

OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

DSP Recognition Week: In honor of [DSP Recognition Week](#), OPRA wants to celebrate our members' DSPs across the state. Next week, we will be holding our now annual 'DSP Raffle', where a DSP from each OPRA District can win gifts/prizes from the OPRA team. To enter, you may nominate up to 3 DSPs from your agency. We will then pick a winner from each district to be hand-delivered a gift bag from us! To enter your DSPs into the raffle please email [Gina](#) your name, phone #, organization, district (if you know it) and the DSP(s) you'd like to enter into the drawing by Tuesday, August 12th. Winners to be named next Friday!



CMS Proposed Rule: This week [CMS released their proposed rule](#) regarding minimum staffing standards for long-term care facilities and Medicaid Institutional Payment Transparency Reporting. Within the rule there are reporting requirements for ICFs (starting pg. 95) including the percentage of Medicaid payments for services ICFs that are spent on compensation for direct care workers and support staff. Additionally, there are some transparency issues that CMS is wanting to promote, namely having both states and CMS make the institutional payment information available on public websites. Of particular note, comment is being sought regarding the frequency of the reporting as well as the type of information reported, be it just salary/wages or on a total compensation package. OPRA will be submitting comment (Due 11/6) to ANCOR which will then be submitting those comments to CMS. If you would like to provide comment regarding the proposed rule, please email either [Rachel](#) or [Christine](#).

Guardianship Rule: OPRA has been fielding several questions regarding the issue of guardians needing approval from the Probate Court to act as the individual's paid provider of services. This requirement can be found in the Rules of Superintendence, [Rule 66](#). If you are a guardian of an individual to whom you are the paid provider of service, you must get approval from your local Probate Court. If you have questions regarding this rule, please contact [Rachel](#).

Coalition Meeting: Although our coalition's work together on the state budget, House Bill 33, concluded earlier in the summer, we continue to meet semi-regularly to focus on potential areas of collaborative system reform and to begin preparation for future budget work. This week's meeting included discussions on the ARPA spending plan, System Reform updates, Rate increase implementation, Wage verification and Accreditation & compliance review reform.



Fall Conference: We are excited to announce that registration is officially open for the OPRA Fall 2023 Conference. We are looking forward to seeing you all the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center on October 26th-27th. [Click here to register](#), as well as learn about the sessions, sponsors, vendors and networking opportunities that are already planned. Please reach out to [Melissa](#) with any questions or help needed.



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](#), which includes info on the Waiver Budget Increases effective January 2024, the corrected Retention Payment Processing dates and that September Accreditation Office Hours Have Been Canceled.

Conference Artwork: Would you like to be featured on the front cover or OPRA's Fall Conference Program? Please submit your artwork to Melissa Fannon, OPRA Events Manager: mfannon@opra.org
DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 15TH



ADA Anniversary: Our friends at [Whole Latte Love](#) produced the above video, celebrating the 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, starring employees of the WLL cafe.



TITLE: Rising

Threshold Residential Services is located in East Palestine, the site of the train derailment.

The artwork is an acrylic, construction paper and foam piece. The Phoenix represents their rising after the devastating event. The bird is flying out of the fire looking up to a rainbow of colors representing Threshold's core values. Orange for positivity, fuchsia for mindfulness and purple as evolutionary.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Randy Copley

Randy attends Threshold Residential Open Opportunities Day Program in East Palestine. He lives in a Threshold residential home in East Palestine with two other individuals. Helping, hanging out with his friends, and watching movies and listening to rock music is something he enjoys. His favorite way to unwind is to play along to his favorite bands on his guitar or drum kit, and performing for his friends. Randy's infectious laugh always puts us in a good mood!



Conference Program Front Cover Artist!

Upcoming Events

[9/12: OPRA Marketing & Communications Committee](#)

[9/13: OPRA Policy Committee Meeting](#)

[9/18: OPRA District 2 Meeting](#)

[Click here for DODD September Trainings](#)

News & Resources

["Keeping tabs on COVID-19 in Ohio as cases continue to rise."](#)

["Biden Administration Proposes Rule To Curb Disability Discrimination In Health Care"](#)

["Tablet-based tool to spot autism validated in two studies"](#)

["Boundless and Koinonia Become Ohio's Largest Provider of I/DD Services"](#)

