

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MARCH 20, 2026



GREAT PROVIDER SUMMIT

May 7-8, 2026 • Hilton Cleveland

Registration is open for this year's OPRA Great Provider Summit in Cleveland! [Click here to learn more about the event](#), including Wednesday's Pre-Conference training on Appreciative Inquiry. We look forward to seeing you there!

Housing Workgroup: DODD's Housing Workgroup has been hosting a series of listening sessions to gather feedback on the workgroup's proposals. They have one virtual session remaining 3/27 and in-person event on 3/25. You can register for the sessions using the links in this [week's Memo Monday](#). You can review the workgroup's materials [here](#). Please contact [Christine](#) with questions or feedback.

Town Hall Tuesday: OPRA is pleased to announce an upcoming [Town Hall Tuesday](#) webinar on Tuesday, 3/24 at 10am, welcoming Kristen Henry from APSI, who will provide an overview of the SB35-Supported Decision Making, and discuss its implications for providers and individuals served. If you currently have questions regarding SB35, please send your questions ahead of time to [Rachel](#) or [Christine](#). [Click here to learn more and register](#).

EVV: The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) is hosting their monthly EVV stakeholder group on Monday March 23, from 2:30pm to 4pm. [You can register for the meeting here](#).

QEvent: Thanks to everyone who joined this week's QIDP Peer Learning Session. It was a great day of learning and connecting and we look forward to the next one! Big thanks to Megan Thompson and the team from Bittersweet Farms for hosting this event!

Legislation: The Ohio Medicaid Committee held a second hearing on HB 581, which would make changes to income disregard amounts for Medicaid beneficiaries who are enrolled in Medicaid's Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD) and WorkAbility programs. The bill would increase flexibility in how the income disregard is calculated for these enrollees. You can read the testimony submitted to the committee, including OPRA's [testimony, here](#). You can read the LSC [analysis of the bill here](#). You can read the full [text of the bill here](#). You can watch a [recording of the hearing here](#). Additionally, The Ohio House Community Revitalization Committee held a second hearing on HB 585, which makes changes to DODD's Community Capital Assistance (CCA) Fund. The bill makes a number of changes to the statutes governing the Fund with the hopes of increasing flexibility with the types of residences the funds can be spent on and makes changes to a county board's obligations in regards to CCA funding. The committee received a significant amount of testimony for the hearing. You can read all of the [submitted testimony here](#). You can read the [LSC analysis here](#). You can read the [full text of the bill here](#). You can [watch the hearing here](#).



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 registration info for the Housing Workgroup Listening Sessions, the updated Assistive Tech guidance mentioned today and the extension for OTS reporting.



Our partners at OOD shared these two videos in celebration of DD Awareness Month and National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day. Click on the thumbnails to watch!

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

3/24: Town Hall Tuesday: Supported Decision Making (SB 35)

3/30: OPRA CEO/DOO/CFO/Business Manager Network

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

News & Resources

Executive Order: "ESTABLISHING THE TASK FORCE TO ELIMINATE FRAUD"

"Fraud Allegations Threaten Vital Medicaid Home And Community-Based Services"

"Ohio's \$3 billion property tax overhaul starts Friday. What it means for your bill"

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





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HEALTHCARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Spring Conference

Difference Makers in Safety and Supports

April 15, 2026

9:00am to 4:00pm (registration begins at 8:15am)

Dwell Community Church
1394 Community Park Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43229

Learn about Safety, Conflict Resolution, and Dignity of Risk

Featured speakers include:

- Dr. Stephen Sroka will speak on building relationships and provide tips to keep you, and individuals, staff and the community safe and healthy so they can learn more and live better lives.
- Dr. Wendi Patterson will speak on the importance of dignity of risk and the balance between autonomy and safety, conflict resolution, offering approaches and safeguards to support informed decision making.
- Detective Lieutenant Kristopher Shultz, Clark County Sheriff's Department will speak on safety in the workplace and schools and information to provide to law enforcement to ensure individuals' safety.

6. OBN CE's pending approval by the OBN approval unit of DODD OBN-010-93

6. DODD IA, SSA, and Superintendent hours pending

For questions regarding CE status call: 440-742-6017 or email debmaloy22@gmail.com

You must attend the entire conference and complete an evaluation to receive CE's and Contact hours

Registration Fee: \$75.00 - Continental Breakfast and Boxed Lunch included.

The temperature of the building may vary at times so please dress accordingly for your comfort.

Register online at: HAC Spring Conference Registration

<http://reg.planetReg.com/E3383422239177>

For registration problems, please call 937-631-7704

Registration is from March 4th 2026 to April 8th 2026 at Midnight

No cancellations will be accepted after April 8th 2026

The Healthcare Advisory Committee reserves the right to cancel this event. Registration fees will be refunded if canceled. Personal cancellations will be refunded minus \$10 due to committee costs.



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

**LEARN MORE &
REGISTER HERE**



We're excited to share something special for the OPRA Great Provider Summit, Giv is hosting a furniture giveaway for OPRA members! We will select two winners for the raffle, the set of furniture and equipment is listed below:

Winner 1:

2 Couches, 2 retro spinning chairs, 1 coffee table, rug, and 4 throw pillows

Winner 2:

1 High Conference table with in-table power, 4 barstools, 2 monitors, keyboards, and mice.

Here's how to earn raffle entries:

- **1 entry** – Fill out the [giveaway form](#)
- **2 entries** – Sign up for Giv News for industry updates [Giv News](#)
- **10 entries** – Agency decision maker [completes a demo](#)

The winning agency must own at least one group home, and entries must include the company name to count.

We look forward to seeing you at the OPRA Great Provider Summit!

[Enter giveaway](#)