**Dustin Wright:** Ohio's DD community is in shock and mourning this week with the passing of Dustin Wright, Founder/CEO of Disability Cocoon and leader of many other tech-related initiatives in Ohio and nation-wide. Dustin's name was synonymous with the Technology First initiative in Ohio and his passion, knowledge, and energy has been invaluable in launching tech-related supports. He was kind, gracious, innovative and always eager to help or lead in any way he could. His passing is a huge loss to our field, and we extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends and loved ones. He will be deeply missed. [Dustin's obituary and service details can be found here](#).

**Behavior Support Rule:** This week, DODD published its revamped [Behavioral Support](#) section of their website. The new website has all of the behavior support content in one area and has been updated to reflect the revised rule which, goes into effect October 1. As a reminder, through Sept 30th, DODD will be offering training on the rule – either in-person, virtual, or online. There will be no citations issued unless there is a violation of rule 5123-2-06. After Oct 1st, there will be citations issued when there is substantial non-compliance. And your policies and procedures will need to be updated to reflect the changes regarding the rule and HRC. County boards and ICF's need to start identifying and revising existing plans if they are not in compliance with the updated rule. This needs to be completed by June 30, 2023. So members may want to navigate over to the department's site for any resources needed, including any trainings required. Please contact [Rachel](#) with any questions.

**MRC:** This week the [DODD put out a notice that effective July 1st,](#) email alerts will now be sent to any agency provider who is assigned to be the Daily Billing Unit provider in the Medicaid Services System for an MRC site when a change is made for HPC or OSOC services. This email will alert MRC providers that a change to HPC/OSOC services being delivered has occurred. Just reminder that if the provider does not mark the month complete box from 2019, 2020, and up to June 2021, and the result is below or above, there will be issues with re-billing due to timely filing. There have been a few small issues with errors below the 3% that are getting fixed. This new email system is intended to allow for much needed communication between county boards and providers. Contact [Rachel](#) with any questions.

**JFS Workforce Group:** Last month, [DODD announced that the state of Ohio would be convening a new work-group comprised of state-level executive agencies](#) to focus on solutions to the workforce shortage across Ohio's human services fields. The first action of this task-force was distributing a survey to stakeholders, soliciting ideas on ways to address the workforce crisis. Earlier this week, Ohio Job & Family Services (JFS), the lead agency for the working group, reached out to us in response to our survey feedback, inviting OPRA to participate in the group's meeting later in the month. We encouraged members to also complete the survey, and we know that many did, so please let us know if JFS has reached out to you about sharing feedback at their upcoming meeting. We would love the opportunity to collaborate and coordinate with the membership on any potential communication with the workgroup. Please reach out to [Scott](#) if you have any questions, or have been approached by JFS.

# In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

**Memo Monday/Pipeline:** Click here to download **DODD's Memo Monday**, containing a number of important memos, and **click here to download the Pipeline,** DODD's monthly newsletter.

**Provider Relief Fund:** "Providers who received one or more Provider Relief Fund (PRF) payments exceeding $10,000, in the aggregate, from January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 must report on their use of funds during Reporting Period 3 (RP3). The PRF Reporting Portal for RP3 is now open and will remain open through September 30, 2022. HRSA will host technical assistance webcasts for new and returning reporting entities. Providers must register to attend:

- **New Reporting Entities: PRF Reporting Requirements Intro: July 12, 2022, 3:00-4:00 PM ET.**
- **Information for Returning Reporters: July 13, 2022, 3:00 – 4:00 ET."**

**Ability One:** Late last month, the Ability One Commission, which oversees the Federal jobs program, released their strategic plan for the next several years. Ability One contracts focus on federal production contracts to employ people with vision impairments and other significant disabilities. The plan focuses on better/more CIE outcomes and revisions to the JWOD act, which require disability-specific ratios for Ability One contracts. **Click here to read the plan.**

**Call for Speakers:** OPRA is proud to announce the call for speaker proposals is officially open for the 2022 OPRA Fall Conference. The conference will be in person and hosted at Nationwide Conference Center on October 27th & 28th, 2022. **Click here to submit a proposal.**

**Award Nominations:** OPRA is pleased to announce the call for nominations are now open for the 2022 OPRA Annual Awards. The purpose of the OPRA Annual Awards is to honor dedicated service professionals, groups and volunteers who have made outstanding contributions in the I/DD Field. We encourage all member agencies to submit nominations to recognize those that have worked hard and dedicated their time to help support the people they serve.

You can **CLICK HERE** to be directed to the Annual Award Form to submit your nomination. You will be contacted no later than Friday, September 9th regarding the status of your nomination.  Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this year's nomination process.

## Upcoming Events

**7/13: OPRA Policy Committee Meeting**

**7/13: DODD Community Integrated Day Services Webinar**

## News and Resources

**"Ohio reports 18,838 more COVID-19 cases: weekly coronavirus update for Thursday, July 7"**

**"A voter guide for Ohio's Aug. 2, 2022 primary election"**

**"For teens with disabilities, Ohio can help with the transition to adulthood and careers-OOD Director Miller Op-Ed"**

**CDC: 'Know Your COVID-19 Community Level' Map**

OPRA
Ohio Provider Resource Association

| COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Negative | Pending | Positive | Total |
| 1,142 | 0 | 1,658 | 2,800 |

- 1,658 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. There were **6 additional positives** since the 7/1 report.
- There were **6 additional hospitalizations** since the 7/1 report. This is a total of 2,622 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19.
- A total of 2,800 COVID-19 reportable MUIs have been filed as 178 individuals were never hospitalized but COVID-19 was suspected or later determined as their cause of death.
- 386 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There was **1 additional confirmed death** since the 7/1 report.

**Impacted Counties/Developmental Centers:**
- There are 87 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 273 followed by Cuyahoga with 268.
- Cuyahoga had the most people tested positive with 170 and Franklin had 151.

**Testing Demographics:**
- Males accounted for 59% of those tested and females 41.%.
- Ages of people tested ranged from 11 months to 95 years. The average age was 54 years. The most common ages are 59.
- The breakdown of people tested by race is:
    - Black or African American-14% (60% positive testing rate)
    - Other Race -2% (56% positive testing rate)
    - Unknown-5% (52% positive testing rate)
    - White/Caucasian 79% (59% positive testing rate)

**COVID-19 Deaths:**
- The mortality rate of those passing from COVID-19 (386) and the total people served (98,956) is 0.390%.
- The ages of those who died range from 11 months-95 years of age.
- The average age of the person who died was 60 years old.
- A total of 70 counties and 4 DCs (CDC, MVDC, NODC, TDC) have reported COVID-19 deaths.
- Franklin has the most confirmed COVID deaths with 30.

**COVID Related Deaths:**

| County or DCs with COVID Deaths | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Adams | 2 | Franklin | 30 | Lucas | 22 | Richland | 8 |
| Allen | 6 | Fulton | 2 | Mahoning | 8 | Ross | 2 |
| Ashtabula | 4 | Gallia | 4 | Marion | 1 | Sandusky | 7 |
| Athens | 2 | Geauga | 1 | Medina | 1 | Scioto | 2 |
| Belmont | 1 | Greene | 3 | Meigs | 1 | Seneca | 1 |
| Brown | 1 | Hamilton | 15 | Miami | 4 | Stark | 26 |
| Butler | 10 | Hancock | 5 | Montgomery | 15 | Summit | 18 |
| Carroll | 1 | Hardin | 1 | Morgan | 2 | TDC | 1 |
| CDC | 2 | Henry | 1 | Morrow | 2 | Trumbull | 10 |
| Champaign | 1 | Highland | 3 | Muskingum | 1 | Tuscarawas | 7 |
| Clark | 6 | Holmes | 3 | MVDC | 2 | Vinton | 1 |
| Clermont | 6 | Huron | 1 | Noble | 1 | Washington | 1 |
| Clinton | 1 | Jefferson | 2 | NODC | 4 | Warren | 8 |
| Coshocton | 8 | Knox | 3 | Ottawa | 10 | Wayne | 4 |
| Cuyahoga | 26 | Lake | 13 | Perry | 4 | Williams | 1 |
| Darke | 2 | Lawrence | 2 | Pickaway | 2 | Wood | 5 |
| Delaware | 5 | Licking | 8 | Pike | 1 | Wyandot | 2 |
| Erie | 1 | Logan | 1 | Portage | 3 | | |
| Fairfield | 5 | Lorain | 6 | Preble | 4 | Grand Total | 386 |

The Department provides this weekly MUI updates based on COVID-19 related unanticipated hospitalizations and/or deaths entered 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.