

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 9, 2024

DD Budget Coalition Data Collection Efforts: The group of DD associations developed a short survey for agency providers to share their experience with the state budget increases' impact on services. The survey will be distributed quarterly to monitor the budget's impact overtime and to help develop the next budget ask. Only one representative from your agency should complete the survey by 3/1/24. [You can take the survey here.](#) Any questions can be directed to [Scott](#) or [Christine](#).

HB 321: HB 321, sponsored by Representative Click and Lorenz, establishes a statewide first responder database to hold voluntarily submitted information on "special needs" of residents with disabilities. The information in the database will be accessed by first responders to minimize adverse interactions with Ohioans with disabilities. On February 7th, OPRA submitted testimony to the Ohio House Homeland Security Committee in support of the bill. [You can learn more about the bill and find OPRA's testimony here.](#)

Disability Community Act (H.R. 7267): This bill would provide a temporary higher Federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for Federal expenditures under the Medicaid program that are associated with the cost of compliance with the DOL's "overtime rule" with respect to services furnished in certain intermediate care facilities or home and community-based services furnished to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Bill language has not yet been posted to Congress.gov. [You can contact your members of the US House using ANCOR's public Amplifier here.](#) Questions on the bill, advocacy steps, or the DOL proposed regulation, please email [Christine](#).

Healthcare Committee: The Healthcare Committee will be meeting next Thursday from 10 to noon. The first portion of the meeting will include a discussion with one of our pharmacy partners on what to look for in an EMAR and then a demo from two EMAR vendors (Therap and iCareManager). The second portion of the meeting will discuss potential changes to Ohio's Do Not Resuscitate orders. Even if you are not a member of the committee but would like to attend the demos, you are welcome to join! Please email [Christine](#) for the calendar invite.

Pre-Voc/GES/NMT: We were expecting to participate in the final meeting of the 'Pre-Vocational and Employment Services', hoping to see the final proposal language and rate models for the eventual Basic Employment Skills Training (BEST), Group Employment and a new transportation service, specific to helping people access community employment. The meeting wound up being canceled, as DODD needed more time to finalize the proposed rate models. We are eager to see the proposals, especially as they relate to any new rate models or enhancements. [All of the proposal materials can be found here](#) and we will communicate with members when the meeting is rescheduled.

Training Feedback: OPRA is working on our training catalog and resources for 2024 and beyond. We are seeking feedback from members on what training resources would be especially needed, relevant and useful for you and your agency. Specifically, we are seeking feedback on what trainings, platforms or resources members use to complete the trainings that are 'provided or arranged by the agency' (30 Day, Annual) and/or any specific training topics/resources you'd like to see OPRA offer. Feedback on any of these items, or about training needs more generally can be sent to [Scott](#).



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: Click here to read this week's [Memo Monday](#), which includes information on the 2022 DSP Compensation Survey Results, the Direct Support Professionals (DSP) Workforce Support Grant, Independent Providers Serving Adult Children Clarification, OISP updates and more.

Call for Sponsors: We are so excited about our upcoming 'Business Retreat' in Toledo. Click on the logo below to learn more about the event and/or [click here to register to sponsor](#). **Event includes;**

- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with professionals, potential clients, and collaborators during dedicated networking sessions.
- **NEW:** ½-hour Networking breaks, Networking Lunch with Attendees, Exhibitor Reception, Exhibitor Brunch and Mimosa Mingle
- **Exhibitor Showcase:** Put your brand in the spotlight with our premium exhibition space, ensuring maximum visibility among attendees.

We look forward to welcoming you to the OPRA Spring Conference: A Business Retreat and creating a memorable experience together.



HEADLINE SPONSOR



Upcoming Events

2/15: OPRA Healthcare Committee

2/21: Residential Waiver Committee Meeting

2/21: ICF Committee Meeting

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

News and Resources

"States Struggle With Assessing Outcomes Of ARPA-Funded HCBS Programs"

"Post-COVID Condition Risk High for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities"

"The Census Bureau halts changing how it asks about disabilities following a backlash"

"Intel announces delay in completion of \$20 billion Ohio computer chip plant"

