

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

SEPTEMBER 12, 2025



**DSP Recognition Week:** While DSP Recognition Week gives us an opportunity to celebrate these professionals, the truth is their impact deserves to be recognized every single day! We are so grateful for the many incredible DSPs who are a part of the OPRA Community. As part of OPRA's celebration of DSP Recognition Week, we want to celebrate the following DSPs who were winners of our Recognition Week raffle. DSPs who were nominated for our DSP awards were entered into the drawing. Congrats to our winners and thank you for all you do!

District 1 – Lucy Goins, LADD

District 2 – Reva McElrath, URS Dayton

District 3 – Bob Cheney, The Fuse Network

District 4 – Emily Green, Marimor Industries

District 5 – Mashaya Kelly, No Day But Today

District 6 – Jumie Aladesiun, Dungarvin Ohio

District 7 – Stephen Pietrzycki, Welcome House

**EVV:** There are now fewer than three weeks left before the Ohio Department of Medicaid turns on claims denials for insufficient EVV units for required services. DODD reported that pay cycle SEP25B has a 46.5% compliance rate. This is an increase in compliance over the past few weeks, but still means over half of claims for that pay cycle would have been denied. If you have any additional EVV questions, please reach out to [Christine](#).

**Environmental Accessibility Workgroup:** OPRA met with DODD's Environmental Accessibility Rule workgroup. The group is presently considering clarifying definitions, for example, what would be considered an adaptation vs. a construction and the difference between a modification and a remodel. If you have any questions or would like to provide some additional comments around this rule, please reach out to [Rachel](#).

**Waiver Modernization- interRAI:** DODD recently hosted a town hall webinar for providers to discuss the rollout of the interRAI. The recording is now posted to DODD's YouTube and website. You can view the provider-focused recording [here](#). There are additional recordings for [county boards](#) and [individuals and families](#).

DODD is currently soliciting suggestions for future communication to the field on the transition to the interRAI. You can provide any suggestions through this [short survey](#).

You can learn more about DODD's general waiver modernization efforts [here](#).



# In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

**Washington, D.C.:** This week, the OPRA team, OPRA members, and other system partners had the opportunity to travel to DC to attend ANCOR's annual policy summit and Hill advocacy day. The group met with several Congressional offices and both Senator Husted and Senator Moreno to discuss the importance of Medicaid for Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



# 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 important EVV updates and reminders, RFP for Supported Employment, upcoming MUI training opportunity, DODD Call Center survey, and more.

**OPRA QIDP Event:** OPRA is excited to announce Session 2 of our QIDP Peer Learning Initiative will be on Thursday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> at CRSI. This initiative is designed to support Ohio's QIDPs. [Please head to the OPRA website to register today.](#) The session will cover:

- Person-Centered Planning and Advocacy
- Compliance and Documentation

**OPRA Program Directors Network:** On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, OPRA will be hosting our virtual Program Directors Network meeting. We will discuss "7 Dysfunctions of a Team" with OPRA's own Scott Marks. We do hope that you will join us for this network meeting. For more information on the network, please reach out to [Rachel](#).



Join us October 23–24, 2025, at the Hilton Polaris in Columbus, Ohio for our premier annual event bringing together providers, leaders, and innovators from across the state. Whether you're looking to expand your brand visibility, connect with Ohio's provider community, or support the work of disability service professionals, we have a sponsorship opportunity to fit your goals.

Explore opportunities including:

- Keynote & Headshot Sponsorships
- Casino Night & Relaxation Lounge
- Gold, Silver, and Bronze Levels
- Breakfast, Lunch, Awards Sponsorships

[Register to Exhibit/Sponsor](#)

## Upcoming Events

9/15: OPRA HR Committee Meeting

9/22: OPRA Program Directors Network Meeting

9/25: OPRA QIDP Peer Learning Initiative

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

## News & Resources

[“MAHA Commission’s Make Our Children Healthy. Again Strategy Released by HHS”](#)

[“MACPAC Releases Issue Brief on HCBS Rate Setting Practices”](#)

[“EmpowerMe Living Releases Greater Cincinnati Housing Marking Analysis”](#)





# 2025 SPONSORS

## HEADLINE



## KEYNOTE



## PLATINUM



## ENTERTAINMENT



## GOLD



## BRONZE



## LUNCH



## BREAKFAST



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