

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MAY 26, 2023

Budget Testimony: The Senate Finance Committee heard testimony on Medicaid and health provisions in the budget. Tony Thomas and Leslie Linnevers from Welcome House, Diane Beastrom and Derrick Bruggeman from Koinonia, Jo Spargo from REM Ohio, Laura Lamb from VGS, and Matt Lehner, Danielle South and JaNan Maclin from Heinzerling Community represented the system yesterday by providing verbal testimony in committee. [You can watch part one of yesterday's hearing here](#) (Start at the 1 hour and 50 minute mark to see Tony, Leslie, Diane Derrick, Jo, and Laura). You can See Matt, Danielle, and JaNan at the very beginning of [this recording](#).



You can read all of the written [testimony here](#). The next big budget update will come on June 6th when the Senate releases their version of the budget. If you are interested in advocacy between now and then, we encourage you to either call or email your state Senators stressing the importance of the services you provide and why increases to funding is necessary. We especially encourage OPRA members to consider this outreach if your state Senator serves on the Finance Committee. You can find contact information for your Senator and if they serve on the Senate Finance Committee here:

Workforce Reinvestment Act: This week OPRA submitted written testimony in support of [HB108, the Non-Profit Workforce Reinvestment act](#). The bill, sponsored by Reps Nick Santucci and Adam Miller, would allow non-profits that operate retail stores to reinvest up to 25% of state sales tax back into their workforce development programs for people with disabilities. Our partners at the Ohio Goodwill Association have championed the legislation, which we believe will be a meaningful benefit to OPRA members who operate retail operations and provide employment services. [Click here to read OPRA's testimony in support of HB108](#).

HCBS Access Rule: Recently we have discussed the [new proposed Access Rule from CMS](#). In this rule there is a piece in the pre-amble which discusses 80% of revenue that needs to go to wages. Our initial analysis suggests the rule does not apply to Ohio's I/DD services and in particular, residential habilitation, day habilitation, and home-based community services. We will continue to work with our national partners and keep members informed as we prepare comments on the rule.

ODOT Rest Stop Project: We have recently been made aware of a renovation project on many of Ohio's highway rest areas operated by ODOT. Our state partners at ODOT, DAS, DODD and OOD are working together to identify potential solutions and other contract positions that can be filled by workers displaced by the project. [Yesterday we sent this survey to members](#) so we can better understand the impact and how many workers are potentially affected and will need to find other work opportunities. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions or 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 about the OTS system data entry deadlines, the guidance on remote supports and assistive tech we discussed on the morning call, new Office of Compliance trainings and more!

Spring Conference: We want to take the opportunity to thank all our attendees, speakers, sponsors and exhibitors who came to our conference last week! We are so appreciative of the entire OPRA community that helped make this record-setting event one of our best conferences yet (at least according to initial feedback!). We hope you learned something, networked with some new connections, and had a great time at the party! See you at the next one!



OOD Grant: The OOD Works 4 Me project steering group met this week for their monthly meeting. [Click here to see the presentation.](#)



URBANA COUNTRY CLUB

4761 US-36, URBANA, OH

OUTING COST: \$150 PER PLAYER

REGISTRATION BEGINS: 8:30 AM

SHOTGUN START: 10:00 AM

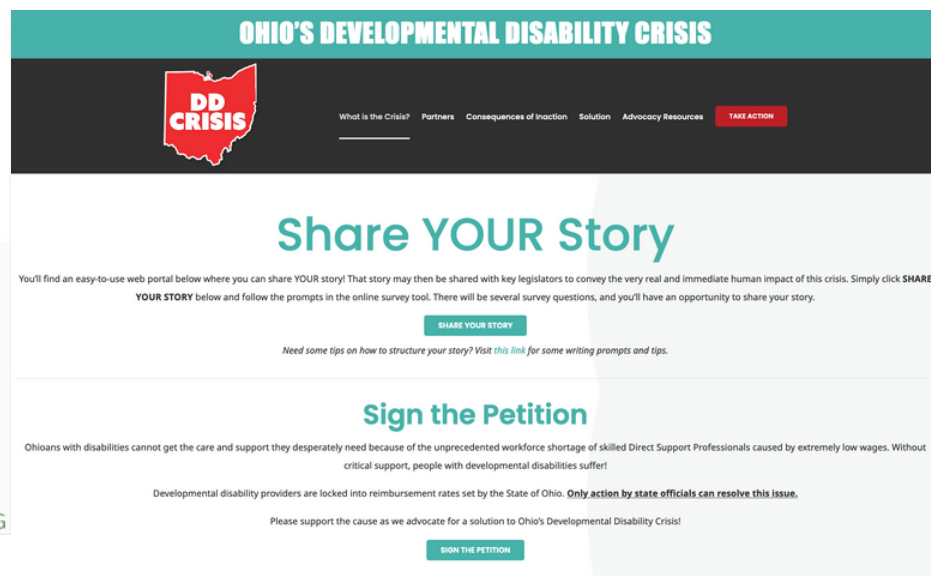
TITLE SPONSOR

SafeDose Pharmacy

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

REGISTER: WWW.OPRA.ORG

[CLICK HERE TO PLAY!](#)



Upcoming Events

[6/1: OPRA Day Array Committee Meeting](#)

[6/2: OPRA PAC Golf Outing](#)

[6/6: OPRA District 3 Meeting](#)

[Click here for DODD June Trainings](#)

News & Resources

["CMS-proposed HCBS rules elicit request for extension of comment period"](#)

["Medicaid Change Could Mean More Funding For Special Ed Services"](#)

["Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted announce new features to OhioMeansJobs.com"](#)

["Disability and Aging Groups Join Senator Bob Casey and Hundreds of Care Advocates for a Save Medicaid Online Rally"](#)





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

HEADLINE



BRADY WARE
LONG TERM CARE ADVISORS

VORYS



KEYNOTE



THIS CHANGES
Everything

Electronic
Health
Record



THIS
Remote Support Services

GOLD



INSocial
Risk Advisors

LUNCH



TARRYTOWN
EXPOCARE PHARMACY

ENTERTAINMENT



SILVER



BRONZE

