OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

APRIL 28, 2023

State Budget: On April 26th, the Ohio House of Representatives voted House Bill 33 (the state operating budget) out of the House with a vote of 77 yeas and 19 nays. The bill included the investments we discussed on last week's Friday call- funding across services to support statewide average wages of \$17/hour starting 1/1/24 and then statewide average wages \$18/hour on 7/1/24 and drawing down full match for OOD services. This week, the coalition of DD associations released a statement expressing gratitude to the House for their generous support of our services. In the spirit of gratitude, we encourage you to also send a thank you email to your Representatives who voted "yea" for the bill, especially if your Representative served on the House Finance Committee. The thank you does not need to be detailed- simply thank your Representative for supporting services for Ohioans with developmental disabilities in House Bill 33 and provide a sentence or two about how the funding will support your organization. You can find the budget guide that includes the directory for the House so you can find the relevant email address here. You can also access all of OPRA's State Budget Resources by clicking here.

<u>Budget Testimony:</u> We now officially turn all of our advocacy efforts to the Senate! Directors Corcoran and Hauck testified in the Senate Medicaid Committee on Thursday April 26th. Neither Directors faced too many questions from the committee and the sessions were relatively short, especially when compared to recent hearings in the House Finance Committee. You can watch the hearing here. The Medicaid Committee will host public testimony next Thursday (May 4th) at 9 where Pete and the coalition will present testimony in support of additional increases. We will be sending out information on how to submit written testimony in the Medicaid Committee later this week. Additionally, Director Miller of OOD testified on Tuesday in the Senate Health Committee. You can watch his testimony here starting at the 44-minute mark. We will be organizing testimony in the Health Committee in support of ODD's budget on May 10th. We will send information about how to submit testimony to the Health Committee next week.





Ĭh

<u>CMS Access Rules:</u> Yesterday CMS released the proposed access-related rules for HCBS services, <u>Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services (CMS 2442-P) and Medicaid and CHIP Managed Care Access,</u> <u>Finance, and Quality (CMS-2439-P).</u> OPRA will be reviewing these will provide updates for members. An initial takeaway is that these rules essentially establish new strategies for oversight and monitoring as well as putting those pieces of quality assurance and improvement into HCBS programs. We will have a more in-depth analysis as we work through the full rules packet.

<u>Wage Verification:</u> This week the department announced that they will be launching the <u>2022 direct</u> <u>support professional compensation survey</u> on May 1st. If you provided HPC services in calendar year 2022, you MUST fill out this survey. Links will be sent out to each agencies primary contact on May 1st. The survey must be completed by July 16th. DODD is also offering some virtual training webinars if you need a refresher (see Memo Monday link on next page) or haven't completed the survey before.

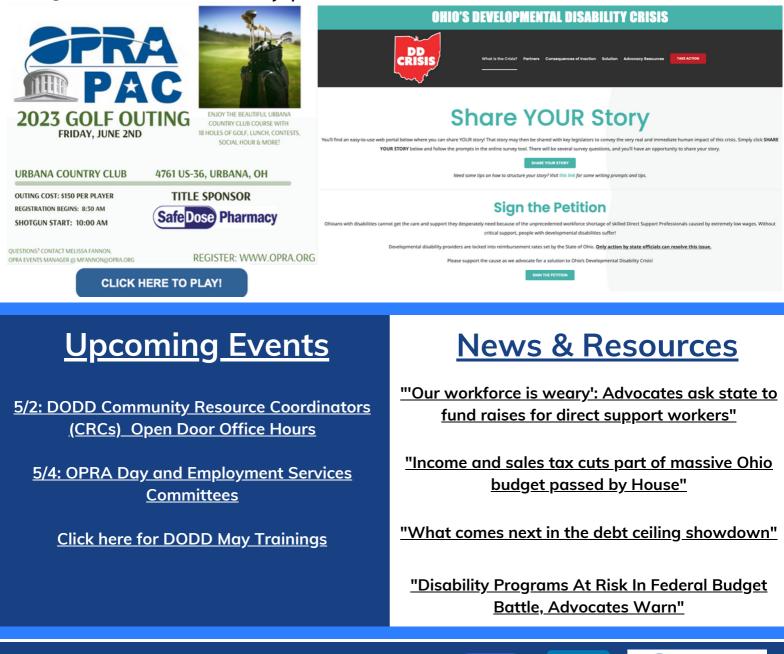
In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

<u>Memo Monday/Pipeline:</u> Click here to download DODD's <u>Memo Monday</u>, including information on the DSP compensation study (from previous page), the OTS 2021 data report and webinar on May 3rd, the Office of Compliance name change and much more.

<u>GSFO Grant:</u> 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. <u>You can download the application here.</u> 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 <u>found for your review here</u>. Please reach out to Debra@ceucertificates.com with any questions.





SPRING CONFERENCE May 18-19, 2023

KEYNOTE RYAN SHAZIER

Ohio State Alumni Two-time Pro Bowl NFL Linebacker Selected 15th overall by the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2014 Author & Resilience Speaker

29 Sessions to choose from! New this year: Technology Track!



www.opra.org



SPRING CONFERENCE – May 18-19, 2023 THANK YOU SPONSORS

