

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 17, 2023

Budget Season: Given that state budget season is underway and house committees are beginning to hold hearings on various facets of the Governor's proposed budget, it has been a busy week of outreach and advocacy with our executive and legislative partners. Pete and Christine both attended in-district meetings at member agencies with Representatives Ray and Plummer, as well as meetings with House Finance HHS Sub-Committee Chair, Rep. Carruthers and Senator Mark Romanchuk. We are so proud and appreciative of all of the outreach that OPRA members have done and continue to do with your local legislators. So far, there seems to be great support from the legislature in supporting I/DD services and that is because of the personal connections they have made with you. In addition to budget advocacy, we have also been a part of legislative meetings this week in support of an initiative to eliminate the age limit for the Medicaid Buy-in For Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD) program. Finally, we were able to meet with key leadership at DODD, including Director Hauck and Deputy Director Steve Beha, to discuss and work through several key issues we will be facing together over the next several months, including the budget, the Blueprint proposal, continued staffing challenges, proposed rule changes and much more.

CMS Presentation: This week, ANCOR held their ICF Community of Practice call. We were fortunate enough to have Don Howard from [CMS present information regarding citation and survey data](#) over the last 3 years. The presentation included data from the last couple years regarding top survey deficiencies including infection control. CMS did not provide any insight as to whether the vaccination mandate will end. The top 5 CMS Citations for 2022 were W454 and W455, W104, W249 and W331



Building Bridges Survey: Our friends at the Nisonger Center have asked us to share this survey with members. Per Nisonger; "We would like to invite you to participate in an online survey that aims improve services and supports for individuals with ID/DD (intellectual and developmental disabilities) and mental health disabilities. The survey will be completed online using Qualtrics. Participants can take the survey at any time. It will take 15-20 minutes to complete." [Click this link](#) or scan the QR code to participate!

Member/Guest Month: As announced on today's member call, OPRA is bringing back the Member/Guest Initiative Project for the month of March. This project is designed to leverage your relationships with other providers in your area or across the state. We would like to introduce your guest to the value of being a part of the OPRA Community. Your guest will get one month of free access to OPRA in March 2023. Please see the attached flyer that outlines the project in more detail. If your guest chooses to join OPRA in 2023, as an incentive, you will get a discount that equals 10% of your guest's paid dues as a "Thank You" for your help! If you have a guest that would like to know more about OPRA, please contact [Sonya](#) with your guest's contact information and we will reach out to them with more details on how to participate.

The flyer features the OPRA logo and a photo of two people at a table. It details the 'Member/Guest Project for the month of March' and lists benefits for guests, including access to the OPRA website, a special Member/Guest screen, and a 10% discount on dues. It also includes a 'How It Works' section with steps for providers to enroll their guests and a 'Guest Benefits' section. The footer contains the website URL and a disclaimer.



In Case You Missed It...

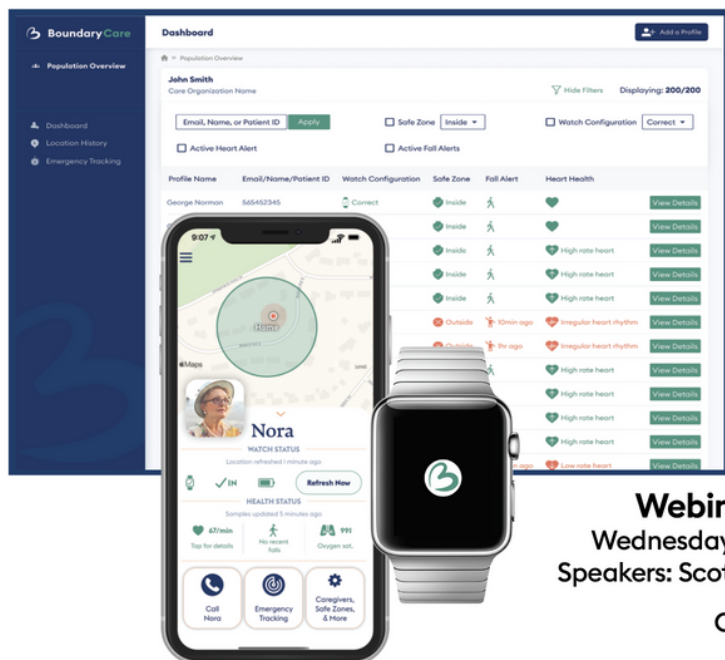
Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday/Pipeline: Click here to download DODD's [Memo Monday](#), including info on the Charting the Lifecourse Summit, sharing sessions for providers, a video overview of the licensure rule changes, and resources regarding the Outcome Tracking System.

PRF: Don't forget that reporting on phase 4 funds is now live and will remain open till the end of March! Please contact [Christine](#) with any questions.



Speaker proposals for the OPRA Spring Conference close next Friday, 2/24. [Click here to submit a proposal!](#)



Learn about this revolutionary solution in IDD supports. BoundaryCare enhances safety, health, and wellness, delivering clear and actionable data to individuals and those who support them.

Webinar (hosted by OPRA)
Wednesday, March 1, at 10:00 am Eastern
Speakers: Scott & Paul Carpenter, Co-founders

[Click here to register](#)



Upcoming Events

[2/22: OPRA Workshop: HIPAA Session 4: Physical Safeguards: Evaluate risks to information](#)

[2/24: Member Event: Alpha's Laugh & Luck Reverse Raffle](#)

[Click here for DODD February Trainings](#)

News & Resources

["What happens to free COVID-19 tests and vaccines when public health emergency ends? What you need to know"](#)

["Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine requests federal help amid East Palestine train derailment"](#)

["Labor Department Expands Disability Employment Initiative"](#)

["Ohio State study finds adults with developmental disabilities face disparities in kidney transplantation"](#)

