

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

August 7, 2026

DODD Agency Review Tool: Claims validation review of 15-minute HPC claims begins August 1st. [The compliance review tool has been updated to reflect claims validation requirements.](#) DODD released some additional guidance in this week's [Memo Monday](#). You can reach out to anyone on the OPRA team with questions.

DODD Medication Administration: DODD released the final version of the revised package of medication administration rules. The new rules are effective on August 13th, 2026. [You can see all of the changes here.](#) Please reach out to [Christine](#) with any questions.

Advocacy Army: Registration for Advocacy Army is now OPEN! The training is open to any staff, non-profit board members, and people served and their families at member organizations. The trainings will occur on September 11th and 28th and ends with a Statehouse Advocacy Day on September 29th. You can find more details about the training and register [here](#).

HIPAA Risk Assessment Training: OPRA is pleased to host a six-part training with our partners at Guarded Edge. Participants will master the step-by-step process of conducting a fully HIPAA-compliant risk assessment. Every registered agency will receive the HIPAA-compliant risk assessment grid and a complete HIPAA security policy manual. Registration is \$500 but there is no cap on the number of employees an agency can send. You can learn more and register [here](#).

Compensation and Benefits Survey: The final report of the OPRA Compensation, Benefits, and Turnover survey will be distributed to participants next week. If your organization did not participate, the final report will be available for purchase.

S.3211: Yesterday, the US Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee passed [S.3211, the Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals Act](#). This bill would urge the federal government to create a new Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code specifically for direct support professionals. This has been a long-time priority for OPRA and our national partners at ANCOR. The bill must now be approved by the full Senate.

Disability Policy Candidates Forum: The Ohio Olmstead Task Force is hosting a Candidates Forum on August 20th at the Fawcett Center on the Ohio State University's main campus. The event is a chance to meet and hear directly from candidates running for statewide positions about their plans and commitments to the disability community in Ohio. Registration is free but limited. A virtual option is available. [You can register for either option here.](#) This is not an official OPRA event, but OPRA is serving on the planning committee and is sponsoring the event.



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](#), including information on new CCA funds, HPC claims review process, and more!

OPRA Annual Conference: Exhibitors & Sponsors: Exhibit space for the 2026 OPRA Annual Conference is almost full! If your organization is interested in exhibiting, please reserve your space soon. Several great sponsorship opportunities are still available to help your organization stand out and connect with attendees. Please reach out to [Melissa](#) for more information.

A special thank-you to [TrailBlaze Creative](#), our Annual Conference Marketing, All-Star Party, and Wi-Fi Sponsor!



OPRA's "Call for Award Nominations" is now open for the 2026 OPRA Annual Awards. The Annual Awards Ceremony will be held at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris on Friday, October 23rd. All nominations must be submitted no later than Monday, August 17th. [Click here to learn more and submit a nomination.](#)

This week, Rachel traveled to the National Association of QIDPs' annual conference in Savannah. It was an informative few days, and we are excited to bring home new and innovative ways to continue supporting QIDPs!



Upcoming Events

8/13: OPRA Tech Townhall

8/19: OPRA Residential Resources Committee

8/20: OPRA Health Care Committee: IN PERSON

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

News & Resources

"People with disabilities fear service cuts as Trump's DOJ questions legal protections"

"Barbie's Latest Additions: Blind Barbie and Black Barbie with Down Syndrome"

"CMS Medicaid Fraud War Room Stops More Than \$203 Million in Improper Payments During First 88 Days"





COMPLIMENTARY INVITATION

Proudly partnered with
DDNA
Developmental Disabilities
Nurses Association

2026 IDD & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM SERIES

Beyond One Diagnosis: *Managing Medication Complexity in IDD*

Hilton Columbus at Easton
3900 Chagrin Drive, Columbus, OH

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026 | 9:00AM - 4:30PM

(Registration and hot breakfast buffet begin at 8:15AM)



4.25 CE Credits



Complimentary Registration



Networking Opportunities



Meals and Reshments Provided

What We'll Cover:

- ✓ Medication Complexity in IDD
- ✓ Antidepressant Treatment in IDD
- ✓ Psychiatric and Seizure Disorder Overlap
- ✓ Co-Occurring Conditions in Epilepsy and IDD
- ✓ Tardive Dyskinesia in IDD (Non-CE)



Featuring:

Nanette Wrobel, RPh

Award-Winning IDD Clinical Educator

Who Should Attend

- ✓ Nursing Leaders
- ✓ Prescribers
- ✓ QIDPs
- ✓ Clinical Directors
- ✓ Behavioral Health Leaders
- ✓ IDD Professionals



Reserve Your Seat
Space is Limited

For more information contact
education@tarrytownexpocare.com



EMBRACE HEALTHCARE
A TARRYTOWN EXPOCARE PHARMACY

This planned learning activity is pending approval by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Ohio Board of Nursing Approver Unit for Nursing Continuing Education (#OBN-010-93) Each nurse is responsible to ensure their licensing agency accepts nursing CE's approved by Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Ohio Board of Nursing