

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

APRIL 4, 2025

**State Budget:** This week the Ohio House Finance Committee introduced a substitute bill for the state's operating budget bill- House Bill 96. This is the first chance to see how the House plans to maintain or change Governor DeWine's proposed budget. Please note that there could yet be more changes to the bill before getting voted out by the House which will likely occur next week. As always, we will keep you posted as we learn more.

**Budget highlights for DODD's section:**

- Maintain the waiver increases implemented last budget in both waiver and ICF program
  - This includes backfilling waiver rate increases paid for by ARPA dollars during the last budget
  - This does not include an additional funding for waiver rate increases
- Maintain the ICF Workforce Professional Development for one year at 10.45%
- Maintain the Governor's proposed funding for DODD's MSY, Technology First, and Employment First initiatives.
- Removal of the Governor's proposed statutory change to formally recognize support decision making.

**Budget highlights for ODM's section:**

- Exempts funds in a STABLE account from Medicaid's Estate Recovery Program.
- Require that ODM implement a \$20,000 unearned income disregard when determining a beneficiary's eligibility under the Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities or WorkAbility Program.
- Implement a few changes to ODM's EVV program but does not eliminate it.
- ODM must allow Medicaid beneficiaries to select a managed care plan they would like to enroll in or otherwise a beneficiary will be randomly assigned to a manager care plan.
- To the extent allowed by federal law, prohibit Medicaid funds to be used on diversity, equity, inclusion initiatives.
  - It is currently unclear how this would impact community inclusion focused services in ICFs or through the waivers.

**[You can download the sub-bill language here.](#)**

**[You can download a high-level summary of the changes here \(DODD Page 19\).](#)**

**Compliance Tool:** This week DODD shared the updated review tools for agencies, ICFs and IPs. This new review tool is set to go into effect on June 1<sup>st</sup>. OPRA has been involved in the stakeholder process and we appreciate any feedback you have. **[You can find the tools here.](#)**

**GPS:** Earlier this week we sent out the latest issue of the OPRA Great Provider Series (GPS). **[Click here to download the latest issue of GPS.](#)**



The OPRA team had the opportunity to visit with member Whole Latte Love in Canton. We happened to be there on Autism Acceptance Day and the coffee shop was packed! We were so impressed with the work being done by Beth Humbert and the team at WLL, whose vision is “a world where people with disabilities live their best lives through fulfilling employment, meaningful relationships, and community engagement”. Thanks to the team for having us!



# 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](#), highlighting the Workforce Symposium, as well as info on the Southern Behavior Support Workshop, and the Milestones OhioISP Intermediate Care Facility Training Project.

**EEOC:** The EEOC and US Department of Justice recently released new guidance on diversity programs implemented by employers. Our legal partners at [Vorys shared this Client Alert regarding the guidance](#).

**Paystub Protection Act:** At the beginning of 2025, Governor DeWine signed the Paystub Protection Act into law. The law is set to be effective on April 8, 2025. Our legal partners at [Vorys shared this client alert](#) about the law and the requirements.

**Never Alone Act:** At the end of 2024, Governor DeWine signed the Never Alone Act into law. As part of the law, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) was required to put together a fact sheet to be distributed to residents. [The fact sheet has been posted to ODH's website and can be found here.](#)

**EVV:** Last week Christine provided an update on the Ohio Department of Medicaid's (ODM) EVV stakeholder meeting. ODM shared resources from the meeting this week. You can send EVV questions to [Christine](#). Meeting Slides and Resources: You can view the March 20 meeting slides [here](#).

- [EVV Live-In Caregiver Exemption Request Online Form](#)
- o Please reach out to [EVV@medicaid.ohio.gov](mailto:EVV@medicaid.ohio.gov) if you have questions about the form.
- o Please note, ODM is currently prioritizing live-in caregivers in the phases immediately impacted by claims denials. ODM will process DODD exemption request forms after they get through the phases before DODD's. You do not need to resubmit a request form unless instructed to by ODM staff.
- [Register for Sandata office hours](#)

**ICF Data:** In an effort to provide more communication regarding trends with citations and survey data, OPRA will begin providing a quarterly update for ICF providers. Updates will focus on ICF data that is made publicly available through QCOR (CMS division of Quality and Certification Oversight). We believe this will align with our strategic plan goals and will assist in developing our QIDP Peer Learning Network. Information will be provided on our Friday Five calls and will [be uploaded to OPRA's website](#).

## Upcoming Events

4/16: OPRA Residential Resources Committee

4/17: OPRA Healthcare Committee

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

## News & Resources

"Ohio House Introduces Budget Plan"

"Senate confirms Mehmet Oz to take lead of Medicare and Medicaid agency"

"'Every human needs a restroom': Ohioans with disabilities advocate for adult-sized changing tables"

"Reps. Jarrells, Cockley Testify on Bill to Establish Celebrating Disabilities Month in Ohio"





# **Nursing Quality Assurance Assessment and Nursing Delegation**

**April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

9:00am to 4:00pm (registration begins at 8:15am)

Dwell Community Church  
1394 Community Park Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43229

## **Featured Speaker:**

Tamara M. Lentini, MSN, RN

Health Services Manager, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities  
will discuss:

The Components of the Nursing Quality Assurance Assessment and the QA review tool as well as  
Nursing Delegation laws and rules

- 6. OBN CE's (1 hour Cat A Rule/Law) pending approval  
by the OBN approval unit of DODD OBN-010-93
- 6. DODD IA, SSA, and Superintendent hours pending

For Questions regarding CE status call: 513-785-4678 or email [kltallon@butlerdd.org](mailto:kltallon@butlerdd.org)

You must attend the entire conference and complete an evaluation to receive CE's and Contact hours

**Registration Fee: \$75.00 - Continental Breakfast and Boxed Lunch included**

**Register online at: HAC Spring Conference Registration**

**<http://reg.planetReg.com/E3293742239201>**

For registration problems, please call 937-631-7704

**Registration is from March 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 to April 3rd 2025 at Midnight  
No cancellations will be accepted after April 3rd 2025**

**The temperature of the building may vary at times so please dress accordingly for your comfort.**

The Healthcare Advisory Committee reserves the right to cancel this event. Registration fees  
will be refunded if canceled. Personal cancellations will be refunded minus \$10 due to committee costs





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- Provide supervisors with the confidence to manage diverse personalities and resolve conflicts constructively.
- Enhance coaching skills to help supervisors guide their teams toward optimal performance and continuous growth.

## **Session Topics & Schedule:**

Each 2-hour session builds on the last.

**Session 1:** Understanding Your Management Style - The Key to Building Trust and Connection

**April 23 • 9:30 -11:30 a.m.**

**Session 2:** Leading with Confidence - Cultivating Emotional Intelligence in Your Role

**May 7 • 9:30 -11:30 a.m.**

**Session 3:** Navigating Conflict with Confidence - Understanding and Managing Conflict Styles

**May 21 • 9:30 -11:30 a.m.**

**Session 4:** Coaching for Success - Unlocking Your Team's Full Potential

**June 4 • 9:30 -11:30 a.m.**



## **REGISTER TODAY!**

Per Session Pricing: Members: \$35 per session • Non-Members: \$60 per session

Full Series Pricing (All 4 Sessions) – Save \$20

Members: \$120 full series • Non-Members: \$220 full series

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