# **OPRA FRIDAY 5**

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

OCTOBER 14, 2022

Policy Summit: The OPRA team had the opportunity join with OPRA members and other Ohio stakeholders at ANCOR's Policy Summit & Hill Day in Washington DC. We had the opportunity to meet with the offices of several US Representatives and Senators for Ohio and OPRA members did an incredible job sharing their stories and experiences with key legislative staff. We want to thank our partners at ANCOR for hosting such an amazing event, allowing the opportunity for face to face advocacy at the Federal level. ANCOR staff also shared their 2022 State of the DSP Workforce Crisis report, which will help bolster our continued budget advocacy in Ohio.







<u>OOD CESP Requirement:</u> We met with OOD this week to discuss service delays and capacity struggles, most specifically with the Supported Employment-Job Development service. After some discussion, OOD has agreed to try a 'CESP Program' model, where a CESP-certified professional could supervise or mentor other staff who do not yet have the certification to provide this important service. OOD is currently drafting the proposal language and we will have more information when more details are put together. Reach out to <u>Scott</u> with any questions.

<u>SSI:</u> Social Security Administration announced an 8.3% increase to social security and SSI benefits this week. Those increased payments will start at the beginning over the year. Notices will be sent out over the next few months to everyone who will receive the increases. <u>You can find more info here.</u>

<u>Public Health Emergency</u>: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has announced the extension of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) for an additional 90 days, until mid-January 2023. As a reminder, HHS has maintained a commitment to provide a 60-days' advance notice prior to the end of the PHE. We will likely know whether we can anticipate a January extension in mid-November 2022. The continued extension remains important in our ongoing discussions around Appendix K flexibilities and Federal FMAP share percentages.

<u>Risk Toolkit:</u> OPRA is pleased to have partnered with APSI and OACB to develop a toolkit to look at supervision and risk. This toolkit will provide teams with information on balancing risks and supports to maximize an individual's quality of life. This toolkit includes information, easy checklists for teams to take a look at, supervision terminology and meanings as it relates to the OISP, and many other ideas and information. We will be presenting this information with APSI at our conference at the end of the month, which we are looking forward to. APSI is also hosting an 'APSI Institute" session, introducing the new toolkit on October 18th, to learn more click here.

## In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

<u>Memo Monday/Pipeline:</u> Click here to download <u>DODD's Memo Monday</u>, containing information on Medical restraints training, behavior support workshops, OISP office hours, as well as several other webinars/trainings on OISP, EVV, Pathways to Careers and more!

DOL Independent Contractors: The US Department of Labor Issued a notice of proposed rule making on the classification of independent contractors and employees. There was a rule that went into effect in 2021 that had changed some of the long-standing tests. Some of the changes will be reverted back to pre-2021 standards. If you do work with independent contractors, you will want to check out the revisions. You can find more information here.





#### **Top Golf OPRA PAC Event**

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

Outstanding food and beverage, climate-controlled hitting bays and music.

**RAFFLE &** 

PRIZES!



#### When?

Wednesday, October 26, 2023 2:30 PM Registration 3:00 PM PLAY + LUNCH 5:00 PM Prizes and Raffle

### **Upcoming Events**

10/19: Annual OPRA Member Meeting (Zoom)

10/19: OPRA ICF Committee Meeting

<u>10/19: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee</u> <u>Meeting</u>

10/27-10/28: OPRA Fall Conference

### **News and Resources**

<u>"Ohio reports under 8,550 COVID-19 cases over</u> <u>past week"</u>

<u>"A voter guide for Ohio's Nov. 8, 2022</u> <u>midterm election"</u>

<u>"Two Ohio lawmakers want to prohibit paying people with disabilities less than minimum wage"</u>

<u>"State Strategies to Foster Inclusive</u> <u>Apprenticeships for People with Disabilities"</u>



Where?

**Top Golf Polaris** 2000 Ikea Way Columbus, OH 43240

Register

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