

# OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

DECEMBER 15, 2023

**Pre-Voc Proposal:** Last Friday, DODD shared their proposal for the Basic Employment Skills Training (BEST) service/rule intended to be brought up in 2024. Under the proposal, BEST would eventually replace the current Vocational Habilitation service. The primary goals of this proposal are to align our pre-vocational service with Medicaid expectations of the service, while meeting employment service needs and incentivizing more integrated employment supports. Additionally, DODD has proposed changes to the Group Employment Supports service that incentivize smaller groups, as well as the development of a new transportation service with a rate designed to support transportation to employment services. [All of the proposal documents can be found on the OPRA website here.](#) DODD is also seeking data to inform the Employment Transportation service rate model, hoping providers will be able to complete the survey included in above documents by January 5th. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with questions or feedback.

**Self-Med Assessment:** DODD is proposing changes to the medication self-administration assessment and 'additional considerations' document teams to use as they complete it. You can review the proposed assessment [here](#). You can review the additional considerations document [here](#). There is no set implementation date for the new assessment as of 12/15/23. DODD plans to send out additional information to the field once the assessment is ready for distribution. DODD is soliciting feedback on the proposal and hopes to have feedback in by 12/22/23 but will take feedback after this date. Please send any comments to [Christine](#) or [Rachel](#).

**ADS Pilot Meeting:** OPRA's working group for the ADS Quality Pilot will meet for the first time this Monday, December 18th at 1pm. The primary focus of this first meeting is for program participants to share what they've been working on so far for the pilot. Topics/agenda will include plans and activities for Technology, Staffing, Outcome Tracking System, Skill-building curriculum and staff training. Please reach out to [Scott](#) if you would like to attend and did not receive a calendar invite.

**Budget Coalition:** Our budget coalition with partners from OACB, OHCA, OWN and the Arc of Ohio met this week to begin planning for the next state biennium budget. Although HB33, the state operating budget, was just passed this summer and the rate increases are just about to go into effect, it is important to begin developing our strategy for the next budget cycle as the Governor and his cabinet agencies will start working on their budget proposals over the next year. Coalition discussions included how we communicate the effectiveness of the recent budget increases while advocating for sustainable, regular budget increases going forward. The coalition will begin to meet regularly again as we continue to develop the strategy and approach to the next state budget.

**Committees:** Thanks to everyone who attended and participated in our multiple committee meetings this week. The Policy, HR and Health Care committees all met this week, working through a variety of different proposals and planning for next year's committee meetings. [All of the recordings and meeting materials can be accessed on the OPRA website here.](#) Next week OPRA will be hosting our Residential Waiver and ICF Committee meetings. Both meetings occur on Wednesday December 20th, with waiver from 10-12 and ICF from 1-3. We have a packed agenda for both meetings. Please let [Rachel](#) know if you have any questions about those meetings.



# 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 retention bonus processing date of 12/15, 2023 annual training reminders, the Innovative Tech solutions grant, and authorizing HPC for people newly exempt from shared living.



**Member Meeting:** Thanks to everyone who attended this week's annual Member Meeting. The required meeting gives us the opportunity to update members on our strategic plan, goals for the future, and vote on code of regulation changes. [You can download the meeting's presentation on strategic planning and annual updates here.](#)

**Issue 2 Resources:** Christine added an Issue 2 resource center for members on the OPRA website. You can access the page [here](#)- This page is behind the membership wall. If you have trouble accessing your account, please reach out to [Sonya](#) for assistance.

**HIPAA Survey:** To better tailor our services to your needs, we invite you to participate in a brief survey about our upcoming HIPAA workshop series provided by our Partner: [MyHIPPA Guide](#). Your input is invaluable to ensure we meet your expectations. [CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY](#). Thank you for taking a moment to share your valuable feedback with us. Please reach out to [Melissa](#) with any questions.

## Upcoming Events

[12/20: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee](#)

[12/20: OPRA ICF Committee](#)

[Click here for DODD December Trainings](#)

## News & Resources

"Changes to Issue 2 Ohio marijuana law stall in House"

"How are States Implementing New Requirements for Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Services?"

"Adults with cognitive disabilities are more likely to have worse experiences with health care system"

"Ohio Minimum Wage to Increase in 2024"

