

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JANUARY 10, 2025

MUI: The [MUI Rule has officially been filed](#). Please note that the Public Hearing will be held on Thursday February 13th at 10:00am in the Rhodes Tower. Persons unable to attend the hearing may still submit written testimony. The department is hopeful that the rule will be enacted on or around March 23, 2025. Please reach out to [Rachel](#) if you would like to provide public testimony or if there are any questions around the rule.

Training Meeting: On January 13th and 14th OPRA will be hosting a member discussion regarding training needs and how OPRA can better provide valuable training resources. You can register for those discussions [here for the 13th](#) and [here for the 14th](#).

OOD Updates: Our partners at OOD have released this year's Summer Youth Work Experience On-Demand training. There are two training videos; the annual training and the 2025 Safe & Sound Update training. Unlike in previous years, these trainings are located in Ohio Learning and at least one qualified staff must complete the trainings through that platform. "This year, the training is focused on the 2025 service changes and offers key service and billing reminders." Additionally, OOD is launching a "'Community & Workplace Inclusion' Webinar Series to Support Ohioans with Disabilities." The series begins January 15th, with a session on 'Accessible Communications' and will continue with monthly sessions through November. [To learn more, click here](#). Please reach out to Scott with any questions or feedback.

Telehealth Assessment: Station MD is now certified with the health care assessment service as officially approved by CMS. It can now be added to any waiver recipients ISP.

ICF OISP Training: Milestones is providing OISP assessment training for QIDP's. You can now [register for the in-person trainings here](#). Trainings will be 9:30am - 4:30pm with a 1 hour lunch at 12:30 and will be conducted in each region of the state.

Pre-voc and Employment Services: Thank you to everyone who participated in our committee discussions on the proposed employment waiver services and changes. [You can review the rule proposals here](#). We are asking members to provide feedback to [Scott](#) by January 15th. As discussed this week, there is still some uncertainty on the rate appendix of the Group Employment Rule proposal. At this point, we are asking members to consider and provide feedback on the proposals as they are currently drafted, understanding there may be some revisions before the proposals are officially filed or moved forward. We would especially ask members to consider the impact of the elimination of the Community Voc Hab service for the Group Career Exploration service proposed (as part of the Career Planning rule/service), as well as proposed reduction in group size for GES and the 'tier' definitions under BEST as they pertain to the 'places on the path'. We do expect to see revisions to these proposals based on our and other stakeholder feedback. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions and/or feedback on the rules.



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 Milestones OhioISP Intermediate Care Facility Training Project and that Nisonger and OhioISP Partner to Provide Side-by-Side Training on Assessment.

Adult Use Cannabis FAQ: As mentioned on this morning's call, we received the frequently asked questions document from our partners at Vorys regarding recreational marijuana/adult use cannabis. The FAQs are divided into two basic categories- first with questions regarding to what policies you can implement as employers and then move to questions about what policies you can implement as providers. This is intended to be a "living" document. As you continue to sort through situations involving recreational marijuana, please feel free to send them to us and we will update the document to provide additional guidance. [The FAQ document can be found here](#). Please reach out to [Christine](#) with any additional questions.

OPRA invites you to submit session proposals for our 2025 Spring Conference, scheduled for May 29 & 30 at the [Hilton Columbus](#) at Easton (3900 Chagrin Drive, Columbus, Ohio). This year's focus is on advancing the business of delivering high-quality I/DD services through strategic leadership, operational excellence, and innovation.

Conference Theme: Building Great Providers. The OPRA Spring Conference emphasizes the importance of building "Great Providers" who:

1. Deliver Person-Centered, Outcome-Focused Services
2. Invest in and Support Qualified Staff
3. Cultivate Strong Leadership and Partnerships
4. Establish Strong Operational Foundations
5. Advocate and Innovate Continuously



The deadline to submit your session proposal is Friday, March 7, 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact Sonya Summers at ssummers@opra.org

Upcoming Events

1/14/25: Member Only Webinar: Understanding Policy Shifts in a Trump Administration

1/16: FREE Training: Administrative Oversight of HIPAA Compliance & Data Security

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

News & Resources

"How to help those affected by the California wildfires"

"The Labor Crisis Putting People With Disabilities at Risk"

"As VP-elect Vance resigns US Senate seat, DeWine not revealing his choice to succeed him"

"Community Integration of People with Disabilities A Quarter Century After Olmstead"

