

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MARCH 6, 2026



March is Developmental Disabilities Month! This year's theme is [“We’re Here: Then, Now, Always”](#). As always, we were grateful to celebrate and recognize this important month at this year's DD Awareness and Advocacy Day on Wednesday. Governor DeWine was even able to join the event in-person as well as recording the video to the left commemorating the month.

QIDP Event: We're pleased to announce the next session of the QIDP Peer Learning Initiative will be held on Wednesday, March 18th at Bittersweet Farms. This session will focus on Human Rights Committees (HRC), including the regulations surrounding HRC and restrictive measures, how ICFs are implementing these processes, the role of data collection and why it matters, and practical approaches to developing plans and processes that support compliance. [Click here to register!](#)

HB 530: The Ohio House Workforce and Higher Education Committee held a second hearing for [HB 530](#), a bill to create a long-term care workforce study commission. You can read the LSC analysis of the bill [here](#) and all of the submitted testimony [here](#). You can watch the testimony [here](#).

EVV: The Ohio Department of Medicaid released their March newsletter this week. We want to call special attention to the announcement for alternate vendors. If you are an entity that provides and EVV software, important changes on what is required of alternate systems are coming soon. You can read the newsletter and find more information on the changes [here](#).

HB 712- The Ohio House Children and Human Services' Committee held the first hearing on [HB 712](#), which would revise laws regulating accessible parking spots. You can read the LSC analysis [here](#) and the sponsor's testimony on the bill [here](#). You can watch the hearing [here](#).

OOD Stuff: Thanks to everyone who attended yesterday's Employment Service committee. Much of the discussion focused on OOD's move to [Purview Encrypted Emails](#). In addition to this, we are also seeking member feedback on how OOD's new referral/intake process is impacting your services.

New Supervisor Training: Join OPRA President/CEO Pete Moore and Vice President Scott Marks for a practical training designed specifically for new supervisors. This session will focus on what effective supervision looks like in our field; building trust, leading with purpose, and creating a team culture that supports both staff and the people we serve. If you're new to supervision, or looking to strengthen your leadership foundation, this session will give you practical tools you can use immediately. This training is intended to satisfy the '90-day' training requirement for new supervisors. [Click here to learn more and register!](#)



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: Click here to read this week's [Memo Monday](#), which includes the Medicaid Waivers Posted for Public Comment, Townhall Meetings to Discuss interRAI Assessment Process, an MSS Transition Update, and more.

DODD Website: DODD is currently in the process of removing PDF files from their website in an effort to come into compliance with updated federal Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 requirements by the April 2026 deadline. DODD states that "Our teams are exploring new ways to share information, such as posting content as text on webpages, instead of PDFs. Content is being reviewed in phases starting with our most viewed resources." OPRA is exploring solutions so members can easily access key files and materials as DODD looks to remove/alter these resources.

Call for Celebrations! In 2026, we're excited to close out our Friday calls with member celebrations, ending each call on a positive note and a bit of good news. If there's something you'd like Pete or the team to celebrate during a Friday call, we'd love to hear it! This could include retirements, milestones, big events, great stories, birthdays, or any other moments worth recognizing. Please email [Scott](#) with the subject line "OPRA Celebrations" and let us know what you'd like us to celebrate.

We'd like to welcome our newest provider members to the OPRA Community!

Caring Hearts Residential Services

Finding Purpose

Phase 1 Home Care Services

You've Got This LLC

Upcoming Events

3/9: DODD Waiver Modernization Town Hall

3/12: OPRA Regional Meeting
Districts 5 & 7

3/16: OPRA CEO/DOO/CFO/Business Manager
Network

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

News & Resources

2026 DD Awareness Month: We're Here: Then, Now, Always.

DODD Director's Corner (With BEST/GES Announcement)

"OBM director: Effects of property tax amendment would be "catastrophic"

"Autism Insights: Historical Context, Treatment, Prevalence, and Limitations"





GREAT PROVIDER SUMMIT

May 7-8, 2026 • Hilton Cleveland

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StationMD

Telemedicine for Individuals with Intellectual
& Developmental Disabilities



StationMD, the Provider Perspective

Free Webinar
Tuesday, March 24th
11am - 12pm ET

Need help navigating Health Care Assessment Services?

Emily Martinez from StationMD will show you how to use the health care assessment service, answer questions, and give specific examples of how to use the service.

What We'll Cover

1. Health care assessment service
2. Benefits to individual
3. Support to providers
4. Changing times for county boards
5. How to help individuals obtain the service
6. Hear from Deb Rasmusson, Chief Operating Officer of Sunshine Communities, on how the service has helped those they serve

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