

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

APRIL 21, 2023

State Budget: On Monday, the House Finance Committee released their substitute House Bill 33, the state budget bill, including numerous amendments submitted by committee members throughout the process. Through the sub-bill, the committee built on Governor DeWine's proposal to raise DSP wages to an average of \$16/hr, enhancing that to \$17/hr beginning 1/1/24 and \$18/hr beginning 7/1/24. While we still have work to do to achieve our total funding request, we are beyond grateful that the committee has built on what was an already historic investment from the Governor. We will continue to show our gratitude to our Executive and Legislative supporters, as we also continue to advocate for higher wages as the budget process moves to the Senate. [A breakdown of the sub-bill, as well as several other budget resources are available on the OPRA website here.](#) Additionally, both Pete Moore of OPRA and Tim Neville of Echoing Hills had the opportunity to testify to the finance committee this week, thanking the committee for their support. [The video of the testimony, and the incredibly supportive comments and questions from the committee can be found here.](#) Pete and Tim's testimony begins at the 4:43 mark and comments from the committee begin at the 4:52 mark. We would like to once again thank all of the members who have provided in-person and written testimony, and that have met with and/or hosted your legislators. Several committee members spoke of their personal connection to DD services, and that is all thanks to the advocacy you all have done this past year. Thank you!



Blueprint: After month's of policy sparring over DODD's Blueprint Proposal for Adult Day Services, DODD held a meeting on Wednesday, intending to share the vocational and employment side of the proposal. Though DODD did present proposed rate enhancements for Employment services, bringing them in line with OOD rates, and shared the outline of a value-based employment quality program, many other aspects of both other proposals have been delayed until the state budget is finalized, the waiver redesign work is underway and the Public Health Emergency is unwound. This means that any proposed rate and policy structures presented by Milliman will not go into effect until at least 2025, with much stakeholder work to be done before then. Day Array rates will increase in accordance with the state budget increases on 1/1/24. DODD is still looking to launch a pilot of the ADS Quality Program later in 2023, but we are advocating to include the Employment VBP model proposal as part of that pilot. [All of the meeting materials can be found here](#) and we are actively seeking member feedback. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions on any of the proposal documents or concepts. Our first round of questions is due to DODD by May 3rd, with final proposal feedback due later in May. DODD also recently revised the proposed Employment First rule, removing language about '50% wage reporting based on OPRA feedback.



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 information on pa joint DODD/Nisonger remote support research project, end of the PHE PASSR impact, remote service virtual discussions, and the 2023 Innovation series.

GSFO Grant: Our friends at the Good Sheperd Foundation of Ohio have shared their 2023 grant application, which supports extracurricular activities for people living in residential service settings. [You can download the application here.](#) Applications are due May 5th, 2023.

Training Opportunity: OPRA member, [CEUCertificates.com](#), in collaboration with The Academy for Professional Development, is now offering online courses that meet Director of Operations requirements. This series, called Guiding Your Team, is also appropriate training for Agency CEOs, Program directors, Front line supervisors, SSA managers, and other Team leaders. These courses are available on-demand and can be [found for your review here](#). Please reach out to Debra@ceucertificates.com with any questions.



2023 GOLF OUTING
FRIDAY, JUNE 2ND



ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL URBANA COUNTRY CLUB COURSE WITH 18 HOLES OF GOLF, LUNCH, CONTESTS, SOCIAL HOUR & MORE!

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QUESTIONS? CONTACT MELISSA FANNON,
OPRA EVENTS MANAGER @ MFANNON@OPRA.ORG

REGISTER: WWW.OPRA.ORG

[CLICK HERE TO PLAY!](#)

OHIO'S DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY CRISIS



What is the Crisis? Partners Consequences of Inaction Solution Advocacy Resources [TAKE ACTION](#)

Share YOUR Story

You'll find an easy-to-use web portal below where you can share YOUR story! That story may then be shared with key legislators to convey the very real and immediate human impact of this crisis. Simply click **SHARE YOUR STORY** below and follow the prompts in the online survey tool. There will be several survey questions, and you'll have an opportunity to share your story.

[SHARE YOUR STORY](#)

Need some tips on how to structure your story? Visit [this link](#) for some writing prompts and tips.

Sign the Petition

Ohioans with disabilities cannot get the care and support they desperately need because of the unprecedented workforce shortage of skilled Direct Support Professionals caused by extremely low wages. Without critical support, people with developmental disabilities suffer!

Developmental disability providers are locked into reimbursement rates set by the State of Ohio. **Only action by state officials can resolve this issue.**

Please support the cause as we advocate for a solution to Ohio's Developmental Disability Crisis!

[SIGN THE PETITION](#)

Upcoming Events

[4/26: HIPAA Training: Simple Preventions for Common HIPAA Breaches](#)

[4/27: MOA Community Partnership of the Year Webinar](#)

[Click here for DODD April Trainings](#)

News & Resources

["HCBS Utilization Has Grown Significantly, But The Workforce Hasn't"](#)

["KFF: Ending the Public Health Emergency for Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Services"](#)

["Ohio reports fewer than 6,000 COVID cases for first time this year"](#)

["About 1 in 4 People on Autism Spectrum Has 'Profound' Autism"](#)





Ohio Provider Resource Association

SPRING CONFERENCE

May 18-19, 2023

KEYNOTE

RYAN SHAZIER

Ohio State Alumni

Two-time Pro Bowl NFL Linebacker

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