

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

September 11, 2026



Advocacy Army: Today we held our first session of this year's Advocacy Army Training. Participants learned the ins and outs of legislative advocacy, how to build compelling advocacy narratives, and heard from advocacy partners. We want to thank Kyle Moore-DODD, Jake Dowling-OACB, and Anthony Aquillo-The Success Group for joining us for a panel discussion on legislative advocacy in Ohio. This year's training will include another in-person training day on 9/28 and an event at the Ohio Statehouse on 9/29. In the spirit of 'Always be Advocating', many OPRA members will join the team in Washington DC next week for ANCOR's Policy Summit, where we will have the opportunity to educate on Ohio's DD system and advocate directly on the importance of disability services with federal lawmakers.

Micro-Cultures: We want to thank Echoing Hills' Ray Schmidt, who joined this week's Just Culture Learning Collaborative, to share how Echoing implemented Just Culture and intentionally assessed the different learning and appreciation styles of the staff throughout the agency. We also shared a presentation on 'Micro-Cultures', which has been a common theme for the group. Almost every agency has 'micro-cultures' within the organization. These are the "distinct subgroup(s) within a large organization where employees share common behaviors, values, and interests." Given the importance of managing micro-cultures, [we put together this short presentation](#), including resources, information and best practices in managing micro-cultures within your organization.

ADS Guidance: We wanted to once again share the resources shared in last week's Day Array and Employment Committees. Since DODD no longer hosts PDFs on their site, you can find the sample documentation templates that include group size for community services on the OPRA site, as well as the presentation and other materials from the meeting [The presentations and recording of the meeting can be found on the OPRA website here.](#) Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions.



**NEW
SUPERVISOR
TRAINING**

Registration is open for OPRA's New Supervisor Training. Join OPRA President/CEO Pete Moore and Vice President Scott Marks for a practical training designed specifically for new supervisors. . If you're new to supervision, or looking to strengthen your leadership foundation, this session will give you practical tools you can use immediately. [Click here to learn more and register.](#) Free for OPRA members!



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 the upcoming InterRAI townhalls, Launch of the New Review Data System, National Core Indicators Adult In-Person Survey, a Northern Behavior Support Workshop and more.



Registration is officially open for this year's Annual Conference. The OPRA Annual Conference brings together providers, professionals, partners, and leaders from across Ohio's developmental disabilities community for education, connection, and collaboration. Whether you are attending for professional development, networking, continuing education, or to explore new ideas and solutions, the OPRA Annual Conference offers valuable opportunities to learn, engage, and strengthen your connection to Ohio's provider community. This year's conference features keynote speaker [Magie Cook](#), as well as a performance from the OPRA All-Star Band! [Click here to learn more and register!](#)

The 2026 National Survey of Community Rehabilitation Providers, conducted by the ICI-UMass Boston and the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR), gives CRPs across the country an opportunity to share their experiences and help inform future planning, research, and decision making.

The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. Responses are confidential and reported only in aggregate. For more information about the survey, view the [study fact sheet](#).

Please complete the survey by September 30, 2026.

Take the survey: <https://www.CRPSurvey.com/respond>

Fact Sheet: www.CRPSurvey.com/factsheet



Upcoming Events

9/16: OPRA QIDP Peer Learning Initiative - Outcomes That Matter

9/22: OPRA New Supervisor Training

9/30: UST Affinity Workforce Solutions for Nonprofits

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

News & Resources

"A secretive computer algorithm is taking caregiving money away from disabled people"

"Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services: Supporting Patient Health and Independence"

Materials from September Day Array/Employment Committees

"'Being Heumann' Review"



REGISTER TODAY

SEPT 18, 2026

FROM 9:00AM-4:30PM

OCLC CONFERENCE CENTER
DUBLIN, OH

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES
TODAY AND TOMORROW: WHAT
THEY MEAN FOR ACCESSIBLE
TRANSPORTATION



MICHELLE M. FOWLER

DIRECTOR OF APPLIED
RESEARCH AT THE
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH
CENTER INC. (TRC)



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[GO.OSU.EDU/TECHSUMMIT](https://go.osu.edu/techsummit)

TECHSUMMIT 2026

Join us for an insightful
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focused on technology use to
benefit individuals with
developmental disabilities



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