

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JANUARY 28, 2022

Vaccine Mandate: This week we had our call with CMS. During the call we had 2 CMS officials provide more clarification in regards to the requirement of contracted service providers needing to be vaccinated. CMS stated during the call that the authors of the QSO memo have stated that the requirement is meant for those providing care WITHIN the facility. The focus of the IFR is on staff INSIDE the facility and not those providing service outside the facility. The ICF MAY choose to add vaccination status to their contracts for day services. The survey process for this tag will be much the same process as other survey tasks. CMS will require information just for the facility they are surveying. And if a staff member works across multiple ICF facilities for the organization, the provider would just need to ensure that their name and vaccination status is on each facilities list.

[Click here to access OPRA's web page containing the CMS rule, updated QSOs, FAQs and the OPRA presentation on the vaccine mandates.](#)

Rep Oelslager Meeting: Last week we were part of Stark county town hall meeting with Representative Scott Oelslager, who is the Chairman of the House Finance Committee. This is one meeting in a series of meeting with legislators across the state. OPRA members did a great job sharing information about the negative impact of the workforce crisis on people receiving services and providers. The Representative has a lot of experience with our system and was eager to discuss what it will take to get through the crisis. We will be following up with the Representative to share our thoughts, data, and strategies. We would like to thank Bill Green, the superintendent of the Stark County Board of DD, who hosted this very important legislative meeting with chairman Oelslager, who will be a key ally as we seek meaningful rate increases in the next biennium budget.

ARPA- We are still awaiting final approval from CMS on both the ARPA EFAMP for HCBS providers and the associated Appendix K application and the 1135 application to be able to disperse the funding that was [appropriated under HB 169](#). We have started to get some questions as you all patiently wait for this process to play itself out, about any guidance on how the money can be spent once it is deposited in your accounts and any type of reporting requirements that may or may not be required. ODM is working through these questions and plans to put out guidance when everything is approved. I know there are a lot of unanswered questions you all have, but we hope to have clear guidance on any reporting requirements in the near future.

Advocacy Army: We are finally ready to roll out the Advocacy Army! We will be hosting an informational session on 2/15 at 8:30 via Zoom. We will give an overview of the curriculum, participation requirements, and our outcome goals for Advocacy Army. The info session is designed for provider admins who are interested in learning more about the curriculum. Attending the session is not a prerequisite for participating in Advocacy Army, but it is strongly encouraged. The session will be recorded if you are unable to join us. Registration for the info-session is required [and you can sign up here](#). Please contact Christine with any questions.

Public Health Emergency: [The Federal PHE has been extended to mid-April](#), with an 'unwinding time' now extending until October 2022. The extension of the PHE allows Ohio to submit additional appendix K applications as needed and continues the enhanced FMAP appropriated in the FFCRA.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: This week's roundup of DODD communications included a reminder on the need for in-prison skills assessment for CPR/First Aid training, information on the extension of the Public Health Emergency, and the results of DODD's 2020 DSP compensation survey. [Click here to read.](#)

PRF Phase 2 Reporting: HRSA announced that the reporting period for PRF Phase 2 is now open and will be until March 31, 2022. Phase 2 includes "Providers who received one or more General and/or Targeted PRF payments exceeding \$10,000, in the aggregate, from July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 must report on their use of funds in Reporting Period 2." [Click here for more information.](#)

ADVANCE Leadership: We would like to thank and acknowledge Jamie Steele, former OPRA board chair and OVRs Executive Director, and all of this year's participants in the [ADVANCE leadership training program](#). We are appreciative of and excited for this year's program participants and are grateful to be a part of this program that helps develop the skills of Ohio DD's current and future leaders. Please contact [Sonya](#) for more info on the ADVANCE program.

CMS QSO: In addition to the clarifications mentioned earlier in the newsletter, CMS issued an additional QSO, clarifying the need for surveyors to be vaccinated when performing on-site reviews in ICFs or other covered facilities. [Click here to read that QSO.](#)

DD Council Transportation Study: From DD Council release; "The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (the Council), in collaboration with the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center (GRC), has released the 2021 Transportation Accessibility for Ohioans with Disabilities Report...The goal of the 2021 study was to answer key questions about the current status of transportation accessibility for Ohioans with disabilities, identify any new transportation challenges related to COVID-19 and help inform transportation stakeholders and policy makers and determine needed steps to further improve accessibility. [Click here to read the full report.](#)



Upcoming Events

[2/8: OPRA HR Committee Meeting](#)

[2/10: OPRA Health Care Committee](#)

News and Resources

["Coronavirus in Ohio Thursday update: More than 12,000 cases reported"](#)

["Justice Stephen Breyer, an influential liberal on the Supreme Court, to retire"](#)

["Ohio Exits Class Action Filed To Improve Developmental Disability HCBS Access"](#)

["How to Get free at-home COVID-19 tests"](#)



OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

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COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs-January 27, 2022

Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
1,087	1	1,524	2,612

- 1,524 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. There were **24 additional positives** since the 1/21 report.
- There were **25 additional hospitalizations** since the 1/21 report. This is a total of 2,462 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19.
- A total of 2,612 COVID-19 reportable MUIs have been filed as 150 individuals were never hospitalized but COVID-19 was suspected or later determined as their cause of death.
- 331 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There were **10 additional confirmed deaths** since the 1/21 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 263 followed by Cuyahoga with 253.
- Cuyahoga had the most people tested positive with 156 and Franklin had 140.

Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 59.46% of those tested and females 40.54%.
- Ages of people tested ranged from 1 to 95 years. The average age was 54 years. The most common ages are 62.
- The breakdown of people tested by race is:
 - Black or African American-14% (56% positive testing rate)
 - Other Race -2% (56% positive testing rate)
 - Unknown-5% (52% positive testing rate)
 - White/Caucasian 79% (56% positive testing rate)

COVID Related Deaths:

County or DCs with COVID Deaths							
Adams	2	Fulton	2	Mahoning	7	Sandusky	6
Allen	5	Gallia	3	Marion	1	Scioto	2
Ashtabula	3	Geauga	1	Medina	1	Seneca	1
Athens	2	Greene	3	Meigs	1	Stark	20
Belmont	1	Hamilton	15	Miami	4	Summit	15
Brown	1	Hancock	4	Montgomery	13	TDC	1
Butler	7	Hardin	1	Morgan	1	Trumbull	9
Carroll	1	Henry	1	Morrow	2	Tuscarawas	6
CDC	2	Highland	2	Muskingum	1	Vinton	1
Champaign	1	Holmes	2	MVDC	2	Warren	6
Clark	6	Huron	1	NODC	4	Wayne	4
Clermont	5	Jefferson	2	Ottawa	10	Williams	1
Clinton	1	Knox	3	Perry	4	Wood	4
Coshocton	7	Lake	9	Pickaway	2	Wyandot	2
Cuyahoga	20	Lawrence	2	Pike	1	Grand Total	331
Darke	2	Licking	8	Portage	2		
Delaware	4	Logan	1	Preble	3		
Fairfield	5	Lorain	4	Richland	7		
Franklin	26	Lucas	21	Ross	1		

COVID-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (331) and the total people served (98,956) is 0.334%.
- The ages of those who died range from 4-95 years of age.
- The average age of the person who died was 60 years old.
- A total of 67 counties and 4 DCs (CDC, MVDC, NODC, TDC) have reported COVID-19 deaths.
- Franklin has the most confirmed COVID deaths with 26.

The Department provides this 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.

