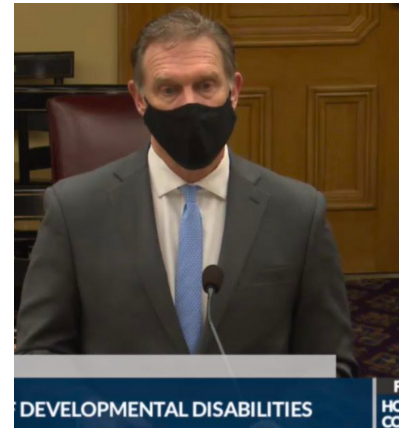


OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 12, 2021

Budget Testimony: After a full day of testimony from Health and Human Service agency leads, Director Davis delivered late-night testimony to the House Finance Committee in support of Governor DeWine's proposed executive budget. Director Davis's testimony highlighted the major proposals of DODD's budget, including 700 new waivers, \$1M investment in technology, and the continued investment to Multi-System Youth. OPRA will be holding our 'Town Hall Tuesday' next week to dive into the budget, our advocacy efforts and plans and answer any questions members have on the state budget and advocacy process. [Click here to watch Director Davis' testimony, beginning at the 3:22:00 mark.](#)



Federal Relief Bill: The US House of Representatives have been moving pieces of President Biden's COVID relief plan through their respective committees this week, setting up the legislation to be passed in the Senate through budget reconciliation. On Tuesday, the Ways & Means committee approved large portions of the package, including \$1,400 stimulus checks for those earning below \$75K and an expansion of the child tax credit, which Democrats are hoping becomes permanent. Importantly, the plan to phase the Federal minimum wage to \$15 over the next 5 years was also approved by the Education & Labor committee on Tuesday night, though it is still unclear whether this provision will be allowable under Senate budget reconciliation rules. We will continue to advocate for the need for corresponding Medicaid rates to sustain the phased-in wage increases in the case this provision advances to the Senate. In good news, the Energy & Commerce committee advanced a 7.35% FMAP increase dedicated specifically to HCBS waivers. We will be following all of this legislation closely as it moves through committees, to the House for vote and eventually to the Senate and will keep members apprised of any updates or advocacy opportunities and needs. [Click here to read more about the Federal relief package.](#)

COVID Updates: With vaccines being administered and case numbers and hospitalizations dropping, Governor DeWine announced this week that the statewide curfew is lifted and [buffets are open!](#) With the hopeful course of the virus at the moment, we were also informed that DODD will be revising visitation guidance, which we will have more details on in the coming weeks. Additionally, we were made aware that DODD has put in a formal request with Governor DeWine's office requesting day service attendees, staff as well as family caregivers be included in the next phase of vaccine distribution. OPRA followed up by drafting a letter to the Governor's office, supporting DODD's request and reiterating our advocacy for the inclusion of day service attendees and staff.

Updated CDC Guidance: Yesterday morning, [the CDC published updated guidance](#) regarding requirements for quarantine after infection or exposure. Most importantly, the new guidance states that those who have received their full doses of vaccine no longer need to quarantine in the case of exposure. Click here to read the updated guidance around quarantine. Also, we are still awaiting clarification on the new Adult day guidance from ODH regarding the need for a negative test before returning to day services, as opposed to previous quarantine guidance.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: DODD's weekly roundup included a number of memos including the introduction of the wage verification tool, managed care transportation options, agency rapback information and several training opportunities. [Click here to read Memo Monday.](#)

Blueprint Feedback: OPRA submitted feedback to DODD on the several proposals working through the Blueprint Committee, which has been on pause since the fall. Since the submission process was handled through several surveymonkey links, it is difficult to directly share our feedback submissions, but we will be able to share all of the compiled feedback when shared with us by DODD. Member feedback on the proposals has been generally cautiously positive, with many of the proposals needing much more detail before we would be able to fully support. There are also priorities that we hope to advance quickly, including ensuring long-term STEP rates stay intact post-pandemic, and ensuring a working reimbursement system for group and integrated employment services. Please feel free to contact Scott at smarks@opra.org with any questions.

Townhall Tuesdays: OPRA will be reviving our "TownHall Tuesdays" this month, starting with a Members-Only Zoom meeting to review the Governor's proposed state budget on Tuesday 2/16 at 8:30 am. We will spend the hour talking about what we know is in the Governor's executive budget, some initial reactions from the OPRA team, and share some advocacy resources we have been developing. A calendar invite has been sent to the membership. There is no cost to attend. This is a Members-Only event and we ask that you do not forward the invitation to anyone outside your organization. We intend this to be the start of regular, monthly TownHall Tuesdays, where we will take a deeper dive into important topics, host guest speakers and provide interactive networking opportunities.

VIRTUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

May 6 - 7, 2021

Speaker Proposals

OPRA welcomes proposals from qualified candidates.

Multiple session proposals are permitted.

[CLICK to Complete Form](#)

Upcoming Events

[2/16: OPRA HR Committee](#)

[2/17: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee](#)

[2/17: OPRA ICF Committee](#)

[2/18: OPRA Day & Employment Services Committee](#)

News and Resources

["There's no curfew:' Ohio's overnight COVID-19 curfew expired Thursday"](#)

["DeWine appoints three to state DD council"](#)

["Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine defends targeted vaccine rollout; his office disputes data showing Ohio trailing other states"](#)

[OPRA COVID-19 Resources](#)



OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 12, 2021

As of February 12, 2021:

COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs			
Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
767	18	970	1,755

- 970 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. This is an increase of 18 additional positives since the 2/5 report.
- 187 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There were 11 additional confirmed deaths since the 2/5 report.
- There were 1,687 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19, which resulted in a MUI filing. This is an increase of 25 since the 2/5 report.
- A total of 1,755 COVID-19 reportable MUIs were filed as 68 individuals were never hospitalized but it was later determined their cause of death was COVID-19.

Impacted Counties/Developmental Centers:

- There are 84 counties and 8 developmental centers with COVID related MUIs (CADC, CDC, GDC, TDC, MVDC, SODC, WDC and NODC).
- Franklin had the most people hospitalized and tested with 219 followed by Cuyahoga with 200.
- Franklin had the most people who tested positive at 111 people followed by Cuyahoga with 108.

Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 60.22% of those tested and females 39.78%.
- Ages of people tested ranged from 1 to 95 years. The average age was 54 years. The most common age was 61 years.
- The breakdown of people tested by race is:
 - Black or African American-15% (58% positive testing rate)
 - Other Race -2% (60% positive testing rate)
 - Unknown-5% (51% positive testing rate)
 - White/Caucasian 78% (55% positive testing rate)

Living Arrangement/COVID Deaths	Count
Correctional Facility	1
Family	23
ICF	63
Licensed Waiver	17
Nursing Facility	26
Supported Living	57
Grand Total	187

COVID-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (187) and the total people served (94,890) is 0.197%.
- The ages of those who passed away range from 20-95 years of age.
- The average age of the person who died was 62 years old.
- A total of 48 counties and 3 DCs have reported COVID-19 deaths.

County or DC with COVID Deaths	Count	County or DC with COVID Deaths	Count
Allen	3	Marion	1
Ashtabula	3	Miami	1
Belmont	1	Montgomery	8
Butler	5	Muskingum	1
Carroll	1	NODC	4
CDC	1	Ottawa	8
Champaign	1	Perry	2
Clark	6	Pickaway	2
Clermont	3	Preble	2
Clinton	1	Richland	4
Coshocton	4	Sandusky	3
Cuyahoga	12	Scioto	1
Darke	1	Seneca	1
Delaware	2	Stark	10
Fairfield	2	Summit	5
Franklin	16	TDC	1
Greene	1	Trumbull	4
Hamilton	10	Tuscarawas	3
Hardin	1	Vinton	1
Henry	1	Warren	6
Holmes	1	Wayne	4
Lake	6	Williams	1
Lawrence	1	Wood	3
Licking	7	Wyandot	2
Lorain	3	Grand Total	187
Lucas	14		
Mahoning	2		



OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

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Department of
Developmental Disabilities

February 12, 2021

Licensure Reviews in ICF/IIDs

DODD has been notified that beginning this month, the Ohio Department of Health will resume standard recertification surveys for ICF/IID providers. There are approximately 300 ICFs that will require the completion of a licensure review during calendar year 2021. DODD is in the process of working with the Ohio Department of Health to develop a schedule to ensure the completion of these reviews. No licensure reviews will be conducted in February and March of 2021 in conjunction with recertification surveys. This will allow time to develop the schedule for the remainder of 2021. Once the schedule has been developed, DODD will provide an announcement with additional information to ICF providers regarding the resumption of licensure reviews.



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