

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JUNE 27, 2025



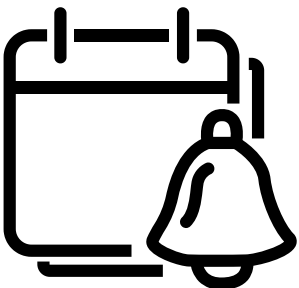
Acting Director: Earlier this week, Lyndsay Nash was named as Acting Director following Director Kim Hauck's retirement today. Lyndsay currently serves as DODD's Assistant Director. DODD's announcement reads " She will serve in this acting position as the formal appointment process for the next Director moves forward. All DODD programs and services will continue without interruption. The Governor's office and DODD leadership remain aligned in our mission to support Ohioans with developmental disabilities." We look forward to working with Lyndsay until a 'permanent' director is named.

HB 96 (State Operating Budget): After the release of the conference committee's version of 96, the Ohio House and Senate passed the state operating budget bill. The bill passed the House by a vote of 59 to 38 and the Senate by a vote of 23 to 10. Unlike in previous budgets, not a single Democrat in either chamber voted in favor for the bill. Major DODD provisions in the final bill include;

- Maintain last budget's investment in HCBS waivers and ICFs
- Maintain Governor's proposed ICF PWD through the next fiscal year
- REMOVES the DD system sustainability and reform task force amendment
- Uses the House-passed language to increase the ICF personal needs allowance to \$75/individual and \$150/married couple
- Require that DODD submit their budget request for into separate line items for ICF and HCBS services
 - Currently, funding for both ICF and HCBS waiver services are combined into one line item in DODD's budget

Christine sent an email earlier in the week that also included the latest provisions for the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) and OOD. Once we have Governor DeWine's signature and vetoes, we will be hosting a longer presentation on the final version and all of the bill's provisions.

BEST/GES: Over the weekend, Director Hauck shared an email with representatives from the Blueprint Committee, including draft rules for Group Employment Supports, BEST, and Career Planning. While DODD adopted much of our latest feedback into these drafts, we still have a couple major items of concern. We will continue discussions with the membership as to the best path forward and approach to advocacy as DODD prepares to send these rules for clearance and public comment for an implementation date of 7/1/26. The rule drafts can be found at [the OPRA website here](#). Please reach out to [Scott](#) with thoughts, questions and feedback and we will discuss in detail at next week's Day and Employment Services committee.



MUI Training: Last reminder, all DD personnel must be trained on the new MUI rule by 7/1/25. DODD will be uploading MUI training to the My Learning website on July 7/1/25. Reach out to [Rachel](#) with any questions.

Wage Survey: Thank you to everyone who completed their DSP Compensation survey by the deadline this week of 6/25. We know this is a time-consuming process, but is integral in maintaining and advocating for DD services and viable reimbursement rates.



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 on the Federal Access Rule – Demonstration of OhioISP Updates, New MUI Rule Resources Available, Summit County Board of Developmental Disabilities “Expanding Access to Technology” Webinar and more.



Call for Speakers: OPRA is proud to announce "The Call for Session Proposals" is officially open for the 2025 OPRA Annual Conference. The conference will be held in-person and hosted at Hilton Polaris, 8700 Lyra Drive, Columbus OH on October 23-24, 2025. To learn more and submit a proposal, [complete the form here!](#)



CEO/DOO TRAINING DAY

Things To Know:

- Topics Include: Empathy-Based Leadership 102, Cohesive Team Leadership, MUI/DODD Updates, Difficult Conversations, Productive Disagreements, and more!
- This training day will satisfy the 6 hours of required annual training for agency Directors of Operations.
- Developed for Agency 'Directors of Operations' but the material will be relevant and helpful for any disability service leader

[Click here to learn more and register!](#)

Upcoming Events

7/3: OPRA Day & Employment Service Committees

7/8: OPRA Marketing & Communications Committee

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

News & Resources

“Two-year, \$60B Ohio budget off to Gov. DeWine”

“Senate GOP considers delaying provider tax changes”

“House Votes To Prohibit Disability Discrimination In Organ Transplants”

“Invisible disability: Ohio teen and mom share chronic illness journey”





LEAD WHERE YOU ARE

SUMMER SERIES

June 24, 2025
July 16, 2025
August 19, 2025

Featuring Betty Collins

More Information &
Registration at:
bit.ly/OPRASS25



SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION

The Synergy Committee is seeking nominations for several awards that will be given out at the SYNERGY Conference October 1st thru 3rd at Kalahari Resort & Conference Center, Sandusky, Ohio. This is YOUR chance to nominate ANYONE who is making a difference! It is important to take the time to recognize outstanding people that go above and beyond. Who can be nominated in each of the award categories? EVERYONE! It can be an advocate, family member, person served, local partner, a provider or DSP, a county board staff person, a teacher, legislator, a community member, an employer, or anyone else who you think is deserving of one of these awards. DEADLINE FOR ALL NOMINATIONS IS JULY 31st.



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