRA ICF Committee Meeting

6/18: OPRA Day & Employment Services Committee Meeting

News and Resources

Dispatch: Dr. Amy Acton Resigns as State Health Director

UPDATED: OPRA PPE Resource Page

Disability Scoop: Hospitals Told To Allow Visitors For Individuals With Disabilities

