

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JULY 9, 2021

Budget Wrap-up: With Governor DeWine's signing of HB110 last week, DODD and system partners will now begin the work of implementing the rate increases appropriated in the state budget. Yesterday, DODD released a video featuring Director Davis speaking about disability initiatives in the budget bill, including rate increases for HCBS and ICF services, as well as the new investments in technology and multi-system youth.



As we have discussed on past calls, we believe the state will likely move ahead with a 4% rate increase for waiver services beginning on January 1, 2022, though these plans have not yet been officially approved through the Dept. of Medicaid. We once again want to thank all of you for your support and advocacy throughout the budget process. Please contact Christine with any questions about the state budget bill.

Workforce Task Force: The work of the WCTF moves ahead, with changes big and small being planned and implemented to attempt to address the staffing emergency. OPRA has prepared proposals for the WCTF [based on the workforce priorities](#) developed through our workforce focus group and sub-committee. The proposals center around established priorities such as balancing efficiency and staffing and how direction of the service system towards smaller settings has impacted the workforce, solutions to address the MUI culture, ensuring DSPs are adequately compensated for their job expectations and the continuation of flexibility in on-boarding/training. We are also working with members on the Recruitment & Retention grant, supporting promotional opportunities to aid in attracting potential staff. We had a robust discussion on this morning's call on the ["Regional Residential Crisis Plan"](#), [published by DODD last week](#). Please reach out to the OPRA team if you have questions about this plan or need help contacting your liaison at your county or DODD.

Competency Add-On: This week's Memo Monday included changes to the competency-based add-on, which has now been altered to enable more trainings to be available to DSPs. Providers can now develop and apply for their training to be approved to count towards the competency based add-on. Providers looking to have their training approved must go to the department's website and download the application for competency-based add-on trainings ([or just click here](#)). A minimum of 1 hour of training is required for approval and then after first hour training can be approved in 30 minute increments. Agencies must submit a syllabus, agenda with timeline, and a PowerPoint of the training must also be submitted with the application for approval. Please contact Rachel with any questions.

Emergency Rule Expiration: DODD held a stakeholder call earlier this week to inform system partners that with Ohio's State of Emergency expiring on June 18th, the emergency rules that have been in place will also expire on October 15th, 120 days after the end of the SOE. Given this, DODD proposed creating permanent rules to be effective October 15th, notably the changes to the Adult Day Support rule to incorporate STEP-type flexibility. Given the need for much more stakeholder engagement and discussion on these rules, we will likely be joining with system partners to request DODD keep in place the 'emergency rule language' through at least January. Please contact Scott with questions.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: This week's collection of DODD memos included the changes to the competency add-on mentioned on page 1, information on the regional residential crisis plan, and the health & welfare alert on drowning prevention mentioned on our morning call. [To read Memo Monday, click here.](#)



ADA Anniversary: The Americans with Disabilities Act turns 31 this year on July 26th, 2021. [Click here to learn more about the ADA and for a library of resources to help celebrate the historic legislation.](#)

Contract Template: On this morning's call, we discussed the possibilities for agencies to share staff during the crisis. [We are linking back here to a template drafted for us early in the pandemic](#) for this purpose. The template is intended to be a starting point and can be customized to agency needs. Agencies may want to seek further counsel when entering into such an arrangement for shared staffing. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions about this template.

HIPAA Part III

New Federal Guidelines: 5-Point "Do-This-First-List" to avoid breaches counter escalating cyber crime

With the recent spate of cyber attacks on small and medium-size organizations, the federal government just released a list of five simple precautions that can greatly reduce the costly disruption of a cyber attack.

This training program and supplemental materials will cover bad practices to avoid and first things to do for greater IT security. A new federal memo containing the 5-Point Do-This-First List will be included in the materials.

July 15
1 PM - 2 PM EST
REGISTER: www.opra.org

Diane Evans
Instructor
Publisher MyHIPAA Guide
www.myhipaa.opra.org

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Transportation Access for Ohioans with Disabilities

Visit go.osu.edu/B7XY

Who should take this survey?

- Ohioans ages 19 and older with a disability
- A family member, friend, caregiver, or other person who is helping may respond on your behalf
- Transportation providers who provide services to Ohioans with disabilities

OPRA
Ohio Provider Resource Association

TRAINING & EVENTS

- July 8: HIPAA Part II
- July 15: HIPAA Part III
- July 19 - 23: Joint Leadership Conference
- July 25: Tolerance for your CEO & Organization
- August 5: Overcoming Implicit Bias

REGISTER NOW

Fall Conference
November 4 - 5

SIGN UP TO SPONSOR/EXHIBIT!

SPEAKERS WANTED!

GOLF OUTING
September 13th
Urbana Golf & Country Club

visit our website for details: www.opra.org

Upcoming Events

[7/15: Joint Day and Employment Services Committees meeting](#)

[7/15: HIPAA 3 Part Series: Part III](#)

[7/22: DODD Technology Summit](#)

News and Resources

["Coronavirus in Ohio Thursday update: 377 new cases reported"](#)

["Senator Bob Casey Says 'Better Care Better Jobs' Act Aims To Help Caregivers And Seniors"](#)

["Ohio State Nisonger Center receives \\$3.6M training grant for 'LEND' program"](#)

["Ohio psychiatrist explains how to navigate post-pandemic 're-entry' anxiety"](#)

