

# OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JULY 15, 2022

**Retention Program:** Earlier this week, DODD shared that CMS has approved the Appendix K application allowing for the 6.5% retention payment program discussed over the past few months. We are grateful to our county board partners for the funding to make this program happen, and to DODD for their work advancing this initiative through the Ohio Department of Medicaid and CMS. Our hope is this project will be one tool in addressing the workforce crisis, as we continue to advocate for more resources and funding through next year's biennium budget. While this approval from CMS is a huge step forward in implementing this program, its actual start date may still be months away. [DODD has filed a rule](#) that will allow for the program to go into effect. DODD shared with us today that they feel they are unable to file the rule as an 'emergency rule', meaning it will have to go through the normal rule-making process, which means a start date is still at least 60 days away. While this continued delay is frustrating, DODD has indicated that the rule can be retroactively implemented to the date of Appendix K approval, which is considered July 1st, allowing for 2 quarters worth of payments once the rule is effective in the fall. There are still many questions as this program rolls out, and DODD will be providing training, FAQs, and other resources to ready the field. We at OPRA will also hold member trainings and town hall sessions as we get closer to the program's actual implementation. Please contact [Scott](#) with any questions.

**GED/Age Waiver:** In last week's [Director Corner](#), [DODD announced](#) that they will be extending the waiver that allows providers to hire people who do not have a HS diploma or GED or are 16 or 17 years old. The waiver, which was set to expire in September will be extended for another year and DODD will be surveying the field as to the usage and effectiveness of the practice as they weigh making the waiver permanent.

**August Elections:** As we have spent a lot of time talking about redistricting, we also want to start reminding people about voting in the primary in August for Ohio's General Assembly. Those results could influence our budget prospects. [People can find their 2022 General Assembly Districts here](#). People can find their candidates on their local county board of elections website. This primary election will determine who is running in the general election in November. That will have a direct impact on who will be working on the budget next year so we encourage you to do some research on your local election.

**Community Integration Training:** We had the opportunity to join DODD's Community Life Engagement team for a webinar about community-integrated Day Supports and Vocational Habilitation. This training was a 'back to basics'-type session intended to help teams authorize and provide community-based supports. [You can view the webinar by registering here](#) (webinar can be viewed directly after registering). Reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions or if you need any help in getting community-based ADS or Voc Hab authorized.

**OPRA Policy Committee:** We want to thank all of you who attended Wednesday's Policy Committee meeting. We reviewed the Biennium budget process and timeline, our involvement with a coalition of DD partners, and our work refining our budget 'asks', both financial and regulatory. We would like to thank Scott DeLong from CRSI for his leadership chairing the committee.



# 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 info on the FY23 Internet Assistance Program, DODD's Waiver redesign announcement and more.

**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.

**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.](#)



Location:

[Nationwide Hotel & Conference Center](#)  
Lewis Center, OH

Sponsors and Exhibitors Click here to sign up!

**YOU CHOOSE YOUR BOOTH LOCATION!**

Booth location is assigned first-come first-served & by level of sponsorship.

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## Upcoming Events

[7/19: OPRA District 2 Meeting](#)

[7/21: OPRA Day & Employment Service Committee](#)

[7/21: Training Workshop: ISP/Billing Process by 19Services](#)

## News and Resources

["New Ohio COVID cases, hospitalizations up 30%"](#)

["Inclusive Employer Award applications available"](#)

["In First, Feds Issue 'Bill Of Rights' For Airline Passengers With Disabilities"](#)

[CDC: 'Know Your COVID-19 Community Level' Map](#)



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Please find this week's MUI COVID-19 updates. Unfortunately, we saw a significant increase in the number of positive cases and hospitalizations this week. Since last week, there have been 12 new positives, 14 additional hospitalizations and 1 new death. The average age of the person testing positive this week was 53. Many individuals testing positive had been vaccinated and received a booster.

Have a good weekend....!!

## COVID-19 Testing Results for Reportable MUIs

Negative	Pending	Positive	Total
1,143	2	1,670	2,815

- 1,670 people served have tested positive for COVID-19 and been hospitalized. There were **12 additional positives** since the 7/8 report.
- There were **14 additional hospitalizations** since the 7/8 report. This is a total of 2,636 people hospitalized and tested for COVID-19.
- A total of 2,815 COVID-19 reportable MUIs have been filed as 179 individuals were never hospitalized but COVID-19 was suspected or later determined as their cause of death.
- 387 people served have passed away who have tested positive for COVID-19. There was **1 additional confirmed death** since the 7/8 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 274 followed by Cuyahoga with 269.
- Cuyahoga had the most people tested positive with 171 and Franklin had 152.

## 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 (387) and the total people served (98,956) is 0.391%.
- 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.

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.

### 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	2	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	387

