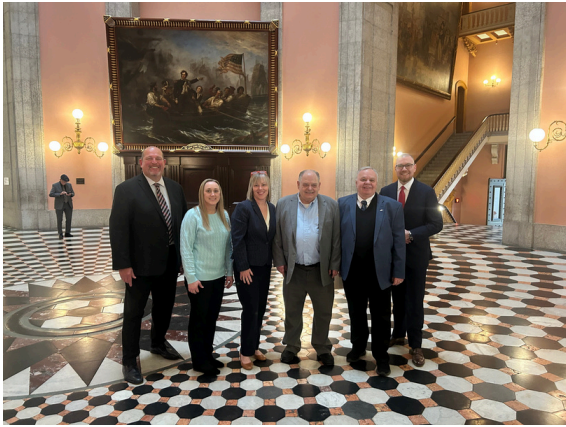


# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 28, 2025



**State Budget:** Hearings for House Bill 96, the state biennium budget bill continued this week with invited testimony from DODD Director Hauck, OOD Director Miller and representatives from our budget coalition including Pete Moore-OPRA, Debbie Jenkins-OHCA, Adam Herman-OACB, Gary Tonks-The Arc of Ohio and John Hannah-People First (with Teresa Kobelt-OPRA). The directors outlined their budget proposals, while the coalition advocated for small percentage increases over the next 2 years. The testimony from People First's John Hannah was especially powerful and captivating. We are grateful for all of our coalition partners for articulating the need for support for disability services so well. [You can watch the testimony here.](#) We recently sent testimony templates and instructions for submitting written testimony for both OOD and DODD services in the budget. That information can also be found here on the [OPRA State Budget Resource Page](#). Public Testimony for both OOD and DODD will be heard by the House Health committee next week on March 6th. Please reach out to the OPRA team with questions or feedback.

**Federal Budget:** Earlier this week, the [US House passed their budget resolution](#), directing the Dept of Energy and Commerce to cut \$880 Billion in funding, heightening the concern over potential cuts to Medicaid. The budget resolution still must be reconciled with the Senate's budget bill, which only directed \$1 Billion in cuts. We encourage members to utilize the [Medicaid Resource Center](#) developed by our partners at ANCOR to continue your advocacy as OPRA works with our national partners to advocate and educate on the importance of Medicaid in disability services.

**HIPAA:** On March 13th, our partners at Guarded Edge will be hosting a fee webinar for OPRA members on new HIPAA Requirements for 2026. [To learn more and register, click here.](#)



Last Friday, we had the opportunity to join Justin Blumhorst and Gary Loach of Capabilities for a visit with Steven Cook, Director of Constituent Services for US Senator Jon Husted. Huge thanks to Capabilities for organizing the great discussion on the importance of Medicaid and Voc Rehab for disability services. We look forward to continuing discussions with both of our new US Senators on how to secure and strengthen disability services in Ohio.



# 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 updated documentation templates for NMT, info on the Trauma-Informed Care Summit, the maximum rate for commercial NMT and self-directed transportation.



Proud Sponsors:  
**OPRA** Ohio Provider Resource Association  
**DDNA** Developmental Disabilities Network Association

**TARRYTOWN EXPOCARE PHARMACY**

COMPLIMENTARY INVITATION

NAVIGATING DIAGNOSES AND NEW THERAPIES IN IDD & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

## 2025 SYMPOSIUM SERIES

(4.0 NURSING/QIDP CEs)

Attendance Limited to Nurses, QIDPs, Prescribers, and Leadership

GRADUATE BY HILTON CINCINNATI  
151 GOODMAN ST, CINCINNATI, OH

**THURSDAY, MARCH 6TH, 2025 | 9:00am - 4:00pm**  
(Registration and Hot Breakfast Buffet open at 8:00am)



FREE Registration • FREE Breakfast, Lunch, and Snacks • FREE Parking  
4.0 CEs for Nurses and QIDPs • Network with Industry Experts • Door Prizes and Raffle

Enjoy a full day of education, entertainment, nourishment, and networking!  
Join Nanette Wrobel, RPH and other IDD and behavioral health experts to better understand anxiety, bipolar, seizure disorders, and the medications that treat them.

### SESSIONS INCLUDE

Seize the Day! | IDD Drug Buzz  
Anxiety Antics | Bipolar Balance  
Tardive Dyskinesia: Screening, Diagnosis, Treatment

**PRESENTER:**  
NANETTE WROBEL, RPH  
AADMD EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

This planned learning activity is pending approval by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Ohio Board of Nursing Approver Unit for Nursing Continuing Education (#OBN-020-93)

*We are Family*

**TARRYTOWN EXPOCARE PHARMACY**

REGISTER TODAY!

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](mailto:ssummers@opra.org)



## Upcoming Events

3/3/25: OPRA QIDP Network Lunch & Learn

3/3/25: OPRA District 1 Virtual Meeting

3/3/25: OPRA District 7 Virtual Meeting

3/4/25: DD Awareness and Advocacy Day  
(Registration Full)

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

## News & Resources

"What is in the just-passed House Republican budget bill? What to know"

"The Transition to CIE: Perspectives on Phasing Out the Subminimum Wage"

"Memo directs HHS to fire more employees and submit agency reorg plans"

"Work requirements for Medicaid recipients draws debate"

