

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JULY 14, 2023

Rate Meeting: Earlier this morning, the Ohio Department of Medicaid and all State HHS entities held a webinar for state associations to debrief on the budget and shared the percentage increases that will apply to the various services. During the meeting, Director Hauck shared that HCBS waiver services, including H/PC, Day Array and Transportation, will be receiving a 30% increase on 1/1/24, then an additional 8% (totaling 38%) increase on 7/1/24. The ICF formula will receive a 13.55% increase to direct care costs in July of 2023 and then to 20.81% in July 2024. At the time of this publication, though, we have not yet seen the final rate tables. Once we have the exact rates, we will update our budget communication document and get it out to all of you so you are well informed about how the budget translates into rates for services and can better plan for next year.

ARPA: DODD has approximately \$56 million of ARPA funds to spend before March of 2025. This week we met with DODD to discuss their ideas on how to spend those dollars. The money must be spent to enhance HCBS services and address workforce issues and the plan must be approved by CMS. DODD presented some ideas and they are looking for feedback. [The draft spending document can be found here](#) and we encourage your ideas, questions and feedback. This is one-time money so it will probably be used for shorter term projects or to temporarily bolster other existing or long-term projects,

OOD Stakeholder Meeting: Earlier this week, OOD held their quarterly stakeholder meeting. Fresh off the big budget investment in HB33, Director Miller and OOD leadership were in a celebratory mode as they outlined the initiatives they are planning for with the new funding, which will maximize the full Federal Vocational Rehab grant for the first time in almost 20 years. OOD is looking to serve several more people, create credentialing programs to bolster higher wages for VR participants. We are also working with OOD through a fee schedule workgroup which is intended to raise service rates and create a new rate methodology. OOD also shared its recent spending and service data, indicating an increase in applications, but still lagging in successful job placements. [Click here to download the case service spending and service trend data](#). Feel free to reach out to Scott with any questions.

DSP Compensation Survey: Last reminder that the DSP Compensation Survey is due by July 16th which is this Sunday. Any agency who delivered routine homemaker/personal care services, needs to complete this survey by the 16th. If you are having difficulty with the system or have any other questions regarding the survey, please contact [Rachel Blick](#) at the department.

PRF: Reporting for phase 5 funding of the federal Provider Relief Fund (PRF) is now open. Providers who received PRF funding of at least \$10,000 in the aggregate from January 1 to June 30, 2022 need to report on spending by September 30th, 2023. [You can find more information here](#)- or you can email Christine with any questions.

WCTF: The final Workforce Crisis Task Force meeting was held this week. The group was updated on OADSP's DSP U project and reviewed a summary document that outlined the activities of the group over the past couple of years. Looking back at the past two years, there were some good ideas and collaboration that were sparked from the WCTF and we will continue to forge ahead to address the challenges. We will share the final report when completed.



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 the Restrictive Measure reporting issues, DSP wage survey upcoming deadline, upcoming behavior support workshops and much more.

Calling All Speakers! OPRA is proud to announce that the call for session proposals is officially open for the 2023 OPRA Fall Conference. The conference will be in-person and hosted at Nationwide Conference Center on October 26th & 27th, 2023. We invite you to submit a thought-provoking, informative session with a clear outline of the tangible impact your presentation will have on attendees and their teams. [Click here to learn more.](#)



Awards: OPRA is pleased to announce the call for nominations are now open for the 2023 OPRA Annual Awards. The purpose of the OPRA Annual Awards is to honor dedicated service professionals, groups and volunteers who have made outstanding contributions in the I/DD Field. We encourage all provider member agencies to submit nominations to recognize those that have worked hard and dedicated their time to help support the people they serve. We are accepting (2) nominations for each category per agency. Please take a moment to review the attached OPRA Awards Descriptions and coordinate with your staff before submitting your nominations. **All nominations must be submitted no later than Friday, August 25th, 2023.** You can [CLICK HERE](#) to be directed to the Annual Award Form to submit your nomination. You will be asked to log into your OPRA account. Nominators will be contacted no later than Friday, September 8th regarding the status of your award nomination. Please reach out to [Sonya](#) if you have any questions about this year's nomination process



Upcoming Events

[8/3: OPRA Day Array Committee Meeting](#)

[8/10: OPRA Healthcare Committee](#)

[8/11: Tech Summit 2023](#)

[Click here for DODD July/August Trainings](#)

News & Resources

["New CDC report finds 'significant increase' in children diagnosed with developmental disorders"](#)

["\\$10 million study being done on Ohio's future transportation needs"](#)

["New Streaming Service To Focus On Disabilities"](#)

["Provider group seeks 2-year moratorium on HCBS settings rule enforcement"](#)

