

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 4, 2022

Waiver Workgroup: DODD's workgroup, led by the Medicaid Division, met on Monday of this week to continue its work towards the waiver simplification effort intended to be effective on July 1st. This effort will simplify/combine the Level 1 and SELF waiver, along with introduce some new service options, including self-directed transportation. The workgroup has split into 4 sub-groups, focused on self-directed transportation, participant-directed goods and services, Level 1 and SELF waiver redesigns. Certain rules, such as the 'general requirements' and SELF waiver administration, will need to be updated to incorporate these changes further. Reach out to [Pete](#) with any questions or feedback.

Behavior Support: [The behavior support rule](#) is up for its 5-year review so we are preparing comments as its review/draft renewal moves forward. Just some initial takeaways, the new rule has a much better format, particularly for providers to follow. It lays out what needs to occur and when, as well as specific trainings and things the HRC committee is responsible for. And these were in the current rule, but the format and flow is better so that people aren't searching for all the things they need to do. There are some issues that we are looking at regarding chemical restraints as there is some language in there that we believe should be modified. The rule is up for public hearing next week so we plan on having some remarks prepared. Contact [Rachel](#) or [Christine](#) with any feedback.

Self-Directed Transportation: DODD's Self-Directed Transportation workgroup met on tuesday to continue work on the proposed service and rule. This service would essentially allow people to purchase transportation options such as Uber, Lyft, other public and commercial transportation not certified through Medicaid, or even pay friends, neighbors, family or coworkers for transportation for reimbursement. The rule is on track to be implemented on July 1st, which means the rule-making process will have to happen quickly. [The draft rule can be found here](#) and we would love any member feedback by Friday, February 18, if possible. Please send any feedback or questions to [Scott](#).

CMS Mandate Implement Dates: The CMS Phase 1 implementation date of February 14th is approaching quickly. So if you have not begun preparations for implementation of the CMS IFR, you need to do so immediately. As a reminder, we did receive confirmation last week that day service providers who contract with ICF's are not included as part of the mandate. We of course are anxiously awaiting how surveyor's will begin surveying for this rule. We encourage any provider who participates in a survey in the next few months to make sure they give us a call to let us know what they say or how they survey your facility as we want to make sure we get any feedback, positive or negative, to CMS. [OPRA's CMS vaccine mandate IFR resource page can be found here.](#)

CIE Study: The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) and the National Employment Opportunities Expansion Network (NEON) released this study, outlining recommendations for increasing Competitive Employment opportunities. [The plan and accompanying webinar can be accessed here](#) (scroll down to 3rd page section). Please contact Scott with any questions.

NEON

PLAN TO INCREASE
COMPETITIVE
INTEGRATED
EMPLOYMENT

OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

January, 2022



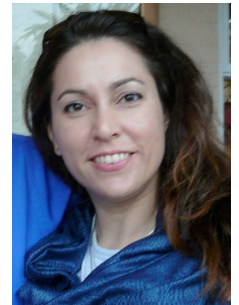
In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: This week's roundup of DODD communications included updates regarding the CMS vaccine mandate's applicability to ICFs, the Ohio RISE program, MUI resources for families, and reporting dates for the Outcome Tracking System (OTS). [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.](#)

Welcome Gina! We are excited to announce the addition of Gina Weisshaar to the OPRA team. Gina will be coordinating administrative activities and helping with OPRA's internal operations. Gina comes to the team with years of experience in vocational rehab, transition services, mediation techniques and project management, and is a former (and now current) colleague of Pete and Scott. Gina's email address is Gweisshaar@opra.org, feel free to reach out, introduce yourself and say hi!



CALLING ALL SPEAKERS - OPRA is now accepting session proposals in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) for the 2022 Spring Conference.

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL!!](#)

As you already know, the OPRA Conference is *THE* place to network, engage around the latest issues facing providers, find resources to benefit your organization and learn from first-rate speakers. If you are interested in speaking, please review the guidelines below.

- Write as thorough of a session description as possible.
- You may submit a maximum of three (3) proposals.
- Resumes from **ALL** speakers and co-speakers are required for CEU purposes.
- We look for sessions that will bring value to all of the broad number of positions and services attendees provide.
- Proposals and presentations should be free of political partisan views.
- Proposals should be free of product advertisements and promotion of your services.
- The deadline for submissions is Friday, February 18, 2022.

Upcoming Events

2/8: OPRA HR Committee Meeting

2/10: OPRA Health Care Committee

2/15: Town Hall Tuesday: Advocacy Army Info Session

News and Resources

"Ohio health officials report 48% decrease in COVID hospitalizations since January peak"

"Joe Manchin gave a fresh hint on what he wants from a skinny Build Back Better"

"Next big health crisis: 15M people could lose Medicaid when pandemic ends"

"How to Get free at-home COVID-19 tests"



OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

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FEBRUARY 4, 2022

COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs-February 4, 2022

Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
1,092	1	1,545	2,638

- 1,545 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. There were **21 additional positives** since the 1/27 report.
- There were **21 additional hospitalizations** since the 1/27 report. This is a total of 2,483 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19.
- A total of 2,638 COVID-19 reportable MUIs have been filed as 155 individuals were never hospitalized but COVID-19 was suspected or later determined as their cause of death.
- 339 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There were **8 additional confirmed deaths** since the 1/27 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 264 followed by Cuyahoga with 253.
- Cuyahoga had the most people tested positive with 156 and Franklin had 141.

Testing Demographics:

- Males accounted for 59.36% of those tested and females 40.64%.
- 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-19 Deaths:

- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (339) and the total people served (98,956) is 0.332%.
- 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.

COVID Related Deaths:

County or DCs with COVID Deaths							
Adams	2	Franklin	26	Lucas	21	Richland	7
Allen	6	Fulton	2	Mahoning	7	Ross	1
Ashtabula	3	Gallia	3	Marion	1	Sandusky	6
Athens	2	Geauga	1	Medina	1	Scioto	2
Belmont	1	Greene	3	Meigs	1	Seneca	1
Brown	1	Hamilton	15	Miami	4	Stark	22
Butler	7	Hancock	4	Montgomery	14	Summit	16
Carroll	1	Hardin	1	Morgan	1	TDC	1
CDC	2	Henry	1	Morrow	2	Trumbull	9
Champaign	1	Highland	2	Muskingum	1	Tuscarawas	6
Clark	6	Holmes	2	MVDC	2	Vinton	1
Clermont	5	Huron	1	Noble	1	Warren	7
Clinton	1	Jefferson	2	NODC	4	Wayne	4
Coshocton	7	Knox	3	Ottawa	10	Williams	1
Cuyahoga	20	Lake	9	Perry	4	Wood	4
Darke	2	Lawrence	2	Pickaway	2	Wyandot	2
Delaware	4	Licking	8	Pike	1	Grand Total	339
Erie	1	Logan	1	Portage	2		
Fairfield	5	Lorain	4	Preble	3		

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.

