

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JUNE 21, 2024



NASDDDS: Last week, Pete had the opportunity to attend the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disability Services Federal Policy Symposium in Washington DC. The event featured presentations from CMS, The Administration for Community Living (ACL) and a state presentation from Hawaii. Most of the presentations and discussions were focused on the CMS

Access Rule and its potential impact on state policies and services. [Click here to access the various presentations and resources from the 2024 Policy Symposium.](#)

MUI Rule: During this week's many committee meetings, Rachel shared changes being proposed to the MUI rule. The proposed changes incorporate concepts of Just Culture, as well as redefining abuse categories, and specifying administrative procedures for various incidents. The proposed changes aim to align with the CMS Access Rule and improve the clarity and effectiveness of incident reporting and investigation processes. [You can download the presentation from the committees here.](#) We appreciate all of the member feedback and will continue to advocate and collaborate for the best rule and process possible. Reach out to [Rachel](#) with any questions or additional feedback.

Advocacy Army: We are pleased to announce registration for the second iteration of Advocacy Army is now open! The training will keep much of the content from last round with new opportunities for advocacy practice. [You can learn about the changes and register here.](#) Pete and Christine will be reviewing the changes after next week's Friday Member Call. Please reach out to [Christine](#) with any questions.

Legislative Update: This week OPRA attended an Interested Parties meeting for HB 465 (Lauren's Law) as we look towards additional revisions to the bill. Also, this week saw Ohio's Senate introduce its companion bill of the ['Never Alone Act'](#). We will keep members updated on the progress of both.



DOO Day: Registration is open for [OPRA's CEO/DOO Training Day](#) on July 30th at The Quest Center in Columbus. This training day will satisfy the 6 hours of required annual training for agency DOOs, including the 2 hours of 'DODD-Provided' content. Presentations include 'Dos and Don'ts for DOOs, Taming the Management Monster, Intro to Just Culture and more! [Learn more and register here.](#) Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: Click here to read this week's DODD [Memo Monday](#), which includes info on the Wage Verification survey deadline, Payment dates affected by the Holiday and FI transition, and upcoming trainings and OISP gatherings.

CESP Data Study: OPRA is collecting data on the efficacy/impact of the CESP credential. The data collection tool and instructions can be found on the [website here](#). Please reach out to Scott with any questions and/or if you are interested in being part of a qualitative data discussion regarding your experience with the credential.

Station MD Survey: Our friends at Nisonger are encouraging those of you who have experience with StationMD to participate in a survey. They are trying to increase participation in their study from provider agency or ICF staff who have experience with StationMD (DSPs, nurses, Directors, etc.). Provider agency staff can take a [survey and participate in a focus group by clicking here](#).

OPRA Compensation Survey: There is still time to complete OPRA's Compensation, Benefits and Turnover survey! Members who complete the survey receive a free copy of the survey report. Please reach out to [Christine](#) with any questions on the survey or survey process.

OISP: Reminder that for people receiving HCBS waiver services and in ICFs must have an OISP in the system by June 30th. This standard is being added to the compliance tools on July 1st, 2024. However, during the transition, the department and ODH have stated that there will be no citations issued related to plans not being in the online system until January 1, 2025. Please keep these dates in mind as you work through the process of changing over ISP's.

Additional State Budget Survey Opportunity: The Ability Center is conducting a study of how the budget increases are impacting providers and DSPs across the HCBS waiver programs. They are currently seeking providers to participate in focus groups about how providers are passing on the increases. If you are interested in participating in a focus group, please reach out to Jules Patalita (jpatalita@abilitycenter.org).

Upcoming Events

6/24: DODD: How the Employment Outcome-Based Payments Work

6/27: The ABC's of HIPAA Compliance Workshop

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

News & Resources

"Justice Department finds Utah allegedly violated Americans with Disabilities Act"

"DOJ reviewing rights of voters with disabilities in Ohio"

"Toledo: Disabled women make history and art"

"Law would help small businesses accommodate workers with disabilities"



RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY FOR DISABILITY PROFESSIONALS!

The Ohio State University Nisonger Center needs your help in a research study to improve services for Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We want to hear from you!

Are you a disability professional who worked in Ohio's disability field between 2012-2024?

Do you have experience with Ohio's Employment First Transition Framework?



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Who can participate?

- Disability professionals who worked in Ohio in the disability field any time between 2012-2024.
- Must also be familiar with Ohio's Employment First Transition Framework.
- Must also currently live in Ohio.

What will study participants be asked to do?

- Participants will take part in a virtual focus group with other Disability Professionals to discuss their experiences with Ohio's Employment First Transition Framework. The focus group will last 90 minutes.
- Participants will also be asked to complete a short online demographics form. This form will take 10-15 minutes to complete.

**If you would like to know more, please
contact Jessie Green**

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This project is supported by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.
Award Number: SRC10883