

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MAY 2, 2025



Senate Medicaid Committee: This week, the Ohio Senate Medicaid Committee heard testimony from the Directors of DODD, OOD, JMOC, and ODM and from a panel hosted by the DD Budget Coalition on HB 96, the state operating budget bill. [You can read all of the testimony here.](#) You can [view a recording of the hearing here.](#) On May 6th and 13th, the Committee will hold public hearings on HB 96. Christine sent out a separate email with draft testimony and instructions on how to submit written testimony. If you have any questions about the hearing or submitting testimony, please reach out to [Christine](#).

Waiver Redesign: DODD met with association stakeholders this week to give an update on their Waiver Redesign work, of which one focus has been a new assessment tool to replace the DDP and AAI. Following advocacy and discussion beginning earlier this year, DODD is no longer planning to adopt the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS), as previously planned. DODD is now planning to instead [adopt the InterRAI instrument](#). While there is still a lot to understand about this instrument and rollout, we are glad to see DODD move away from the SIS, which we had significant concerns about. Reach out to [Teresa](#) with any questions.

House Health Committee: The Ohio House Health Committee held a hearing on HB 141, a bill to create pediatric prescribed extended care centers. The hearing was sponsor testimony only. Proponent testimony will be accepted at next week's hearing scheduled for Wednesday at 10am. If you would like to provide testimony, please reach out to [Christine](#) for assistance. [You can watch this week's hearing here.](#) And you can read the [sponsor's testimony here.](#)

Federal Medicaid Advocacy: The US House of Representatives are just weeks away from releasing their proposal for Medicaid reform that could potentially lead to significant cuts in program funding and services. Members of the OPRA team returned to DC this week to continue our advocacy on the protection of disability services, ahead of the Energy and Commerce committee's 'markup', which is now expected/due on May 12th. There is growing concern in Congress over the impact of potential cuts to Medicaid as we approach this crucial moment. We are urging members to reach out to their members of Congress to explain the importance of these services to Ohioans with developmental disabilities. Christine sent out a separate email on how to participate in this process. If you have any questions, you can reach out to [Christine](#).

OPRA EVV Discussion- We are hosting an EVV open discussion/town hall meeting open to all OPRA Members next Thursday May 8th from 10am to noon. The goal is to develop ideas for resources as claims denials are turned on for EVV-required DODD services and to develop policy suggestions to improve the EVV experience. Registration is required. [You can register here.](#)

Leadership Training: Next week on May 7th, we will be holding our 2nd session of the 'Mastering Team Leadership' webinar series with Stacy Sufka of Gladey Consulting. You can still register for the remaining sessions, even if you didn't attend the first session. [Information and registration is available here.](#)



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](#), including info ODM Claims reprocessing notice, funding for crisis intervention training, the PNM and MFA, Milestones ICF training, MUI Training, Business engagement training and DSP Compensation Report training.

Medicaid Resource Center: We wanted to provide the links again to [ANCOR's Medicaid Resource Center](#). Here you will find social media toolkits, the ANCOR Amplifier, FAQs and other educational resources, expert analyses and many other resources to aid in your education and advocacy. We encourage members to continue to advocate on the importance of Medicaid to your services and in the lives of the people you support. Please reach out to the OPRA team if you have any questions or need any assistance in contacting your members of congress.

GREAT PROVIDER SUMMIT

May 28–30, 2025

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE 2025 OPRA GREAT PROVIDER SUMMIT SESSION DETAILS](#)

[Click Here to Register](#)



2025 OPRA PAC Golf Outing

SPONSORSHIPS
AVAILABLE!

Friday
**JUNE
6**

Registration begins: 9 a.m.

Shotgun start: 10 a.m.

Urbana Country Club: 4761 US-36, Urbana, OH

Enjoy the beautiful Urbana Country Club Course with 18 holes of golf, lunch, contests, social hour and more!

\$150 per player

REGISTER NOW! opra.org

For questions or to register, contact Melissa Fannon, OPRA Director of Events, at mfannon@opra.org



Upcoming Events

5/7: Mastering Team Leadership Webinar
Training - Session 2

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

News & Resources

“The GOP plan to fund Trump’s agenda is running into a major roadblock”

“Some States are Eliminating Subminimum Wages for People with Disabilities—What Does That Mean for Workers?”

“Courts Diverge in Challenges to CMS's Minimum Staffing Requirements for LTC Facilities”

“Autism Cases Are Not Becoming ‘More Severe,’ New Research Underlines”



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KEYNOTE



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SESSIONS

