

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

AUGUST 11, 2023

ANCOR Retreat: Some of the OPRA team had the opportunity to travel to Denver this week for the Ancor State Association Executive retreat. It was a great opportunity to meet with professionals from other states about the challenges



they are facing and also hear about ways to improve how we support our members. Ohio is definitely not unique when it comes to workforce challenges and navigating bureaucracy and policy changes.

Quality Pilot Application (Delay): We are still awaiting approval from CMS for the ARPA dollars to fund the ADS Quality Pilot. DODD is expecting word as soon as today as to whether the project can move forward. We should know more by the beginning of next week. If you are still interested in learning more about the pilot project, you can download the [Technical Implementation Guide here](#). Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions or feedback about the project. We will let members know as soon as we learn of the approval.

Policy Committee: Thank you to everyone who attended, participated and persevered through our shaky internet issues for this week's Policy Committee meeting. We gathered great feedback from the committee to inform our advocacy and approach to DODD's Waiver System Redesign being administered by contractor, DeLoitte. Through live-polling and discussion we captured several issues and recommendations for people with disabilities as they travel down the path towards waiver services, including discussions on the assessments, provider referral, ISP development and more. We also reviewed the regulatory reform proposals developed during the budget coalition process and prioritized them for renewed action and advocacy. We will be sending a surveymonkey to the policy committee next week, corresponding to the live polling questions asked to gather more feedback from the membership.

New COVID Variant: There have been several reports of a [new COVID variant, known as 'Eris'](#). We encourage members to review their infection control policies and to continue to be as proactive if/as cases begin to spread.

PAC Fundraiser: Back by popular demand, we will be hosting a PAC fundraiser at TopGolf, on October 25th, the day before the conference begins. We'd like to thank our title sponsor, [SafeDose Pharmacy](#), for their support of this event, which helps drive OPRA's advocacy. [Click here to learn more](#), register, or learn about sponsorship opportunities. We look forward to seeing you there!



PLAY OR SPONSOR
OPRA PAC TOP GOLF EVENT!
October 25th from 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm



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 Community Integrated Services 2.0 Statewide Webinar, OhioRISE Developmental Disability System Open Office Hours, Strong Families, Safe Communities Request for Applications, Updated FY24 ICF Incentive Invoices, and upcoming Behavior Support Workshops.

Training Inquiry: We have a member who is seeking information regarding MUI Investigations Training for their staff. If you have utilized a certain type of investigative training that has been successful, please let [Rachel](#) know.

Committee Materials: Thank you so much for your participation in the Healthcare Committee meeting. [Attached are the slides from the DNR presentation by Robin Amicon.](#) As mentioned on the call, we will follow-up regarding the Training for Fit Testing.

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.](#)

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.



Upcoming Events

[8/15: OPRA District 2 Meeting](#)

[8/16: OPRA ICF Committee](#)

[8/16: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee](#)

[Click here for DODD August Trainings](#)

News & Resources

["Ohio Governor DeWine Nominates Kara Wente as New Department of Children and Youth Director"](#)

["In their own words: Disabled storytellers share what 'home' means to them"](#)

["Nearly 99% of Autistic Adults Not Receiving Public Employment Services in the U.S."](#)

["Five Tips For Integrating Employees With Intellectual Or Developmental Disabilities"](#)

