

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MARCH 27, 2026



**Medicaid Hearing:** The Ohio House and Senate Medicaid Committees hosted a joint hearing on fraud, waste, and abuse in Ohio's Medicaid system. The hearing included testimony from the Ohio Department of Medicaid Director Scott Partika, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, and the Auditor of State, Keith Faber. The testimony mainly focused on the controls and protections Ohio Medicaid takes to target and prevent abuse of the Medicaid system, as well as the cooperation between the entities in policing the Medicaid program. Director Partika mentioned protections such as EVV and cost reporting in nursing homes and ICFs, as well as efforts to move towards risk-based monitoring. AG Yost touted the work of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) and argued for utilizing GPS in electronic verification. AOS Keith Faber and his team highlighted the work his office has done and the various groups in their office auditing the program. This hearing comes amid national attention on Medicaid, including the [Task Force To Eliminate Fraud](#) recently established by the administration. You can view the [presentations and testimony here](#). You can view a [recording of the meeting here](#).

**Town Hall Tuesday:** This past Tuesday, Kristen Henry, Executive Director of Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc. (APSI), joined OPRA for Town Hall Tuesday to discuss the provider's role in supported decision-making under Senate Bill 35. Kristen provided valuable insight into balancing individual autonomy with provider responsibilities, helping to clarify how this evolving legislation translates into everyday practice. The Town Hall can be [viewed in its entirety on OPRA's website](#).

**TeleHealth:** Many of you who operate ICFs have been utilizing Station MD as part of a pilot program from the department. The department is ending the pilot on June 30, 2026. The department has also stated that after discussions with ODM, that ICFs cannot list Telehealth services on their cost report. We are currently in discussions with the department to look at alternative methods to address this service. OPRA believe that this service is very beneficial to individuals as it allows for care to be assessed quickly, can eliminate long wait times at a hospital, and overall is a very cost-effective method for assessing if someone requires additional medical care. We will continue to strongly advocate for this service within the ICFs to be covered and will continue to update everyone as we get further into these discussions.

Thank  
you!

Thank you for your continued OPRA membership. We are proud to serve a community of such great providers! Starting next week, our Zoom link information will change for Friday 5 calls and committees. Be on the lookout for emails and calendar invites from Sonya with the new information!



# 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 information the Independent Provider Initial Certification Fee, interRAI Assessment, and Rural Health Transformation Program Grants.



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!

**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

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

4/2: OPRA Day Array Committee Meeting

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

## News & Resources

"Why Medicaid Matters for Americans Living with Disabilities"

"Disability Advocates urge Texas leaders to withdraw from lawsuit that 'threatens' vital services"

"Ed Department May Offload Special Education Soon, Advocates Warn"

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





# GREAT PROVIDER SUMMIT

May 7-8, 2026 • Hilton Cleveland

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### HEADLINE



### ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME

Presenting:



Food Station:



Transportation:



Drink:



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# GREAT PROVIDER SUMMIT

May 7-8, 2026 • Hilton Cleveland

## Turn It Up to 11 at the 2026 OPRA Great Provider Summit!

### **Cue the Rock and Roll Hall Video!**

Get ready to turn up the volume and join us for the **2026 OPRA Great Provider Summit**.

### **This is not just another Summit.**

It is three days of bold ideas, meaningful connections, fresh inspiration, and unforgettable experiences built for Ohio's provider community. From the pre-conference training and Exhibit Hall kickoff to an evening at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and a powerful closing keynote from Pandit Dasa, this year's Summit is designed to leave you energized, connected, and inspired

Here's why you need to be there:

**Kick things off with Ready For It:** Pre-Conference Training

**Rock into the Summit at Start Me Up:** Exhibitor Showcase Welcome Reception

**Explore five powerhouse tracks covering leadership, innovation, workforce, operations, and advocacy:**

- Come Together: Executive Leadership
- One Way or Another: Program Design & Innovation
- Taking Care of Business: Biz/Finance/Ops
- We Are the Champions: Supervision & Workforce
- I Won't Back Down: Advocacy & Innovation



**Connect with exhibitors, sponsors, and peers from across the state**

**Experience We Will Rock You!: Encore at the Rock Hall, presented by TrailBlaze**

**Wrap it all up with Let It Be: Closing Keynote, Creating a Positive and Mindful Workplace Culture**

**Step away from the day-to-day. Recharge your energy. Gather new ideas.**

**This is your backstage pass to learning, networking, and inspiration.**

**Register for an unforgettable Summit!**



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](#)