

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JULY 2, 2021

State Budget: The state budget process came to a close on Wednesday evening as Governor DeWine signed HB 110 into law. Following the conference committee, our initiatives, including the 2% yearly increases for waiver services and our ICF increases, remained in the budget. Governor DeWine wound up vetoing the bill language regarding our increased funding, but kept the appropriation, in order to give DODD more flexibility in how the rate increase could be implemented. The vetoed language opens the door to the possibility of 'upfronting' the full rate increase, leading to a 4% rate increase on 1/1/22, which Director Davis is considering and we are supportive of. The OPRA team has so many people to thank for the partnership, collaboration and support through the budget cycle. Most importantly we want to thank you, the OPRA community, for your support and advocacy over the last several months. We are beyond grateful to you all and our partners in the legislature for delivering these much-needed increases. [Click here to read more about the final version of HB 110.](#) Please reach out to [Christine](#) with any questions about the budget bill.

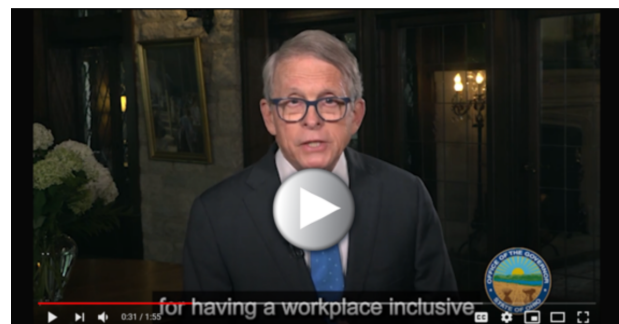
Regional Response Team: Last night, DODD published guidance on a process they are calling the 'Regional Residential Crisis Support Plan'. The plan was developed and shared by DODD in preparation for the upcoming holiday weekend in an attempt to establish a process of support in emergency staffing situations. The process advises that providers first contact their county board liaison (established at start of pandemic), then if no resolution is found, the DODD regional team is contacted, eventually escalating to the 'DODD Strike Team'. While some of the process is unclear, we appreciate DODD's efforts to create a consistent response plan. Please contact either Rachel or Scott with any questions about the regional response guidance.

[Click here to view the regional process \(Scroll down to Regional Residential Response...\).](#)

[Click here to download the regional map, including county provider liaisons.](#)

EFMAP/Acuity: We learned recently that the Ohio Department of Medicaid has filed for a 30 day extension to submit their plan for how the state will utilize the enhanced FMAP allowed by the American Rescue Plan. We also learned that DODD has a call with CMS scheduled soon to discuss how the EFMAP impacts the enhanced acuity rates currently in place for ADS/Voc Hab. As we have discussed on previous calls, guidance from CMS on 'supplanting funds' may require the enhanced rate to be in place through March 2022, although the county boards have committed to 9/1/21 as the date they will fund the rate through. We hope to have clarity on both of these pieces in the coming weeks so providers are able to plan for any upcoming rate changes.

Inclusive Employer Award: Soon after he sworn into office, Governor DeWine signed a proclamation making Ohio a 'Disability Inclusion State and Model Employer of People with Disabilities'. As part of that effort, his office has launched the 'Inclusive Employer Award', to be presented during National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October. [To learn more about the award and nominate one of your business partners, click here!](#)



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: There were some important updates in this week's Memo Monday, including the changes from Rapback to iRap and the upcoming medication administration expiration that we discussed on this morning's call. [Click here to read this week's Memo Monday.](#)

Provider Relief Fund: Starting yesterday 7/1, if you received funding within the first payment period, you can now start reporting in the portal. HRSA shared with us a variety of hopefully helpful resources, including the workbook where you can collect the various data points prior to reporting in the actual portal. [You can find them here.](#) HRSA also announced they will have a reporting technical assistance webcast next week on July 8th for anyone who may have to use the portal. [You can sign up here.](#) Most of the other webcasts have been recorded and stored on the webpage for review if you can't make it, and we assume this will be the case for this webinar as well.



Fall Conference

November 4 - 5

Call for Speakers

Submission Deadline - Friday, July 30, 2021

OPRA is now accepting session proposals in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

As you already know, the OPRA Conference is THE place to network, engage around the latest issues facing providers, find resources to benefit your organization and learn from first-rate speakers.

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT PROPOSAL](#)

Call for Sponsors and Exhibitors

We are so excited to back in-person; and we would like to thank those of you who stood by us during OPRA's two virtual conferences.

We are sure to sell out so space is first-come first-served.

Don't delay and sign-up today to secure your space!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

Upcoming Events

[7/4: Happy Independence Day](#)

[7/8: HIPAA 3 Part Series: Part II](#)

[7/15: OPRA Joint Day & Employment Service Committee Meeting](#)

News and Resources

["Coronavirus cases in Ohio jump to over 570 Thursday"](#)

["Gov. DeWine: The Delta variant advances in Ohio, I'm worried"](#)

["Medicaid rebid stripped from Ohio budget. Other actions unclear"](#)

["House approves \\$715 billion transportation bill amid infrastructure push"](#)

