

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MARCH 15, 2024

**DD Awareness and Advocacy Day:** As part of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, this week hundreds of Ohioans with Disabilities and other system advocates gathered at the Ohio Statehouse for the annual 'DD Advocacy and Awareness Day'. The event featured presentations from Director Hauck as well as panel discussions on the impact and importance of disability advocacy. Click the image to the right to see DODD's video document of the event.



**PNM issues -** Yesterday, OPRA and other association representatives met with DODD and the Ohio Department of Medicaid to discuss the ongoing issues with the PNM. We did learn that the two departments meet daily in attempt to work through the support tickets of users struggling with the application. We will keep this dialogue open and hope to work collaboratively to address the many issues providers are experiencing. Please email [Teresa](#) so we can identify common concerns and share those with ODM/DODD.

**OOD and Works 4 Me:** In addition to [the 'outreach funds' intended for providers who utilize 14c certificates to help communicate about the Works For Me Project](#), OOD has just released a Provider Subject Matter Expert grant, which [can be found here](#). This funding is intended for a provider who can support others help people attain competitive employment. A Family Engagement Coordinator will be released soon. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with questions.

**COVID Guidance:** During this week's national call with CMS we discussed the updated COVID guidance from the CDC and some of the confusion, especially for ICFs. [The CDC has now included COVID among their guidance for respiratory viruses](#) that also includes RSV and Flu. Importantly, the Covid guidance for Health Care settings has not changed. Similar to previous guidance, ICFs will have to determine which guidance to follow, based on factors such as the type of care you provide and medical complexity of those you serve.

**Employment Quality:** DODD Released info on an upcoming Employment Service Quality Readiness project ahead of upcoming rule changes. [The proposal and application can be found here.](#)



# 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 Inclusive 988 Crisis Line for People with I/DD, The Employment Readiness Project Application, Guidance and TA on Remote Supports, the exception process for family caregivers, the OTS reporting period for 2023, and a reminder to use the new billing codes for family caregivers.

**Eclipse:** Reminder that the Solar Eclipse is happening on Monday, April 8th. Many portions of Ohio will be impacted by the path of the solar eclipse. [OPRA has put together a ppt with a list of resources](#) for providers and will continue to provide updates. Please reach out to [Rachel](#) with any questions.



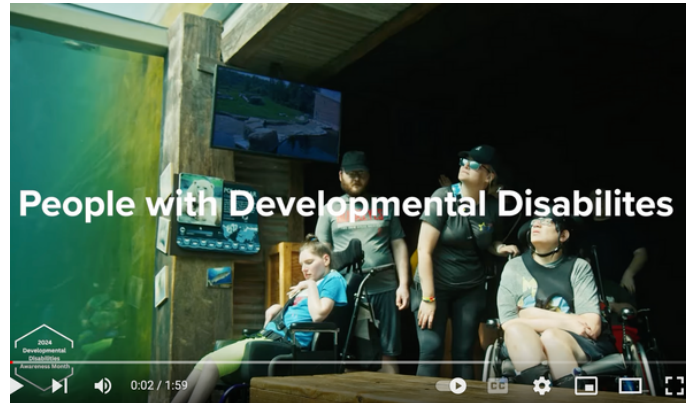
## MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER!



### Accountability in the Workplace

- Boost in employee morale
- Increased goal attainment rates
- Restored culture of accountability

**Alex Sheen**  
Speaker | Author | Humanitarian



### Developmental Disabilities Awareness:

March is DD Awareness month, please check out the above video (click on image to view) from our friends at Silfies Media. You can share this video on your social media or other outlets to spread the awareness!

## Upcoming Events

3/19: OPRA District 3 Meeting

3/21: OPRA HR Committee Meeting

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

## News and Resources

"DeWine signs executive order as Ohio prepares for solar eclipse"

"Campaign to raise state minimum wage to \$15 says it's on target to make November ballot"

"National Coalition Sets Roadmap To Improve Health Care For Those With IDD"

"The Case for Inclusion 2024: Transforming Temporary Progress into Long-Term Sustainability"





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