

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

NOVEMBER 12, 2021

Fall Conference: We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who attended, sponsored, presented and exhibited at this year's Fall Conference last week. We were so happy to be able to host our first in-person conference in over 2 years and are so grateful to all of our members and partners who helped make this hybrid event a success! Recorded video sessions will be available next week. We look forward to seeing everyone again in the Spring!



Vaccine Mandate: We are continuing to monitor the vaccine mandates published last week by both CMS and OSHA. While there are several legal challenges to the OSHA mandates, a coalition of states have also brought challenges to the CMS rule as well. As we continue our advocacy and education on the impact of the mandate on provider's workforce, we also know members need to continue to prepare for the regulations, even given the status of the legal challenges. [We have developed these quick FAQ documents](#), based on many of the questions we have received from members. We will be hosting a [Town Hall Tuesday](#) next week, joined by our partners at Vorys, intending to answer as many mandate-related questions as possible and provide up-to-date resources for members to develop their policies. Please contact [Rachel](#) and/or [Christine](#) with any questions.

14C/BBB: Throughout the past year, we've discussed several legislative attempts to phase out the use of 14C special wage certificates. Following the introduction of the 'Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment Act' last spring, similar bill language is now included in the ['Build Back Better' budget reconciliation bill](#). Though the political fortunes of the BBB bill are very uncertain at this point, the legislation would allow states to apply for grant funding to enhance their Integrated Employment services if they commit to phasing out 14C/sub-minimum wage certificate usage. We will be discussing this further at next week's [Day & Employment service committee meeting](#). Please contact [Scott](#) with any questions or further feedback on this topic.

ARPA: The [Ohio Department of Medicaid recently released their plan](#) on how Ohio will utilize the 10% additional federal funding allocated to HCBS programs through the American rescue Plan. As we shared after the plan's release, there are many areas where we feel the plan falls short in supporting providers and adequately addressing the current workforce crisis. Working with our coalition partners of OHCA, OACB, VFA and OWN, [we drafted this letter](#), which was shared with the Governor's office as well as other administration officials and legislators earlier this week. The letter advocates for funding shifts towards items that draw down Federal match and directly support providers. We have drafted and will be submitting an additional letter next week to advocate for similar support for ICF providers to match the funding support allocated to HCBS.

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. OACB has stated it is their priority to have SSAs complete the assessments within 3 months of the tool's official 'go live' date on the 18th. Please contact [Rachel](#) with any questions.



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 Individualized Emergency plan template developed by OPRA members through the policy workforce committee, as well as new info on the MSY add-on (IBSRAO) and new provider trainings to be held in 2022. [To read Memo Monday, click here.](#)



Veteran's Day: We at OPRA would like to thank and recognize all of those who have served, are actively serving or have loved ones in the U.S. Armed Forces. On behalf of the OPRA community, thank you for your continued sacrifice.



PHLY Risk Management Services Fall 2021 OPRA Webinar

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2021 | 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. EST

Philadelphia Insurance Companies (PHLY) presents a risk management service webinar to assist you with some of our top loss leaders: Fleet claims, water damage & pipe freezes, & kitchen fires. This webinar is being presented to you as an OPRA Member to help your business reduce its exposure to these types of loss. Join us for a presentation and Q&A to help you control these risks and to show you how PHLY assists its customers with these exposures. Reducing incidents that could result in claims is a winning solution for all of us!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Need Help with getting (and keeping) amazing Direct Support Professionals?

Do you want practical and affordable ways other providers have used to find and keep Direct Support Professionals?

Attend an online workshop with other providers from around Ohio.

November 17th - Recruiting & Anti-Ghosting: **December 8th - Retention & Culture:**

- Learn to write an Indeed job post to attract more applicants
- Free approaches to prevent from no call / no showing for interview
- Make simple changes to your onboarding program so new staff aren't overwhelmed
- Nurture your culture for free and do it despite not having enough time

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Upcoming Events

[11/17: OPRA ICF Committee](#)

[11/17: OPRA Training Workshop: Blitz Media-
Recruiting & Anti-Ghosting](#)

[11/18: OPRA Day & Employment Services
Committee](#)

News and Resources

["Week one: 34,000 Ohio kids ages 5 to 11
received COVID-19 vaccinations"](#)

["It's not done with us': Gov. DeWine says
COVID-19 far from over"](#)

["Biden to sign \\$1 trillion infrastructure bill on
Monday"](#)

["Justice Department sues Uber for overcharging
people with disabilities"](#)

