

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

DECEMBER 10, 2021

Director Davis Retirement: On Thursday morning, DODD shared Governor DeWine's announcement that Director Jeff Davis will retire at the end of the year. Current Deputy Director Kim Hauck has been appointed the new DODD Director and will assume the role on January 1st, 2022. Director Davis' calm and thoughtful approach, compassion for people with disabilities and their families, as well as his understanding of the issues impacting providers have been invaluable during the tumultuous last few years and we are thankful for his leadership. Serving as OPRA's long-time Government Relations Director, then President/CEO before taking the lead at DODD, Director Davis is part of the OPRA family and we wish him the best in his retirement. Director Davis will join us for next Friday morning's 8:30 call.



JMOC: Yesterday, the Ohio legislature's Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee held a hearing focusing on the proposed spending plan for American Rescue Plan (ARPA) prepared by the Ohio Department of Medicaid. Several weeks back, OPRA and our workforce coalition [sent this letter to the administration](#), outlining our concerns with the proposed plan, and advocating for shifting funding towards direct provider relief payments. The letter, and its revised funding proposal were the focus of much of the hearing. ODM Director Maureen Corcoran defended Ohio's plan, making the case that the spending proposal addresses long-term Medicaid system improvements over one-time relief payments. We will continue to advocate for a plan that maximizes the much-needed relief funding for providers allocated through the American Rescue Plan. [The entire hearing can be viewed here.](#)

HB169: This bill appropriated the ARPA funding for the enhanced FMAP for home and community-based services as well as appropriated at least \$42 million in funding for ICF relief. The ICF payments will be limited to direct care staff compensation, which may include staff retention bonus payments, overtime pay and shift differential payments, staff recruitment payments, and new hire incentive payment." The HCBS payments will be contingent on CMS's approval of Ohio's spending plan submitted in October. Additional information will be forthcoming from The Ohio Department of Medicaid and Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities on both appropriates. [You can read more about the bill here.](#) The bill now awaits the Governor's signature.

Emergency Planning Webinar: We want to thank everyone who attended the 'Emergency Planning and the Workforce Crisis' webinar this week. Special thanks to Michelle Madden, as well as John Vennetti, George Winsen and David Colgrove of Portage DD for their roles in organizing and presenting. [The webinar recording, as well as additional resources, can be found here.](#)

ICF Temporary Closure Procedure: Earlier this week the department sent out the 'Temporary Closure Procedure for ICF's'. This is basically a 3 page step-by-step procedure outlining what an ICF would need to do, who they need to notify, etc if for some reason they would need to temporarily close. This procedure can be found on the department's website [and also by clicking here](#). Please contact [Rachel](#) with any questions or feedback.



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 an upcoming technology webinar featuring OnSeen, the budget override form for day array services, the temporary ICF closure procedure, local distribution sites for Binax tests and more! [Click here to read MM.](#)

Virtual Rally: Senator Casey (D-PA) and Congresswoman Dingell (D-MI) will be holding a virtual rally on Monday, December 13, from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. in support of the Build Back Better act, which contains critical funding for HCBS. **You can join by calling 415-527-5035, enter access code 2760 179 5336, enter password 2357 6985. Captioning will be here:**

<https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=CONFERENCECALL>

This event is supported by the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO), the Consortium of Citizens for Disabilities Long Term Services and Support Task Force (CCD-LTSS) and the Disability and Aging Collaborative (DAC).



Senate Vaccine Vote: Earlier this week, [the US Senate voted 52-48 to overturn President Biden's vaccine mandate](#) for private businesses with 100 or more employees (OSHA). This really doesn't appear that it will go anywhere as it would need to pass the house, then it would go to the President's desk where he would most certainly veto it. So this is mostly a symbolic move – still it got some democratic votes along with all republican votes.

Velcro Coalition: OPRA and OACB will be hosting a quarterly 'velcro coalition' meeting next Wednesday, 12/15 from 10am-11:30 am. The 'velcro coalition' is a group of providers and county boards who meet quarterly to discuss and develop best practices for county board/provider relationships. Next week's meeting's theme is "Growth Through Tough Conversations". Meeting link: <https://oacbdd-org.zoom.us/j/88122428312?pwd=citzS1RoMkNGWkx0SWpEM2RkcDN6UT09>

Upcoming Events

12/14: Combined HR and Healthcare Committee Meeting

12/15: OPRA ICF Committee

12/15: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee

12/16: OPRA Day & Employment Services Committees

News and Resources

"Coronavirus in Ohio Thursday update: 8,500 new cases reported"

"Gov. DeWine appoints new Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities director"

"In a largely symbolic move, the Senate votes to block Biden's vaccine-or-test mandate"



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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](#) . Thank you.

As of December 10, 2021:

COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs			
Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
1,062	0	1,330	2,392

- 1,330 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. There were **22 additional positives** since the 12/3 report.
- There were **22 additional hospitalizations** since the 12/3 report. This is a total of 2,267 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19.
- A total of **2,392 COVID-19 reportable MUIs** have been filed as 126 individuals were never hospitalized but COVID-19 was suspected or later determined as their cause of death.
- 292 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There were **4 additional confirmed deaths** since the 12/3 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 245 followed by Cuyahoga with 229.
- Cuyahoga had the most people tested positive with 135 and Franklin had 122.

Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 59.88% of those tested and females 40.12%.
- Ages of people tested ranged from 1 to 95 years. The average age was 56 years. The most common ages are 62.
- 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% (52% positive testing rate)
 - White/Caucasian 78% (55% positive testing rate)

COVID-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (292) and the total people served (98,956) is 0.2950%.
- 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 68 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	Fulton	1	Medina	1
Allen	5	Gallia	3	Meigs	1
Ashtabula	3	Geauga	1	Miami	3
Athens	2	Greene	2	Montgomery	12
Belmont	1	Hamilton	14	Morgan	1
Brown	1	Hardin	1	Morrow	1
Butler	7	Henry	1	Muskingum	1
Carroll	1	Highland	2	NODC	4
CDC	2	Holmes	1	Ottawa	10
Champaign	1	Jefferson	1	Perry	4
Clark	6	Knox	2	Pickaway	2
Clermont	5	Lake	6	Pike	1
Clinton	1	Lawrence	2	Portage	1
Coshocton	5	Licking	8	Preble	3
Cuyahoga	17	Logan	1	Richland	7
Darke	2	Lorain	4	Ross	1
Delaware	4	Lucas	20	Sandusky	6
Fairfield	3	Mahoning	6	Scioto	2
Franklin	23	Marion	1	Seneca	1

