

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

OCTOBER 2, 2020

**HHS Provider Relief:** The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced yesterday a third phase of the Provider Relief Fund. This new tranche will distribute another \$20 billion to Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, behavioral health, and substance abuse providers. The application for funds during this phase will open this Monday October 5th and close November 6th. At the moment there is no set percentage or rate set for how much providers will receive. The amount of funds paid out will be determined by the number of providers who apply and a consideration of various factors about each provider's revenue. This new release of funds is more nuanced than the previous ones so it will be important to thoroughly read [the announcement from HHS, by clicking here](#). Please contact Christine at Ctouville@opra.org with any questions you may have.

**Risk/Benefit Discussion Guide:** Coinciding with last week's release of indoor visitation guidance for ICFs, [DODD released an updated 'Risk/Benefit Discussion Guide'](#), intended to help with team discussions when ICF residents wish to participate in activities outside the home. After getting clarification from DODD, this new discussion guide replaces the previous version also used for adult day services and is intended to be the single tool/guide used by teams when weighing community activities. The tool is not mandatory, but heavily encouraged for team decisions. The updated version no longer includes 'scores' and 'risk levels', aiming to lead to better team discussions. Please contact Scott at smarks@opra.org with any questions.

**ICF Cost Reporting:** For the past few weeks we have been awaiting guidance from the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) regarding cost reporting COVID related expenses and fiscal relief for ICF providers. [That guidance was published yesterday by ODM and can be found here](#). As we work to analyze the guidance, we are seeking member feedback as to whether this guidance provides the clarity needed or whether we need to seek additional input from ODM. Please contact Christine at Ctouville@opra.org with questions or feedback on the guidance.

**HB 770:** [Ohio House Bill 770 was introduced](#) by Reps Richardson and Fraizer this past Wednesday, aimed at allowing residents of nursing homes and ICFs to designate an essential caregiver that could come into the ICF and help with the care of the resident and provide companionship. This essential caregiver could be a family member, guardian, parent or someone else. This bill presents obvious concerns, and we are working with legislative partners to better understand its origin and likelihood of passage, especially considering the lifting of visitation prohibitions last week.

**MSS Workgroup:** The committee tasked with implementing a rebuild of the Medicaid Service System (MSS) met this week to continue its work on the overhaul and redesign of the platform. The discussion continued to center around the processes for creating and managing sites, especially as people move in and out of a home. The new design should allow for cleaner work in the system, avoiding much of the 'clutter', eliminating unnecessary sites from appearing in the dashboard once the living situation has changed or the provider is no longer serving that site. Please reach out to Scott at smarks@opra.org with any questions.



# In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners



**OPRA Fall Conference:** Registration is live for OPRA's Virtual Fall Conference, which will be held on October 28th and 29th. We are excited to bring you the sessions, vendors and good times you expect from an OPRA conference in this safe, online environment. Please visit our [Training & Events page](#) to learn more and register for the fall conference! Please contact Melissa at [Mfannon@opra.org](mailto:Mfannon@opra.org) with any questions you may have.

## DD Talks-The Importance of DSPs:

"September celebrates Direct Support Professionals, and this episode of Ohio DD Talks talks to Bethany Toledo, Executive Director of Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals - OADSP & Joshua Peterson, DSP, RHDDspeak to Michael Denlinger about the shortage of DSPs, advocating for DSPs, and why they are important to the community."



## Happy National Disability Employment Awareness Month!:

We are celebrating NDEAM as we enter the month of October. Per the DOL: "This year marks not only the 75th observance of NDEAM, but also the 30th anniversary of the ADA. Both milestones are being commemorated with a range of events and activities centered on the theme "Increasing Access and Opportunity." [To download NDEAM resources and ideas for your own celebrations, click here.](#)

## Upcoming Events

**10/6: OPRA Human Resources Committee Meeting**

**10/8: 12 PM Vorys On Call Webinar**

## News and Resources

"Coronavirus in Ohio Thursday update: 1,327 new cases, 13 additional deaths reported"

"Employment and the ADA During the COVID-19 Pandemic"

"Ohio's Medicaid program to expand behavioral-health services for high-need children, Gov. Mike DeWine says"

OPRA COVID-19 Toolkit



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## OPRA PAC Virtual Golf Outing October 4th-10th, 2020

PRESENTING SPONSOR



### Option #1

#### Play Your Own Course

Pick your favorite course and golf with your friends.  
Take a picture of your team and send us your score.

We are requesting a \$75 donation per player.

### 3 Ways to Play

#### Option #2

#### Play at Urbana CC

Play at Urbana Country Club (space is limited)  
Friday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>  
Tee times will be reserved, lunch will be included.  
\$150 per golfer



### Option #3

#### Simply Donate and Watch TV

Don't play at all and support the OPRA PAC.  
Send us a picture of your non-golf activity.  
We are requesting a \$75 donation per person.

For those of you choosing Option 1 or 3, please make your personal check payable to OPRA PAC and send it c/o Pete Thompson, 1152 Goodale Blvd, Columbus, Ohio 43212

For those of you choosing Option 2 you can pay on-site at the Urbana Country Club (4761 US-36, Urbana, OH 43078)

The following health and safety precautions will be followed at the Urbana CC:

- Scorecard results will be returned by mobile texting only.
- Single carts available upon request. All carts are sanitized prior to use.
- Individual lunch boxes will be prepared by masked and gloved Urbana CC staff.
- Social distancing is required. A mask is required in Clubhouse and where appropriate.

[Click here to learn more and Register!](#)

