

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

AUGUST 16, 2024

**Advocacy Army:** We'd like to thank everyone who attended the first session of OPRA's Advocacy Army training this week. It was a great day of learning and refreshing on the legislative process, communicating with legislators and researching our specific state Representatives and Senators. We look forward to seeing you at the next session, which will include a visit to the Ohio Statehouse.



**Transition Committee:** This week we participated in the Ohio Secondary Transition Steering Committee, which is getting ready to roll out its next round of [‘Partnering with Families’ trainings](#). If you participated in last year's training with this group and have feedback, please reach out to [Scott](#).

**Simulated Patient Opportunity:** Our friends at the Nisonger Center reached out to share this opportunity for people with disabilities in the Franklin County area; “reaching out to invite you all to participate in the next FOSCE training for medical students. This is one of their Formative Observed Simulated Clinical Experiences (FOSCE), which helps them prepare to talk with patients with disabilities as a future doctor. You would pretend to be a patient so they can practice their interview skills. There is not physical exam involved, they just take your history.

**When:** Wednesday, September 4th, 2024 from 11am-4pm

**Where:** Prior Hall, 376 West 10th Ave, Columbus, OH, 43210

**Compensation:** \$20 an hour

We will have a free lunch before we get started at 12pm with the students. We will also make sure that you are able to take breaks when you need them.” Please contact [Zoe Wenk](#), Clinical Research Specialist if you are interested in participating.

**Recreational Cannabis Resources:** Following last week's update on Adult Use sales, we continue to get questions. We wanted to reshare the presentation from Vorys and additional resources on this topic. [You can view the presentation and some other resources here](#). DODD has also previously published [guidance that can be found here](#). As your agencies sort the various complex issues related to the sale of recreational marijuana, send these scenarios to [Christine](#). We will be compiling these examples for further guidance from either DODD or Vorys.

**Award Nominations:** We are currently accepting your nominations for the 2024 OPRA Annual Awards to be held at this year's Fall Conference. The Awards Ceremony Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 25th from 11:30am – 1:30pm at the Hilton Polaris. The purpose of the OPRA Annual Awards is to honor dedicated service professionals, groups and volunteers who have made outstanding contributions in the I/DD Field. We encourage all provider member agencies to submit nominations to recognize those that have worked hard and dedicated their time to help support the people they serve. [Click here to submit your nominations](#). You can also email your nominations or direct any questions to [Sonya](#).



# 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 the Prior Authorization Update, the continued adjustment delays from the MITS transition, Cross System Behavioral Health Contacts and upcoming trainings.

**Day Array Co-Chair:** As discussed over the past few weeks, we are looking for a new Co-chair for the Day Array Committee. [The short survey/application is linked here](#) for anyone who is interested in applying. The committee meets on the first Thursday of every other month, with the remaining meetings in October and December of 2024. We appreciate the interest in the co-chair position and are looking forward to seeing your applications. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions.

**Committees Next Week:** A reminder that both our ICF and RW committees will meet on 8/21. We will be hosting Denise Leonard and TJ Ely from Plante Moran at our next ICF committee meeting on August 21st. Denise and TJ will present some of their information as well as hit on some recommendations for ICF providers to implement. If there are certain issues or questions or topics or speakers that you would like to see at those meetings, please reach out to [Rachel](#).



## **DSP Initiative - "CHANGE A LIFE" Campaign:**

OPRA members and friends have partnered with the Sheldon sisters, Jacy and Emmy, on a [video to spread awareness](#) about the Direct Support Professional field and the state's investment in disability service wages. These videos can be customized for any provider's use by reaching out to Dave Rastoka at [Drastoka@eautism.net](mailto:Drastoka@eautism.net). The \$1,000 fee for the video customization will all go towards a statewide commercial campaign.

## **Upcoming Events**

10/21: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee

10/21: OPRA ICF Committee

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

## **News & Resources**

"State budget director says Ohio is off to a modest start this fiscal year"

Upcoming Outcome Tracking System (OTS) Trainings and Resources

"Senate Approves \$84 Million for Autism Research, Services"

"Ohio begins offering mobile ID with Apple, but it can't be used to vote or during traffic stops"

