

Provider Meeting Agenda

February 12, 2026

1:00 PM-3:00 PM

- A. Welcome
- B. DSP of the Month
- C. Staff Updates
- D. County Board Updates - Brittani Ball, Operations Manager
 - a. Provider Grant Priorities for 2026
- E. SSA Department
 - a. New MSS/Legacy MSS - Stephanie Chizmadia & Jaylene Kohlii
 - b. Assistive Technology Rule Update - Linda Reigelman
 - c. Reduction or Elimination of Authorized Services
- F. ISS Department - James Kemmerle, ISS Manager
 - a. Introduce New IA - Paul Reynolds
 - b. Health & Welfare alert
 - c. MUI Annual Reports are Due 2/28
- G. Quality & Community Outreach Department
 - a. Tech Ambassadors & We Thrive Together - Andrea Patrick
 - b. Reidy Medical Supply - Ted Stitzel
 - c. Opra Membership Opportunity
 - d. Provider video series
 - e. Disability Download DSP training
 - f. Address Updates reminder
 - g. Brittco MFA
 - h. Community Inclusion Opportunities
 - i. Training Opportunities and Updates
- H. Superintendent Updates
 - a. Strengthening Statewide Authorization Guidelines to Support Consistent and Fair Service Decisions
- I. Open Mic



**Ashtabula County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

DSP of the Month

Jamie Rupert

Diane Mills

Kayla Wright

Thank You!



CONGRATULATIONS!

 Ashtabula County Board
of Developmental Disabilities
Congratulations!



Matt Glidewell
Assistant Superintendent



 **Brittani Ball, Operations Manager**
Operations



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County Board Updates



County Board Updates

Provider Grant Opportunities

Creative proposals for the grant are encouraged. Priority funding categories that align with our strategic plan:

- **Transportation**—Expanding access to reliable, safe, and flexible transportation options.
- **Employment**—Increasing employment opportunities and support for people with developmental disabilities.
- **Retention and Development of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs)**—Strengthening the DSP workforce through training, recruitment, and retention initiatives.
- **Advocacy**—Supporting people served in leading as independent of a life as possible.

Proposals aligning with these priorities will receive special consideration, although all applications aimed at improving services and outcomes will be reviewed. The board has placed further emphasis on grant requests related to advocacy efforts for 2026.



 **Toni Scurpa, Superintendent**
Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities



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Superintendent Updates



Shared Responsibility for System Sustainability

- Workforce stability
- Responsible use of Medicaid funds
- Fiscal integrity
- Maintaining public trust in the DD system

Superintendent Updates



Independent Living and High-Cost Supports,

- Purpose: Balancing autonomy, safety, and long-term sustainability
- Affirm independent living as a valued and viable option within the publicly funded system
- Clarify expectations for independent living supports:
- Prioritize assistive technology, remote supports, and modern safety tools
- Add in-person staffing thoughtfully within clear daily expectations
- Prevent a small number of extremely high-cost arrangements from threatening system sustainability
- Support consideration of shared living or alternative settings when individual needs exceed what one-person households can safely support
- Introduce state-level review and shared funding for exceptional staffing (e.g., 2:1 or greater): Requires documentation, defined goals, and reassessment over time

Superintendent Updates



Strengthening Authorization Guidelines

Purpose: Promote consistent, fair, and person-centered service decisions statewide

- Current service decisions vary widely by county and circumstance, creating frustration and inequity
- Establish clear statewide authorization standards for service intensity, staffing levels, and support models
- Provide SSAs with decision-support tools and review mechanisms to balance advocacy, safety, and fiscal responsibility
- Ground decisions in assessed need, functional outcomes, and safety, while preserving individualized planning
- Actively engage people with developmental disabilities and families to ensure guidelines reflect lived experience, dignity, and self-direction
- Increase transparency, predictability, and defensibility of service decisions across Ohio

Superintendent Updates



SSA Department



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Service and Support Administration



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 **Stephanie Chizmadia,**
SSA Manager/Medicaid Manager
Service and Support Administration



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SSA Department



New MSS- Legacy MSS

- Transition from legacy MSS to new MSS
- Provider access
- Webinars/email from DODD





Linda Reigelman, Director
Service and Support Administration



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ISS Department

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ISS Department

What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is a crime in which people profit from the control and exploitation of others.

Here are some risk factors that make people with disabilities more vulnerable to human trafficking:

- Traffickers may seek out victims with disabilities to gain access to their public benefits such as supplemental security income (SSI) or social security disability insurance (SSDI) benefits.
- People with disabilities may require a caregiver to meet their basic needs. This caregiver can take advantage of this dependency and force them into prostitution or labor. Even if the caregiver themselves is not the trafficker, people with disabilities may have a learned response to comply with a caregiver's wishes because they rely on them for care, shelter, transportation, etc.
- Some people with disabilities may have difficulties with communication and/or speech. This may affect their ability to get help and report the abuse.
- People with disabilities may be isolated and therefore crave friendships and relationships.
- People with disabilities are often not provided sex education and may be unaware that they have the right to say "no".
- They may not realize that they have been a victim of a crime.

Other risk factors include:

- Prior abuse in the home, including sex abuse.
- Involvement with county children services.
- One or both parents abusing drugs at home.
- History of running away from home.
- Involvement in illegal activities, such as drug use.
- A mental illness.



ISS Department

Fast Facts

- Ohio reported the 10th highest number of calls to the [National Human Trafficking Hotline](#) in 2024.
- Data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) found that the rate of violent victimization of people with disabilities was nearly four times the rate of people without disabilities. Those with cognitive disabilities experienced the highest rate of victimization among disability types.

Prevention

- Make sure people know who to report to if they have questions or concerns.
- Identify safe people and places.
- Provide education and support so that people know about sexuality, body awareness, and their rights.
- Provide supports to people who may be vulnerable.
- Look for ways to connect people with healthy support systems.
- Provide ongoing training to employees on human trafficking and exploitation.

Identification

Some indicators that a person with a developmental disability may be trafficked:

- The person may show signs of sexual, physical abuse, malnourishment, or confinement.
- The person is receiving something of value in exchange for sex or sexual activity.
- Injuries go untreated.
- They may be very isolated and not allowed to have contact with their friends or family.
- There is interference when someone wants to speak to the person alone.
- The person has very little control over their money or belongings.
- The person exhibits signs of fear or trauma.
- Adhere to scripted or rehearsed responses in social interaction.
- Facility procedures fail to protect residents.
- Theft of benefits.
- Lacks official identification documents.
- Offered a job that seems too good to be true and their recruiter/prospective employer avoids giving detailed information about the job.
- Works long hours for very little pay.



ISS Department

2025 MUI Annual Analysis

ANNUAL REPORT



AGENCY PROVIDER NAME: _____

MUI ANNUAL REVIEW (January 1 through December 31) for the year _____

Agency providers are required to complete the Annual Review and send it to the County Board by February 28th.

Total Number of MUI categories for the last year: _____

Total Number of MUI categories for 2 years ago: _____

Total Number of MUI categories for 3 years ago: _____

Number of MUI category by type:

MUI Categories	Last year	2 years ago	3 years ago
Accidental/suspicious death			
Attempted suicide			
Death-Non-Accidental			
Exploitation			
Failure to Report			
Law Enforcement			
Medical Emergency			
Misappropriation			
Missing Individual			
Neglect			
Peer-to-Peer Act			
Physical Abuse			
Prohibited Sexual Relations			
Rights Code Violation			
Sexual Abuse			
Significant Injury			
Unapproved Behavioral Support			
Unanticipated Hospitalization			
Emotional Abuse (previously Verbal Abuse)			

Explain the reasons for any significant differences from year to year and any MUI categories with a high number of incidents (use additional pages as necessary):

ANNUAL REPORT



Agency Trends and Patterns – current year

Identify and explain any agency-wide trends and any trends by residence, region, or program:

Description of action plans and preventive measures to address these trends/patterns:

Previous year's agency-wide trends or trends by residence, region, or program:

Were the action plans and preventive measures effective?

Individual Trends and Patterns

Individuals with 5 or more MUI categories in 6 months or 10 or more MUIs in 12 months in the current year:

Name

MUI types

Action plans and preventive measures taken to address this trend/pattern

Date the action plans and preventive measures were added to the individual's plan:

(Use additional pages to add additional individuals if needed.)

Date review was completed: _____

Name of person completing this review: _____

DODD MUI UNIT – ANNUAL REVIEW FORM – AGENCY – Jan 2026



DUE: 2/28/26



W e l c o m e

 Ashtabula County Board
of Developmental Disabilities

WELCOME!



Paul Reynolds
Investigative Agent

ISS Department



QCO Department

Questions?

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 **Haylee Mott, Community Outreach Specialist**
Quality and Community Outreach



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 **Angela Thomas, Community Outreach Specialist**
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QCO Department

Andrea Patrick

Andrea Patrick, a new proud member of the Ohio Tech Ambassador team! Residing in Lake County, Ohio, Andrea's journey has been uniquely shaped by her experience with Nemaline Rod Myopathy, a genetic condition that impacts her muscles. Diagnosed at just one year old, Andrea has learned to thrive with the support of her dedicated nurses, caregivers, family, and friends.

As a Tech Ambassador, she is eager to inspire others to discover how technology can empower individuals and foster independence. Let's work together to create a more inclusive and supportive community!



andrea@ohiotechambassadors.org



QCO Department



TED STITZEL, PRESIDENT



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phone: +13306864485;ext=221 | fax: +18888092723



reidymed.com

reidy medical supply



Opra Membership Preview Opportunity

Community. Advocacy. Resources. Experiences.



You Don't Have to Do This Work Alone



OPRA exists for one simple reason: **to build and serve a community of great providers**. Not just providers who survive change, but providers who learn from one another, push each other to be better, and show up, day after day, for people with disabilities.

CARE is how we live that mission every day: **Community. Advocacy. Resources. Experiences**. And it all starts with **Community**.

WHY OPRA? COMMUNITY.

OPRA is more than an association, it's a statewide community of nearly 200 provider organizations committed to learning, collaboration, and shared leadership.

The Heart of the OPRA Community: Friday Five

With an average attendance of 300+ participants, OPRA's Friday Five Calls bring providers together each week to learn, ask questions, share challenges and solutions, and stay connected.

Experience OPRA's Community: Before You Decide

During the month of March, prospective members are invited to join Friday Five Calls with no membership commitment required. Contact [Sonya Summers](#) to participate.

Community is how we shape the future.

Join the OPRA community.

Be part of something bigger.

SSummers@opra.org





This year's theme, *Get Ready for Greatness - Building the Hall of Fame Providers of Tomorrow*, celebrates the vision, leadership, and innovation that define truly great providers. Like the artists enshrined in the Rock Hall, Great Providers don't wait for greatness—they build it through purpose, practice, and performance.

- Track 1 - Come Together: Executive Leadership
- Track 2 - One Way or Another: Program Design & Innovation
- Track 3 - Taking Care of Business: Business, Finance & Operations
- Track 4 - We Are the Champions: Supervision & Workforce
- Track 5 - I Won't Back Down: Advocacy & Innovation

QCO Department





- Provider Video Series
- Disability Download Video
- Address Updates
- Brittco MFA



Community Inclusion Activities

Ashtabula County



When: Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:00pm-8:00pm

Where: Ashtabula County Board of DD
(2505 South Ridge Road East Kingsville, OH 44004)



When: Meetings are held the 3rd Friday of each month from 5:00pm-6:30pm

Where: Vitality Supported Living
471 Madison Street Conneaut, OH
(Parking lot and door on Route 20)

Work of Heart

Monthly Art Program
Canvas size not to exceed 9x12



Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities

TALENT SHOW
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH
5:00PM-7:00PM

HOSTED BY:
ASHTABULA **Arts** CENTER
FEBRUARY 26TH: REHEARSAL
FEBRUARY 27TH: DAY OF THE SHOW
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE
SIGN UP AS A GROUP OR INDIVIDUALLY



High School Musical Sensory Performance

Thursday, March 19th
6:30pm

Presented by:



Sponsored by:



Registration Required**

Ohio Network for Innovation

Supportive Decision Making Workshop

For Advocates, Families, Staff, Providers

Date: Monday, March 23rd
Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Location: County Board Office
Lunch Provided 12:00 PM

DD Awareness Month Activities

3rd Annual

Meet the Artist

Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities

DD Awareness Month

Art Exhibition & Reception

Wednesday, March 2nd

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

William Tokarczyk Gallery

Ashtabula Public Library
4335 Park Ave, Ashtabula



Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities

DD AWARENESS MONTH'S SPIRIT WEEK

Join us for Spirit Week, **March 2nd-6th**, as we celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! Each day offers a fun new way to express yourself while highlighting the importance of inclusion and advocacy. Everyone is welcome, together, we can raise awareness, celebrate abilities, and build a stronger, more connected community.

2nd Annual

Light Up the Lift Bridge

Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities

DD Awareness Month

Kickoff at the Riverbend Hotel

Monday, March 2nd

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

7:00 PM - Proclamation by County Commissioners

Riverbend Hotel
533 Goodwill Dr, Ashtabula



Sweet treats provided

3rd Annual

Live Watch Party

Wear Orange

Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities

DD Awareness Month

Awareness & Advocacy Day

Wednesday, March 4th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

LIVE Watch Party from the State House

Board of DD Office
2505 South Ridge Rd East



Light Refreshments Available

2nd Annual

Bowling BASH

Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities

DD Awareness Month

#YouMeCommunity

Sunday, March 8th

1:00pm to 3:30pm

Jefferson Lanes
2170 State Route 46 North

Food, Prizes & Fun



MON
MARCH 2ND

WEAR ORANGE DAY

WEAR SOMETHING ORANGE TO KICK-OFF DD AWARENESS MONTH!



TUE
MARCH 3RD

MISMATCH DAY

WHO NEEDS TO MATCH?! WEAR YOUR "BEST" MIXED AND MISMATCHED OUTFIT!



WED
MARCH 4TH

FAVORITE CELEBRITY DAY

DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE LOCAL OR NATIONAL CELEBRITY OR ROCK THEIR MERCHANDISE!



THUR
MARCH 5TH

FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM DAY

REPRESENT YOUR FAVORITE TEAM WHILE WEARING JERSEYS, HATS, OR TEAM COLORS!



FRI
MARCH 6TH

PJ DAY!

WRAP UP THE WEEK IN COMFORT! WEAR YOUR FAVORITE PAJAMAS!



Training Offered

MUI Refresher Training- As Needed

Initial Medication Certification Category 1- **February 23rd & 24th**

Initial Provider Training— **March 18, 2026**

Annual Provider Training, **April 8, 2026**

CPR/First Aid Blended Learning - **March 3, 2026**

Initial Medication Administration Category 2 & 3—**February 16, 2026**

Renewal Medication Certification Categories 1, 2 & 3 - **February 17, 2026**

AEGIS Crisis Prevention & De-Escalation—**March 10, 2026**

Provider Orientation—**February 17, 2026**

Provider Open Office Hours—**Monthly on the first Tuesday 10:30A-12:30P**

All classes listed above are open for registration on the Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities website under the Provider support tab. <https://www.ashtabuladd.org/>





Thank you!

Next Provider Meeting



MARCH 12, 2026
Virtual Only





You Don't Have to Do This Work Alone



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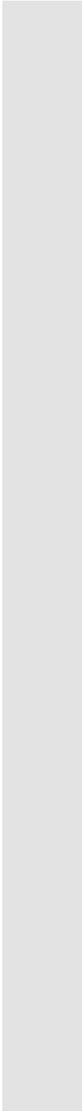
January 2026 Rule Changes

Assistive Technology, Remote Support, Support Broker

DODD Resources

DODD has resources related to these changes on their website including videos

These can be found [here](#)



Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology (AT)

This rule change includes updated definitions, requirements for detailing rental/purchase of AT Equipment, and new billing guidelines related to AT Equipment

No changes to AT Consultation

No changes to AT Support

Definitions

The Assistive Technology (AT) definition now includes non-electronic items (i.e. pencil grips, screen readers)

AT may include the cost of software applications or monthly recurring fees such as subscriptions necessary to use an item, piece of equipment, device, product system, or engineered solution

Subscription – is a recurring payment for accessing a service (i.e. GPS interface, software access) related to use of assistive technology

Renting or Purchasing Equipment

- The terms of the arrangement for securing the equipment must be detailed in the **ISP** or in a **written agreement** signed by the individual (or guardian) and the AT Equipment provider

Required Details

The ISP or agreement must detail:

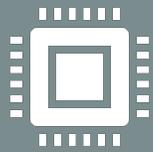
Whether equipment is purchased outright or rented

- If rented, must specify whether at the end of the rental period the equipment will be owned by the individual or returned to the provider
- ***The individual/team may choose to renew a rental agreement beyond the useful life of the equipment when such an arrangement best meets the individual's needs***

Our Approach



To ensure consistency, ACBDD will be addressing these details in the ISP using the Remote Support Details and Consent Form within the Brittco ISP and the ISP packet



This will need to be used any time Assistive Technology and/or Remote Support are authorized as part of an ISP

Remote Support Details and Consent Form

- For those only using AT (with no remote support), select this option

Remote Supports: *

- I am using Remote Supports
 - I live with someone using Remote Supports, but I am not using the service.
 - I am not using Remote Supports, but I am using Assistive Technology.
- This selection will eliminate the questions that are specific to remote support and leave only those applicable to the equipment

Remote Support Details and Consent Form

- For all Equipment (with or without Remote Support) the Equipment table will need to be completed
- This now includes the required details about the Purchase or Rental of the Equipment

Please list the Assistive Technology in use: *

Equipment Name	Where is this equipment located in the home?	What need is this piece of equipment addressing?	Rented/Purchased
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rented <input type="radio"/> Purchased Outright

Click Add Section to add additional lines/list more equipment



Add Section

Equipment Details

- If the equipment is being purchased outright, select this option

Rented/Purchased

- Rented
- Purchased Outright

- If the equipment is being rented (most common), additional questions will appear once this option is selected

Rented/Purchased

- Rented
- Purchased Outright

Please Provide additional Rental Details

Initial/Renewal

- Initial
- Renewal

At the end of this period:

- Individual owns the equipment
- Individual will return equipment to the provider unless renewed

Equipment Rental – Initial vs. Renewal



New equipment should be marked as **initial**



Because we are going to need to put this in place for existing authorizations where equipment is being rented, even though the person already has the equipment, these should be marked as **initial**



If the same equipment remains beyond the initial span in which it is authorized, **renewal** should be selected

Signatures

- Because the AT Equipment provider must sign the agreement for the equipment, a provider signature line has been added

<p>Provider Signature*</p>   <input type="text"/> <p>Name</p> <p>Provider must sign for Assistive Technology</p> <p>Sign</p>	<p>Individual Signature*</p>   <input type="text"/> <p>Name</p> <p>Required if Individual has a Legal Guardian</p> <p>Sign</p>	<p>Guardian Signature*</p>   <input type="text"/> <p>Name</p> <p>Required if Individual has a Legal Guardian</p> <p>Sign</p>
--	--	--

Revisions for Existing Authorizations

- Prioritize authorizations where the quote has changed due to the new rule
- All revisions need to be completed by 5/1/26
- On the Remote Support Details & Consent Form for the revision, select “Authorizations” and then provide details about the need for the revision as shown below

Revision Areas: *

- Discovery Assessment
- Outcomes & Experiences
- Services & Supports
- Authorizations

Revision Comments *

Revised CSD209 (Remote Support/Assistive Technology Details and Consent Form) to reflect rental agreement for Assistive Technology Equipment to comply with rule change.

AT Billing Guidelines

Per span cap of \$5,000 remains (no change)

If equipment has exceeded its useful life and requires repair or replacement, the team will authorize the most cost-effective approach (Repair or Replace)

Repair costs may not exceed 25% of the cost of replacement



There is now a cap on the amount providers of AT Equipment can charge to cover their provider responsibilities



This amount cannot exceed **25% of the MSRP**

Limits on AT Equipment Billing



Delivery of Equipment



Assembly of Equipment

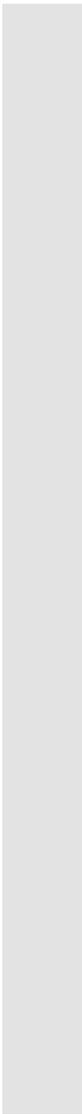


Instructions/Training on use of Equipment
(individual and others identified – i.e. staff/family)



Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement of
Equipment as needed

AT Provider Responsibilities



Remote Support

Remote Support

- Updated definition: Remote support means the continuous oversight of technology by remote support staff and immediate availability of remote support staff working at a monitoring base to respond to the assessed needs of an individual while the individual is at the individual's residence. Remote support does not necessarily require constant surveillance or remote viewing of an individual.

Remote Support Vendor to Provider

The term has been changed from Remote Support Vendor to Remote Support provider in the rule

Remote Support Provider: means the agency provider that supplies or arranges for the monitoring base, engages the remote support staff who monitor an individual from the monitoring base, and supplies the equipment or technology used in the delivery of remote support as identified in the individual service plan.

RS Backup Support

The definition has been updated to clarify that backup support can ONLY be provided by:

An unpaid family member or friend selected by the individual or

A paid agency provider of homemaker/personal care or an agency-with-choice arrangement for participant-directed homemaker/personal care as applicable.

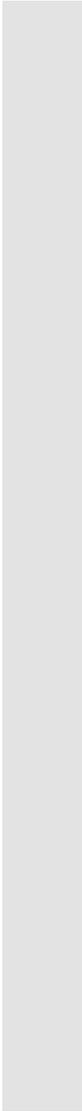
Billing Unit



The billing unit for Remote Support has changed from a 1-hour unit to a 15-minute billing unit



This aligns the units with how HPC is authorized and should alleviate many billing issues



Support Broker

Support Broker

This service has been added to the I/O and L1 waivers

Billing unit changing from 1-Hour unit to 15-minute unit

New Training required for providers certified to provide support brokerage and recommended for SSAs – can be found in My Learning at DODD site



Questions