OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

SEPTEMBER 3, 2021

<u>Hot Spots/WCTF:</u> The team of reps from OPRA, OACB and DODD concluded their 8th visit to 'hot spot' counties this week, meeting with providers, families and county board staff most impacted by the workforce shortage. Visits this week were in Warren and Montgomery counties, although at this point we are certain every county/region is experiencing some level of crisis or emergency. Here are some of Pete's takeaways from the visits in 'hot spot' counties.

- The "system" has lost touch with those who are impacted by the system
- The people we support and their families are struggling
- We have great and passionate providers who are seeking and who deserve understanding support and compassion.
- Many County Boards are doing their best to help, those who value the philosophy of partnership
 are able to navigate the crisis beside the providers and those who are receiving services the best
- I am proud of the passion of our provider community, I've heard and seen the pain in their faces but they are determined to weather this!
- Most of the solutions are being developed and implemented locally.
- The power of listening and appreciation can never be underestimated

Rate Increase Rule/Waiver Updates: We received confirmation this week that DODD has begun the process to implement the 4% rate increase to waiver services enacted through HB110, Ohio's operating budget bill. Earlier this week, DODD filed the necessary rule and waiver amendments to implement the rate and individual budget increases as of 1/1/22. Click here to read the rule amendments with the new rate structures for HCBS waiver services.

<u>Stable Accounts:</u> After members indicated difficulties with accessing STABLE accounts, OPRA reached out to the Treasurer's office, who provided information on changes to the STABLE system implemented in July. Changes include;

- The monthly account maintenance fees were reduced to \$2.25 (charged quarterly as \$6.75)
- New account security features including improved I.D. verification processes and simplifying the joining of a personal bank account to the STABLE Account for money transfers
- Improved "Gifting Page" allowing account beneficiaries better control over receiving money gifted into the STABLE Account from friends and family
- Greater controls and reports for those managing multiple STABLE Accounts (this one is specifically to improve a provider's ability to use STABLE Account for groups of people you serve)
 Click here for more information or by calling 1-800-439-1653 or emailing team@stableaccount.com.

<u>PDN in ADS?</u>: At yesterday's Day Array committee meeting, reps from DODD's Medicaid division informed us of a 'reinterpretation' of state rules that would allow for Private Duty Nursing and Home Health Nursing in adult or vocational service settings. Though we were informed there would be no official guidance about this change, you can contact <u>Nyoka Craddolph at DODD</u> with any questions, clarifications or support with this new interpretation.

<u>BCI Guidance:</u> After several weeks on the radar, DODD released guidance on 'what to do' when background checks are delayed and approaching 60 days. <u>Click here to read.</u>





In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

<u>Memo Monday:</u> This week's roundup of DODD communications included information on the Supreme Court's ruling to end the eviction moratorium, The RFP for the ICF technology grant Rachel discussed on the morning call, OISP regional training dates, Provider Cert. rule training reminders and the 'Guide to Nursing Services in Ohio'. <u>Click here to read Memo Monday.</u>

<u>CDC Resource:</u> The CDC recently released a digital toolkit with communication resources, explaining in plain language, how people with IDD and caregivers can protect themselves from the virus. To develop the toolkit, CDC hosted multiple discussions with adults with IDD and their caregivers, who were most often family members, and asked them to share their individual experiences and what they found helpful in talking about COVID-19 with their loved ones. The toolkit includes 5 areas that are addressed including wearing a mask, washing your hands, social distancing, getting a COVID test, and getting a COVID vaccine. <u>Click here to download.</u>

<u>Provider Relief Fund:</u> The first reporting period for the PRF closes on September 30th. This is for funds that you may have received from the Provider Relief Fund between April 10, 2020 and June 30th, 2020. You only need to report if you received more than \$10k from the PRF during that time period. <u>Click here</u> to read the PRF 1-pager and <u>click here to access the portal.</u>

EVV Corrections: Last week mentioned upcoming changes to the EVV alternate vendor certification process.

Apparently some of the links were broken so we will share it again if you are interested in attending. You can see the handout with the links here.





Upcoming Events

9/8: OPRA Policy Committee Meeting

9/8: HIPAA Fall 2021 Six Part Training Series Session 1: Effective Leadership & Oversight of
Privacy & Cybersecurity

News and Resources

"Coronavirus in Ohio Thursday update: 7,087 new cases reported"

"CDC Launches COVID-19 Resources for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities"

"Ohio DD Council releases annual report; highlights projects for Ohioans with disabilities"

"\$2.8 million CDC grant will help improve lives of adults with disabilities in Ohio"







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As of September 3, 2021:

COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs							
Negative	Pending	Positive	Total				
964	3	1,105	2,074				

- 1,105 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. This is an increase of 7 additional positives since the 8/27 report.
- 241 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There were no additional confirmed deaths since the 8/27 report.
- There were 1,978 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19, which resulted in a MUI filing. This is an increase of 14 since the 8/27 report.
- A total of 2,074 COVID-19 reportable MUIs were filed as 94 individuals were never hospitalized but it was later determined their cause of death was COVID-19.

Impacted Counties/Developmental Centers:

- There are 86 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 243 followed by Cuyahoga with 218.
- Franklin had the most people tested positive with 122 and Cuyahoga with 121.

Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 60.32% of those tested and females 39.68%.
- Ages of people tested ranged from 1 to 95 years. The average age was 54 years. The most common ages are 61.
- The breakdown of people tested by race is:
- Black or African American-16% (55% positive testing rate)
- Other Race -2% (54% positive testing rate)
- Unknown-5% (47% positive testing rate)
- White/Caucasian 78% (53% positive testing rate)

COVID-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (241) and the total people served (94,890) is 0.253%.
- The ages of those who died range from 4-95 years of age.
- The average age of the person who died was 62 years old.
- A total of 56 counties and 3 DCs (CDC, NODC, TDC) have reported COVID-19 deaths.
- Franklin has the most confirmed COVID deaths with 22.

COVID Related Deaths:

County or DC with COVID Deaths							
Adams	1	Fairfield	2	Lucas	17	Sandusky	6
Allen	4	Franklin	22	Mahoning	2	Scioto	2
Ashtabula	3	Fulton	1	Marion	1	Seneca	1
Belmont	1	Gallia	3	Miami	1	Stark	15
Butler	6	Geauga	1	Montgomery	10	Summit	9
Carroll	1	Greene	1	Morrow	1	TDC	1
CDC	2	Hamilton	13	Muskingum	1	Trumbull	5
Champaign	1	Hardin	1	NODC	4	Tuscarawas	4
Clark	6	Henry	1	Ottawa	9	Vinton	1
Clermont	4	Holmes	1	Perry	4	Warren	6
Clinton	1	Jefferson	1	Pickaway	2	Wayne	4
Coshocton	4	Lake	6	Portage	1	Williams	1
Cuyahoga	16	Lawrence	1	Preble	3	Wood	3
Darke	1	Licking	7	Richland	6	Wyandot	2
Delaware	2	Lorain	4	Ross	1	Grand Total	241

Living Arrangement/COVID Deaths	Count
Correctional Facility	1
Family	39
ICF	71
Licensed Waiver	21
Nursing Facility	30
Supported Living	79
Grand Total	241

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.









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