

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

OCTOBER 29, 2021

Legislator Meetings: OPRA members and staff have participated in recent meetings/visits organized with OACB to continue communication about the impact of the workforce crisis with members of Ohio's legislature. We are grateful to all of our members who have so eloquently shared their experience of the challenges of providing services during the pandemic and workforce shortage with their state representatives. We appreciate the partnership of OACB in continuing to build and further develop these legislative relationships. Those relationships will be all the more important as we seek legislative approval for the release of the funding from [Ohio's ARPA spending proposal](#), once it is approved by CMS. Discussions with the administration and legislators have included the need for relief funding for ICFs, as well as the HCBS relief funding appropriated by ARPA, which the plan submitted by ODM indicates will be made available by March of 2022. We have follow-up meetings next week to continue discussions on ARPA and ICF relief funding and how to ensure it gets to providers as quickly as possible.

MRC: We met with DODD and system partners stakeholders to continue discussions on how to move forward on the several issues with the Monthly Rate Calculator(MRC) we've discussed over the past few months. This team is looking at all options in how to address the challenges in MRC and simplify billing in general. Options include expanding the MRC '6% window', to discussions of a whole new approach/system more reflective of the current environment. The one thing that all partners seem to agree on is the need for simplified billing, so this group has a real opportunity to promote change that leads to simplification.

Technology First Taskforce: Earlier this week, DODD led the kick-off meeting of the 'Technology First Task Force', consisting of representatives from the Department of Aging, Mental Health, Education, Transportation, Medicaid, OOD and InnovateOhio. Since serving on the Tech First Advisory Committee over the summer, we were asked to be a part of presenting the recommendations from that committee to this multi-agency task force, whose goal will be to operationalize those recommendations. [Click here to read the Tech First Advisory Committee recommendations.](#)

On-site/On-call (OSOC): The OSOC assessment tool is about ready to go live. You can access the PDF tool on [DODD's website by clicking here](#). It will be going for testing 11/2-11/12 and will be ready for use on 11/18. This process was a good example of different stakeholders working together to try and make a complicated system easier to utilize – which is what we want to do with MRC and simplifying billing. Please contact [Rachel](#) with any questions.

Fall Conference: We are so excited to be back in person for our Fall Conference next week On November 4th and 5th! Our first in-person conference in 2 years, with a virtual option as well, will feature 8 tracks of informative sessions, a legislative update, keynote session and plenary address, plus all of our amazing vendor partners! We will also have be having 'Spirits, Smiles and S'mores' outside on Thursday evening. [There is still time to register](#) and we hope to see you there next week!



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: This week's roundup of DODD communications included information on the both the ARPA webinar which aired today as well as an upcoming webinar on the Intensive Behavioral Support Rate Add-On (IBSRAO), the extension of the Federal Public Health Emergency, and information on the provider cert. training requirements, including a new video. [Click here to read MM.](#)

Build Back Better: Yesterday saw some pretty major movement around President Biden's Build Back Better agenda with the release of framework that has been more or less agreed to by moderate Democrats. The important piece of the legislation here is that some of the investment in HCBS services remained, currently appropriated at \$150B. [Read more here.](#)

MSY Opportunity: "TuscBDD is requesting written proposals from qualified agency providers to operate, in collaboration with community partners and nearby county boards of developmental disabilities, a sustainable program of time-limited youth stabilization and residential/respite supports for multi-system youth and their families." If Interested, contact Drew Litty, Facilities Manager at TuscBDD –dlitty@tuscbdd.org or 330-339-8714.



Upcoming Events

[11/4-11/5: OPRA Fall Conference!!!](#)

News and Resources

["Coronavirus in Ohio Thursday update: 21-day case average now below 4,000"](#)

["Ohio Department of Health Issues New COVID-19 Quarantine Guidance for Schools"](#)

["People with disabilities critical to economic recovery"](#)

["FDA advisers recommend approval of Pfizer's Covid vaccine for kids aged 5-11"](#)



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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](#).

As of October 29, 2021:

COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs

Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
1,031	0	1,230	2,261

- 1,230 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. There were **8 additional positives** since the 10/22 report.
- There were **10 additional hospitalizations** since the 10/22 report. This is a total of 2,155 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19.
- A total of 2,261 COVID-19 reportable MUIs have been filed as 106 individuals were never hospitalized but COVID-19 was suspected or later determined as their cause of death.
- 265 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There were **4 additional confirmed deaths** since the 10/22 report.

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 251 followed by Cuyahoga with 231.
- Cuyahoga had the most people tested positive with 132 and Franklin had 129.

Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 60.11% of those tested and females 39.89%.
- 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-15% (56% positive testing rate)
- Other Race -2% (56% positive testing rate)
- Unknown-5% (50% positive testing rate)
- White/Caucasian 78% (54% positive testing rate)

COVID-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (265) and the total people served (98,956) is 0.267%.
- The ages of those who died range from 4-95 years of age.
- The average age of the person who died was 61 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 23.

COVID Related Deaths:

County or DCs with COVID Deaths							
Adams	2	Gallia	3	Morgan	1	Tuscarawas	5
Allen	4	Geauga	1	Morrow	1	Vinton	1
Ashtabula	3	Greene	2	Muskingum	1	Warren	6
Athens	2	Hamilton	14	NODC	4	Wayne	4
Belmont	1	Hardin	1	Ottawa	9	Williams	1
Butler	6	Henry	1	Perry	4	Wood	3
Carroll	1	Holmes	1	Pickaway	2	Wyandot	2
CDC	2	Jefferson	1	Pike	1		
Champaign	1	Knox	1	Portage	1		
Clark	6	Lake	6	Preble	3		
Clermont	5	Lawrence	1	Richland	6		
Clinton	1	Licking	7	Ross	1		
Coshocton	4	Lorain	4	Sandusky	6		
Cuyahoga	16	Lucas	18	Scioto	2		
Darke	1	Mahoning	5	Seneca	1		
Delaware	4	Marion	1	Stark	17		
Fairfield	2	Meigs	1	Summit	11		
Franklin	23	Miami	1	TDC	1		
Fulton	1	Montgomery	11	Trumbull	6	Total	265



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PLENARY SESSION



Craig de Fassel

Escape the DSP Hamster Wheel You Can Succeed

NOVEMBER 4TH



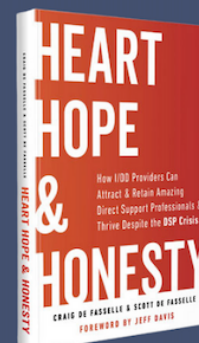
Scott de Fassel

The audience will learn:

- *How to re-inspire themselves to create a positive mindset*
- *How to find the DSPs you want without raising hourly pay*
- *The simple approach to get people to show up for interviews and the first day on the job*
- *Why they already have everything they need to keep staff.*
- *What else will the audience get?– An upbeat message to re-energize them and their teams – Clear next steps they can take themselves after the conference.*



*Book
Signing*



<http://www.blitzmediadesign.com>

