

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 19, 2021

**Budget Testimony:** A huge thank you to everyone who attended this week's Townhall Tuesday on the state budget. As Budget season barrels ahead, testimony is being scheduled for next week in the House Finance Subcommittee on Health and Human services, which will be the first of many opportunities to provide input on the state budget. In order to reduce in-person testimony, Chairman Roemer revised the committee's approach and as a result, OPRA will giving testimony as part of a panel of disability service associations early next week. There will be more opportunities for testimony on the budget as the process moves forward and we will be working closely with members on different approaches to provide budget advocacy. We have also developed a [Budget 'One Stop Shop'](#) for this budget season to help members navigate the budget process and the various advocacy methods most effective in advancing OPRA's budget priorities.

**Appendix K Update:** Earlier this week, OPRA and other Ohio system stakeholders met with Nikki Guilford, Governor DeWine's lobbyist in Washington DC, regarding the 2-week provider payment that Ohio applied for weeks ago through Appendix K. We reiterated the importance of this funding and the concerns that the payment has been delayed without explanation during this critical time. Through that meeting, we learned that all CMS applications/payments seem to have halted on January 19th with the change of administrations. Nikki will be following up with CMS and we will be working with our federal partners to help advance CMS's release of this payment and keep members apprised as soon as we learn anything new.

**Single Plan:** On Wednesday afternoon, DODD convened the OISP workgroup for a status update on the statewide single plan and assessment. Reps from DODD informed the workgroup that although the plan implementation has been pushed back to July 2021, they are still moving ahead with the IT development and online training rollout for everyone who will be using the new ISP. The update did not go over well with some workgroup members who felt that the workgroup had been left out of the training development and rollout. [Minutes and slides from the meeting](#) can be found here. Please reach out to Scott with any questions or feedback.

**Wellness Resources:** Even as we hope to look ahead to the 'light at the end of the Covid tunnel', we know that teams, professionals and individuals are still greatly struggling with the impacts and stress of living and working in the pandemic. DODD has recently published more resources on mental health, wellness and coping strategies during this time. [Click here for these resources.](#)

**Committee Week!** It was a busy week of OPRA committee meetings and we want to thank all of the attendees, chairs and guests who made this week's meetings so meaningful. OPRA hosted meetings of the HR, Residential Waiver, ICF, Day Service and Employment Service committees this week. With all of the critical issues facing providers, the OPRA committees are an essential part of how we connect, brainstorm, gather feedback and develop advocacy steps and we cannot thank the many people who participated in live polling, engaged with our guests, and provided critical feedback on the budget and other current OPRA priorities. We will be posting minutes and/or recordings of committee meetings to the OPRA website next week.



# In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

**Memo Monday:** DODD's weekly roundup included a set of training and education scenarios regarding Restrictive Measures, new information on the rollout of ODM's Provider Network Module, and updates to the GED/HS waiver for providers. [Click here to read Memo Monday.](#)

**Provider Relief Fund Reporting:** Last summer, HHS released information on reporting use of the Provider Relief Fund that included a deadline for reporting of Feb 15. If you have been on [HHS' PRF webpages](#) lately to try and report the use of funds, you will notice that it hasn't been possible. HHS has removed the deadline for reporting and is still just asking providers who received the money to register for the reporting portal. HHS has said they will email providers who are registered to report when that functionality is open.

**CDC Mask Guidance:** The CDC issued new guidance earlier this week on best practices for wearing and fitting double-masks and/or respirators. Click here to read the updated ["Improve How Your Mask Protects You"](#) and ["Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic"](#) guidance. Please reach out to the OPRA team with any questions you have about this guidance.

**Day Services Co-Chair:** The Day Services committee is looking for a co-chair! If you are interested in becoming a chair for the day services committee, which for the past year has been meeting jointly with the employment committee, you can access the short application on [OPRA's website here](#). If you'd like to apply, please just complete the application and send back to Scott at [smarks@opra.org](mailto:smarks@opra.org).

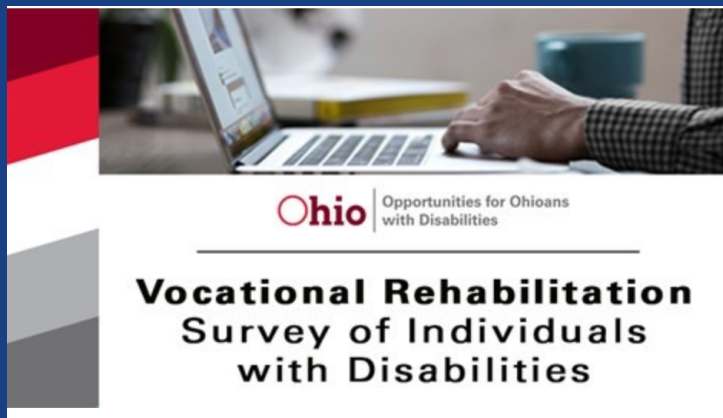
## VIRTUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

May 6 - 7, 2021

### Speaker Proposals

OPRA welcomes proposals from qualified candidates.  
Multiple session proposals are permitted.

[CLICK to Complete Form](#)



## News and Resources

["Biden names Chiquita Brooks-LaSure to run CMS"](#)

["Ohio reports 2,306 new COVID-19 cases, 82 additional deaths on Friday"](#)

["Manahan executive director retires after decades of service"](#)

[OPRA COVID-19 Resources](#)



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The Department provides the following weekly MUI updates based on COVID-19 related unanticipated hospitalizations and/or deaths entered into the Incident Tracking System. This data is not all inclusive. It does not include information about people who were suspected of having COVID-19 but not hospitalized, those who tested positive but were not hospitalized, people living with their families who were hospitalized when there was no provider present at time of hospitalization and COVID tested. For additional information and guidance, please visit [DODD COVID-19 Resources](#).

This report was revised on August 21, 2020 so that each person is only counted one time. If a person was hospitalized and tested multiple times, there would only be one entry for that person, and it would be updated to reflect the most current information. As a result of removing any additional testing results for the same person, there was a slight decrease in the overall number of test results.

### As of February 19, 2021:

COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs			
Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
776	22	984	1,782

- 984 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. This is an increase of 14 additional positives since the 2/12 report.
- 199 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There were 12 additional confirmed deaths since the 2/12 report.
- There were 1,707 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19, which resulted in a MUI filing. This is an increase of 20 since the 2/12 report.
- A total of 1,782 COVID-19 reportable MUIs were filed as 75 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 225 followed by Cuyahoga with 201.
- Franklin had the most people who tested positive at 114 people followed by Cuyahoga with 109.

### Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 61.97% of those tested and females 38.03%.
- Ages of people tested ranged from 1 to 95 years. The average age was 55 years. The most common age was 63 years.
- The breakdown of people tested by race is:

- Black or African American-15% (58% positive testing rate)
- Other Race -2% (58% positive testing rate)
- Unknown-5% (51% positive testing rate)
- White/Caucasian 78% (55% positive testing rate)

### COVID-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (199) and the total people served (94,890) is 0.209%.
- 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 49 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	Mahoning	2
Ashtabula	3	Marion	1
Belmont	1	Miami	1
Butler	5	Montgomery	10
Carroll	1	Muskingum	1
CDC	1	NODC	4
Champaign	1	Ottawa	9
Clark	6	Perry	2
Clermont	3	Pickaway	2
Clinton	1	Preble	2
Coshocton	4	Richland	4
Cuyahoga	12	Sandusky	4
Darke	1	Scioto	2
Delaware	2	Seneca	1
Fairfield	2	Stark	11
Franklin	17	Summit	6
Gallia	2	TDC	1
Greene	1	Trumbull	4
Hamilton	11	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		
Lucas	15	Grand Total	199

