

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

NOVEMBER 20, 2020

Vaccination Plan: As you are all likely aware, Covid-19 vaccines developed by Pfizer and Moderna have had an effective rate of over 90% and will be soon fast-tracked for FDA approval. We recently shared an outline for Ohio's plan to distribute a vaccine once it is made available. We believe it is vitally important that people with disabilities and the front-line staff who support them are clearly identified as a priority population for immediate distribution. Currently the first two phases include people who live in congregate care settings and group homes, but we feel the language needs to be more precise in order to ensure the priority for the people we support. [You can read the current distribution plan here](#) and provide feedback as we advocate for the priority inclusion of people with disabilities in the immediate phases.

ICF Rapid Testing: Last week we shared a draft of DODD's plan to distribute BiNaxNow Instant Antigen tests for symptomatic residents at ICFs. This morning the Department shared additional information for county boards with further direction on how to distribute the tests. Per the announcement; "Shipments will go out to CBs beginning November 16, followed by shipments on November 23 and November 30. The designated CB contact will be sent shipping tracking information once tests have shipped. The CB contact will notify each designated ICF agency provider representative to arrange test pick-up after receiving the stock". [Click here to read the full updated announcement.](#) Please reach out to Pete at pmoore@opra.org with any questions.

Day/Employment Service and Core Committee: Thanks to the many members who attended yesterday's day/employment service committee meeting during what we know is a critical and challenging time. We were able to gather significant data from committee members on the impact that Covid-19 has had on their agencies. Later that afternoon, the Core Committee exploring the structure for day services beginning in January met for what was an extremely disappointing meeting. As DODD continues to be intent on an 'acuity b' payment structure for center-based services beginning in January, we also learned that enhanced transportation rates proposed by the committee would not be approved by ODM. We are still hopeful about appendix K-related changes allowing more flexibility in STEP services as well as increasingly necessary retainer payments and absence allowances in the events of outbreak or shutdowns. OPRA will continue to advocate and develop proposals to help ensure safe, sustainable services at a fair reimbursement rate. Please contact Scott at smarks@opra.org with any feedback.

DODD Resources: As the virus continues to surge in Ohio and nationwide, DODD is attempting to enhance their supports, issuing new guidance and purchasing PPE for statewide distribution, including up to 1 million surgical masks, 100,000 N95s, as well as pulse/oximeters. Click the link to the right to view DODD's newest Covid-19 resource video featuring Director Davis and Dr. Sorg.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: This week's roundup of memos contained updates including information on the BiNax Testing, a Blueprint workgroup update, and information on the Provider Network Module.
[To read Memo Monday, click here.](#)

OSHA Resources: This past week OSHA released new information, including an [updated FAQ regarding cloth face coverings](#) as well as a list of the [most frequently cited standards](#) that have arisen from OSHA reviews. These new documents should be viewed in companion with [these OSHA resources](#) provided over the past few months.

Non-Profit Grants: This week the Governor and the Department of Jobs and Family Services released [details on grants for non-profits](#) funded with CARES Act funding. Unfortunately, to be an eligible non-profit, you must provide services outside of a list of sectors, including healthcare, therefore we believe members are likely not eligible for these funds.

FFCRA and Tax Credits: Without any extra movement by congress, there are a variety of tax credits that will expire at the end of the year. These credits include the tax credits from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act's paid sick and family leave and the tax credits you could claim on the staff that used that leave. [A full list of the tax credits that will expire can be found here.](#)

OPRA Training Announcement: [Click here to register for the annual CEO training](#) featuring speakers Kelly Ferenbaugh-DODD, Scott Phillips-DODD and Tom Rich-Anne Grady Ambassador. This training workshop, held December 9th from 10:30am-1:30pm, will cover the necessary yearly training topics for CEOs.



OPRA PAC
Virtual Holiday Event
December 10th
7PM - 9PM

Get into the
holiday "spirits"
& get your game on!

\$50 donation
entertainment, recipes, & a special gift!

Mix it up
this holiday season!
PartyEase Mixologist, Kristen
Blanks, will lead you through
holiday themed spirits
as well as how to tailor your
recipes at home!

OPRA's Scott
Marks will be
delighting
you with his
clever
Holiday &
Ohio trivia!

Trivia Prize!

*Donations to the PAC are always voluntary. Contributions to the OPRA PAC are not deductible for tax purposes and cannot be made with an organization's operating funds. OPRA Membership is not contingent on a Member's ability to contribute to the PAC.

Upcoming Events

[11/26: Happy Thanksgiving!](#)

News and Resources

["Coronavirus in Ohio Thursday update: Franklin County at level 4, or purple"](#)

["Washington Post: Desperately trying to wipe the virus away"](#)

["Pfizer and BioNTech to request emergency authorization from FDA for Covid vaccine"](#)

["Bob Cupp wins re-election as Ohio House Speaker without the drama of recent votes"](#)



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Below is updated MUI data from DODD, presenting the impact of Covid-19 on people with developmental disabilities in Ohio.

As of November 19, 2020:

COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs			
Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
619	15	403	1037

- 403 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. This is an increase of 39 additional positives since the 11/13 report.
- 65 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There was 1 additional confirmed death since the 11/13 report.
- There were 1019 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19, which resulted in a MUI filing. This is an increase of 70 since the 11/13 report.
- A total of 1037 COVID-19 reportable MUIs were filed as 18 individuals were never hospitalized but it was later determined their cause of death was COVID-19.

Impacted Counties/Developmental Centers:

- There are 74 counties and 6 developmental centers with COVID related MUIs (CADC, CDC, GDC, TDC, WDC and NODC).
- Franklin had the most people hospitalized and tested with 146 followed by Cuyahoga with 142.
- Cuyahoga had the highest number of people who tested positive with 62 followed by Franklin with 54.

Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 60% of those tested and females 40%.
- Ages of people tested ranged from 1 to 91 years. The average age was 53 years. The most common age was 61 years.
- The breakdown of people tested by race include:
- Black or African American-16% (41% positive testing rate)
- Other Race -2% (54% positive testing rate)
- Unknown-5% (44% positive testing rate)
- White/Caucasian 78% (38% positive testing rate)

COVID-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (65) and the total people served (94,890) is .068.
- The ages of those who passed away range from 20-89 years of age.
- The average age of the person who died was 62 years old.
- A total of 27 counties and 1 DC have reported COVID-19 deaths.

Living Arrangement/COVID Deaths	Count
Correctional Facility	1
Family	3
ICF	19
Licensed Waiver	9
Nursing Facility	9
Supported Living	24
Grand Total	65

County or DC with COVID Deaths	Count
Allen	1
Belmont	1
Butler	1
Clark	1
Cuyahoga	6
Franklin	8
Hamilton	4
Henry	1
Holmes	1
Lake	1
Lucas	9
Mahoning	1
Miami	1
Montgomery	4
Muskingum	1
NODC	4
Ottawa	2
Perry	1
Pickaway	1
Preble	1
Richland	1
Scioto	1
Stark	3
Summit	2
Tuscarawas	2
Warren	2
Wayne	3
Wood	1
Grand Total (27 Counties and 1 DC)	65

