

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MARCH 1, 2024

DD Budget Coalition Data Collection Efforts: Today is the last day to complete the 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](#).

SB 213: The Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee held the first hearing on SB 213, the legislation that would formalize supported decision making in state statute. Only Senator Cirino, the bill's sponsor, was allowed to provide testimony. You can read Senator Cirino's testimony [here](#). Additional Information on SB 213 (Supported Decisions Making) can be found [here](#).

Tornados: Earlier this week many of you woke up to Tornado sirens. There were some very scary storms rolling through and we heard about a couple of near misses. If any of your facilities and/or homes were impacted by the storms, please let us know if there is anything we can do to help. DODD's Offices of Compliance and Provider Supports also reached out to us this week to let us know they were available to help with potential relocations, extensions on compliance reviews and any other additional concerns as a result of the storms.

BLS: Last Friday, the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation announced a 7% premium decrease for private employers for the next fiscal year. You can read more information about the decreases [here](#) and [here](#).

Blueprint/ADS: DODD's Blueprint Communications sub-group met this week, largely to discuss and work through recently developed materials around the ADS Quality Pilot as well as debrief from the two quarterly Pilot meetings held on February 20th. If you didn't get a chance to attend those quarterly meetings, [the powerpoint from them can be found here](#). Congratulations to the OPRA members highlighted in this presentation! Additionally, [here](#) you will find a newly developed 1-pager that is intended to help providers explain the pilot program to the individuals, families and community partners they work with. Reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions.

OOD and Works 4 Me: The steering committee for OOD's Works For Me project met last week to discuss updates on the project, including 3 funding opportunities being released for the project. The first, which was released this week, is intended for providers who utilize 14c certificates to help communicate about the Works For Me Project, and how it could possibly support them in working towards competitive employment. [That proposal and application can be found here](#). We are also expecting RFPs for a Provider Subject Matter Expert and a Family Engagement Coordinator to be released soon. Additionally, OOD held a meeting of their Fee Schedule Stakeholder group to debrief from the regional provider listening sessions, as well as propose some new service ideas for the upcoming fee schedule, including a potential 'premium' rate on top of what will be newly established rates for their vocational rehabilitation services. Please reach out to Scott with questions.



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 Info on the ARPA HCBS DSP Workforce Support Grant Nearing Capacity, The Virtual Discussion Exploring Employment on March 7, Behavior Support Workshops, and the Outcome Tracking System Reporting Period.

Registration is Live: Join us for the 2024 [OPRA Spring Conference: A Business Retreat!](#)

Gather with fellow members at the newly renovated and stunning Toledo Glass City Center. Explore how our collective strength enables us to adapt, thrive, and lead in an ever-changing landscape.

Why Attend?

- Tailored for leadership teams.
- Enhance your business practices for long-term sustainability.
- Prepare for the future challenges and opportunities ahead...and much more!



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MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER!

Alex Sheen
Speaker | Author | Humanitarian

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Maximize your savings with our group discount: register three or more attendees for a discounted rate! Note: All registrations must be completed together. Can't wait to see you all in Toledo!

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](#).

Upcoming Events

3/7- OPRA Day & Employment Services Committees Meeting

[Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events](#)

News and Resources

"Final Rule Issued on Classifying Employees and Independent Contractors Under the FLSA"

"A Disability-Friendly City: Toledo Works to Accommodate People with Disabilities"

"CMS' New Guidance to Medicaid Directors Opens Door to More Behavioral Health Providers"

"Ohio primary 2024: House Republicans fight internal battles at ballot box"

