

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JULY 25, 2025



Award Nominations: This is a friendly reminder to submit your award nominations for the OPRA Annual Fall Awards! The Annual Awards Ceremony will be held at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris on Friday, October 24th. The OPRA awards represent more than just trophies or titles - they are symbols of the hard work, innovation, and a relentless pursuit of excellence to make a difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities. [Submit your nominations HERE](#) - Or, you can email your nomination(s) with the required information directly to [Sonya](#). Award Nominations must be submitted no later than Monday, August 18th. We look forward to receiving and reviewing your nominations!

Waiver Workgroup: We attended DODD's Waiver Workgroup meeting on Monday morning, which included updates on the Remote Supports and Assistive Tech rules as well as the BEST/Group Employment rules we have been following. In regards to Remotes Supports/AT, DODD indicated they would be revising their draft rules shared weeks back based on feedback from last week's Tech Advisory Committee. DODD also shared they were still planning to move ahead with a July 2026 implementation of the BEST/GES proposals. OPRA, as well as other workgroup members, indicated there were still concerns with the latest drafts. We will follow up with DODD and continue discussions with system partners on both of those issues.

ANCOR Meetings: This week, members of the OPRA team joined our national partners from ANCOR for an inaugural annual ICF meeting, as well as the state association executive meeting. Pete led a graphic facilitation for the ICF meeting, while Scott led a discussion on quality measures in Medicaid system reform efforts with our association peers from across the country.



Q Learning Event: Yesterday's QIDP Peer Learning Initiative Kickoff was a huge success! We brought together a passionate group of QIDPs from across Ohio to launch a collaborative space focused on real-world challenges, peer connection, and shared solutions for best practices. From meaningful discussions to hands-on activities, the energy in the room was amazing. Thank you to everyone who showed up, spoke up, and helped set the tone. A special thank you to Steve King and his staff at Anne Grady for rolling out the red carpet for yesterday's session. More information will be coming soon regarding upcoming sessions.



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 Keeping Families Together Funding Applications, New Employment Planning Resources, the July DSP Information Session - "Empowering People to Envision Their Good Life", 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!](#)



More Information & Registration at:
bit.ly/OPRASS25



Upcoming Events

7/28: OPRA Policy Committee Quarterly Meeting

8/6: OPRA District 7 Meeting

8/7: OPRA Day Array Committee

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

News & Resources

"Toledo marks 35 years of Americans with Disabilities Act at Disabled and Proud Fest"

"Gov. Mike DeWine leaves door open to supporting vetoed property tax reforms"

"As Nation Marks 35th Anniversary Of The ADA, Advocates Warn Of Backslide"

"Bicameral Group of Lawmakers Introduce Bill to End Subminimum Wages..."

