

The OADDP Newsline

The Ohio Association of Developmental Disabilities Professionals

A Department of The Ohio Education Association

Important Dates

Annual Conference

March 3-4, 2017

**Mohican State Park
Lodge and Resort**

Board Meetings

**November 19, 2016
Canton Uniserv**

**December 3, 2016
Lunch at OEA RA**

**January 14, 2017
Hudson Uniserv**

**April 8, 2017
Canton Uniserv**

**May 12, 2017
Lunch at OEA RA**

**July 15, 2017
Ferrante Winery
12:00-3:30**

Meetings start at 10:30.

**Check the website,
oaddp.org, for exact
locations.**



From: Christina West, Chairperson

The Ohio Association of Developmental Disabilities Professionals (OADDP) is the department of the Ohio Education Association (OEA) that represents special education staff in county boards of DD and school districts. The OADDP officers are reaching out to local leaders in an effort to gain input from special education professionals about what training and information is needed to help you better serve your students and adults with disabilities. We strive to become a more effective organization by gaining participation from locals across the state and by providing assistance through networking, resources, and training opportunities.

Each local is strongly encouraged to send a representative to the Executive Committee meetings, listed in the sidebar and on the website. Currently our meetings alternate between two Uniserv offices. **However, we would love to bring the meeting to you!** Please let us know if you would like to have an OADDP Executive Committee meeting at your Uniserv office or other meeting place. Breakfast and mileage reimbursement is provided. If you are interested in attending or hosting a meeting, please contact Chairperson Christina West at cwest@oaddp.org.

You found it!!!

Due to the increased cost of printing and mailing a paper newsletter, especially in color, the OADDP Newslines are now available only online. Consideration is being given to doing a limited mailing - to those members who do not have personal email, and to local leaders and building Association Representatives to share with their colleagues.

Thank you for taking the time to seek out and read the **Newslines**. We hope you find valuable information that makes it worth your time to return to read future issues and to check out other information on the website.



Adult Day Changes....what you need to know

By: Nikki Nadasky

As of November 1, 2016, changes were implemented to the Home and Community Based Waiver Services (HCBW) Adult Day and Employment Services rules, which include a greater push toward supported employment, community involvement, and inclusion.

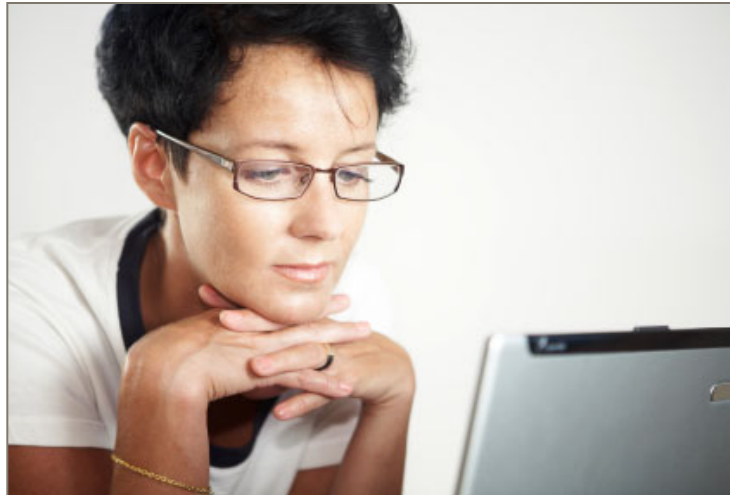
Changes were made in acuity levels, as well as billing code updates for providers. The rule states that no more than 16 individuals per group may receive day services at one time, regardless of the funding source. Individuals receiving more than one service at a time may only use one billing code for those services provided at the same time. Services must be billed to accurately reflect new codes.



The adult daily codes and the Vocational Habilitation Codes must be used if that services is provided over a period of seven hours. Fifteen-minute unit codes may be used to bill where the person receives less than five hours or more than seven hours of services during the day.

Providers of Adult Day Support and or Vocational Habilitation may also receive Community Integration if staff have received proper DODD (Department of Developmental Disabilities) training, service is deliverable in an integrated setting, and provided in a group of four or less.

Supported community employment terminology also changed to Individual Supports and Career Planning.



More information can be found in regards to many of these changes and actual coding through the DODD website and in the *Pipeline* articles at dodd.ohio.gov.

THE DD event of the Year!

The most popular and well-attended OADDP event of the year is always the Annual Membership Conference. Over the course of a day and a half, members will get information on the latest legislation and legal issues that effect their jobs and the consumers they work with, hear from an inspirational speaker, win prizes, and network with old and new friends.

The conference will be held March 4-5, 2017, at Mohican State Park Resort and Conference Center. Friday night will include a delicious dinner, remarks by OEA officers, and a social hour. On Saturday, there will be several speakers sharing information you need to have, as well as a general membership meeting.

We hope to see everyone there!



Local Focus...SpEd in school districts

by Sandy Smith Fischer

A Personal Reflection...

Special education teachers think outside the box on a daily basis, yet need to operate within the guidelines of the Ohio Department of Education and Local Administrative guidelines. Students in the classroom are expected to meet the standards set forth by the State; students with disabilities are no different.

A special education teacher in a cross categorical classroom may have nonverbal students, verbal students, aggressive students, and non-ambulatory students who may require medical assistance and total care. Nonverbal students with Autism tend to push the creative minds of their teachers to be able to reach their educational abilities and perform. Yet, all the students must meet the state standards. It is the difficult task of the teacher to create activities and assessments for each individual student to be able to demonstrate success on each State Standard. This is made even more challenging when even the lowest extended standards are unattainable for some students

Behaviors also play an important role in the day of a special education teacher. All behaviors have a purpose; determining the purpose and developing positive interventions to address the behaviors so learning may continue is the duty of the teacher. Including behavior supports on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) provides a meaningful benefit, adheres to the Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) standards, and incorporates Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS.) Students are more likely to achieve when taught with predictable, relevant routines and expectations with positive reinforcements. Special education teachers and paraprofessionals working need to be provided training as a collective unit to meet the needs of the students. Teachers need to focus on each student's abilities and potential, and grade according to their individual successes.

Special education teachers need to have the support of their colleagues, administrators, therapists, and parents. The success of special education teachers comes with individual creativity, networking with others... and the support of the Ohio Association of Developmental Disabilities Professionals (OADDP.)