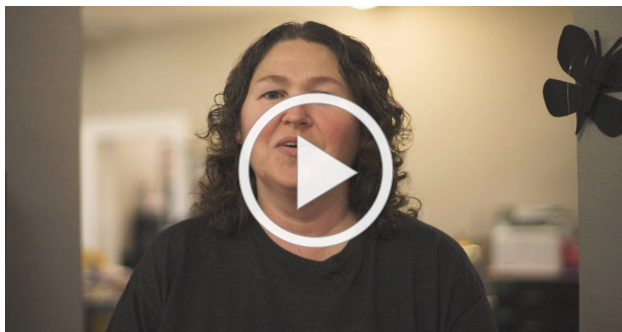


Monday, January 12, 2026

Highlight of the Week:



What's Your "Why"?

The start of a new year is a great time for reflection and goal-setting. At DODD, we are connecting with our "Why" - the story behind why we do what we do. It's a commitment to transparency, both personally and professionally. The developmental disability community is made up of many stories and many "whys," and we plan to highlight those unique connections throughout the year.

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January 1 Updates to Remote Support and Assistive Technology Rules

Attention: All Remote Support Providers

Effective January 1, 2026, an update to Ohio Administrative Code 5123-9-35 clarifies that all Remote Support staff must have a background check. This rule applies to services under the Individual Options, Level One, and Self-Empowered Life Funding waivers.

What you need to do:

- Initiate background checks for all current Remote Support staff within 30 days of this memo.
- Make sure all Remote Support staff have completed background checks by April 1, 2026.

Updates to the rule also require additional information to be included in the individual service plan or a written agreement. Unless there is an immediate change to services, DODD would expect to see these items added to the OhioISP during the annual revision.

For more details, you can read the rule here: [Rule 5123-9-35](#).

Medicaid Services System (MSS) Soft Launch Completed and Transition Details

Attention: County Boards, Councils of Government, Providers, Billing Agents

The soft launch of the new MSS (Medicaid Services System) is complete, and the County Boards can begin the transition process for active sites.

Here are the key updates you need to know:

1. Legacy MSS vs. New MSS

- The current MSS tile will now be referred to as MSS.
- The new MSS tile will simply be called New MSS.

1. Where to Find Them

- Legacy MSS: Located under the Applications tab on the sign-on page (where it currently exists).
- New MSS: Will appear under My Apps once the user has requested access through the App Store.

1. Access for Providers

- At this time, providers will not be able to request access to the new MSS.
- Once provider roles are set up, we will share more details and host webinars to guide providers through the transition.

Resources:

1. Download and Review the User Guide: [Downloadable User Guide](#)
 2. Sign Up for Office Hours: *Office hours are dedicated to County Boards only.*
- Wednesday, January 21 from 10-11 AM <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/653eecba-3026-4588-8158-9110cab0c727@50f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2>
 - Thursday, January 29 from 1-2 PM <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/0b15f852-a9ce-4dc6-b8e5-cd84b5018ac3@50f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2>

Questions or need an accommodation? Contact DDD-MSS Support at msssupport@dodd.ohio.gov.

OhioISP Outcome/Generated Document Issue Identified

Attention: County Boards, Intermediate Care Facilities, Councils of Government, Salesforce Users, Waiver Providers, Vendor Users
Downloading OhioISP Documents from Salesforce

DODD is aware of the following issues:

- OhioISPs that moved/will move to 'Active' status during December through current day, are only displaying one outcome in the auto-generated documents.

Temporary Guidance:

- Service and Support Administrators (SSAs) and Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professionals (QIDPs) will need to copy outcome information into a Word document and share it with team members via email until the issue is resolved in the online system.
- This can be the Word version of the generated OhioISP document or a separate Word document that includes all of the outcomes information.

Annual MUI Reporting Requirements

Attention: Agency Providers, County Boards, Developmental Centers

As part of Ohio's Health and Welfare system, we review Major Unusual Incident (MUI) data. This year, we will look at data from 2023, 2024, and 2025. The goal is to analyze trends and patterns and work to prevent incidents. This process helps the people we serve, as well as teams and agencies, make informed decisions, prevent incidents and plan.

- Agency providers must complete the Annual Review and submit it
- Under the revised MUI rule, independent
- County boards and councils of governments

to the County Board no later than February 28. The Annual Review must include all the elements outlined in [OAC 5123-17-02 \(N\)\(1\)-\(3\)](#). An [Annual Report Template](#) is available in the Health and Welfare Toolkit at the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities website at dodd.ohio.gov.

providers no longer need to complete an annual analysis. Independent providers should continue to work with teams to address patterns and trends and make sure risks are addressed for each person served.

(when applicable) need to have a committee that reviews MUI trends and patterns. The committee will meet each March to review and analyze data for the previous calendar year as outlined in OAC 5123-17-02 (N)(4) (a-d).

OhioITMS: MUI Analysis & Annual Reporting Essentials for Providers Webinar Offered

Agency providers will learn how to meet their annual requirements, use OhioITMS provider reports and access helpful resources. To register for the January 26, 2026 webinar, please go here

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_mKxZg8-7Sn-BLCH1GqJXJQ

If you have questions or accommodations, please contact our office at mui.unit@dodd.ohio.gov.

Reminder: Behavioral Support Workshop

Attention: County Boards, Providers, Developmental Centers

Join the next Statewide Behavior Support **Virtual** Workshop on January 14, 2026, from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM for DODD and Restrictive Measure Notification (RMN) application updates, and time for questions/scenarios. We are starting a new process to join the workshops virtually to ensure a positive learning experience. You will need to register before joining the workshop.

Whether you're looking for solutions, excited to share your experiences, or just want to learn more, this workshop is for you. Your stories will guide our conversations and sharing will inspire others.

Registration link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/inBQFa7mRqmYXLdRsioVPQ>

Can't attend? Look out for future dates on our website. Stay connected here: [DODD Behavior Support Workshops](#).

For questions, accommodations, or assistance, contact us at behavior.support@dodd.ohio.gov

Reminder: DODD Announces Request for Proposals - Expanding Capacity for Group Employment Supports

Attention: DODD-Certified Group Employment Supports Providers

DODD is seeking proposals from current [Group Employment Supports \(GES\)](#) providers interested in strengthening and expanding their organizational capacity to deliver high-quality, sustainable, and person-centered GES services. The purpose of this project is to support providers in improving the organizational structures, practices, and service delivery approaches that promote meaningful community work experiences, skill development, and pathways to competitive, integrated employment (CIE), including for people with the most complex support needs.

This opportunity will close on February 4, 2026. An informational webinar will be held on January 20, 2026. Please register at this link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/ZqCIL7DoSSOBZI5dKNXDOQ#/registration>.

Please visit the DODD Grant Opportunities page for more information about this opportunity: <https://dodd.ohio.gov/about-us/grant-opportunities>.

Inquiry Period Begins: January 12, 2026

Informational Webinar: January 20, 2026 <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/ZqCIL7DoSSOBZI5dKNXDOQ#/registration>

Inquiry Period Ends: January 21, 2026

Proposals Due: February 4, 2026, at 12:00 pm

Training Opportunities

Reminder: Direct Support Professional (DSP) and Provider Toolkit Information Session

Attention: Direct Support Professionals and Providers

Please join the DSP and Provider Support Team for the first DSP Information Session of 2026, scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. This session will provide valuable insights into locating resources on the DODD website and effectively utilizing the DSP & Provider Toolkit. Additionally, we will discuss available Annual Training options for 2026.

Here's the registration link: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_dJfE4i4XTJyzSaQt2IEOzg

Should you have any questions or need an accommodation please contact: training.team@dodd.ohio.gov.

FEAR Factor Session: Learn Supplemental Security

Income and Social Security Disability Basics

January 26

Attention: People with Lived Experience, Families, Providers, County Boards, Intermediate Care Facilities

Join us on Monday, January 26, 2026 from 1pm-2:30pm for a special FEAR Factor episode with guest speakers from the Social Security Administration covering, "Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) Basics." FEAR Factor is a training series to help people with lived experience address their fears about working and maintaining disability benefits. Click [here](#) for recordings of previous FEAR Factor sessions and resources. [Register here to obtain Continuing Professional Development Units \(CPDUs\) for your attendance.](#) If you do not need CPDUs [please register here](#). For questions or more information please contact lcomes@oacbdds.org.

Reminder: Ohio Human Trafficking Awareness Webinar

Attention: All Providers, County Boards, Councils of Governments, and Developmental Centers

The Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force is hosting a webinar to help people learn more about human trafficking. This webinar will explain what human trafficking is, share facts and real examples from Ohio and across the country, and teach what to do if you think someone may be a victim.

Webinar Date:

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Register at this link: [The Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force Awareness and Identification Webinar for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Register early to secure your spot. Participants can earn 1 hour of DODD Continuing Professional Development. This is available for Investigative Agents, SSAs, and Superintendents.

If you have questions or accommodations, please contact our office at mui.unit@dodd.ohio.gov

A Message from the Ohio Department of Medicaid:

The Next Generation MyCare Program is Here!

Attention: County Boards and Providers

The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) implemented the Next Generation MyCare program on January 1, 2026, to provide enhanced healthcare benefits to Ohioans who have both Medicaid and Medicare. It is now available in the 29 counties where the previous MyCare Ohio program was available. Later in 2026, it will be available in the [rest of Ohio](#). Individuals are not eligible for MyCare Ohio if they are in an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF-IIDs) or if they are on