



LCBDD News & Updates!

Hello! Sending along some items of interest. Please let me know if you have any questions or need information on other topics.

Thanks,
David

Basic Employment Skills Training (BEST)

If you are currently providing Vocational Habilitation services, I hope you are already aware of DODD's intention to "sunset" that service and replace it with a new service called Basic Employment Skills Training (or BEST). Please be aware: the tentative implementation date for BEST is July, 2020, but the details are still being finalized. We will keep you posted as we hear more. Please contact David if you would like more info.

You can complete a short survey on BEST at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MN2B3M9>. (Created by OPRA.)

Our friends at OPRA recently described the main differences between the two services:

-BEST will have established time frames for service. BEST will begin with an anticipated time frame of 24 months. After those initial 24 months, the service can be extended by the team on a yearly basis, depending on the person's ongoing need for the service. If it is determined that following 3 extensions, the person still needs the BEST service, DODD will review further yearly extensions. This means someone could potentially access 60 months of BEST before a DODD review of the extensions.

-BEST will have a '50% minimum wage' earnings threshold. The threshold is established using the average yearly earnings of minimum-wage worker in Ohio, then calculating what 50% of those earnings would be. This means that people enrolled in BEST would be able to earn up to approx. \$8,200/year while participating in the BEST service. Wage information will need to be included in a yearly progress report, and for those who earn more than the threshold, the team should be re-evaluating service options at the next ISP meeting.

-People over 50 years old will be able to remain in the vocational habilitation service after BEST is implemented. These people will be essentially 'grandfathered out' of the new service, and will be able to stay in their current service, without the additional requirements of BEST.

Claims Report for EVV Services now available

On October 18th a report containing Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) data became available in the Provider Weekly Reports section of DODD's eMBS (Medicaid Billing System) application. This report is for information purposes only and is not being used to deny claims.

This report shows how many EVV units were submitted in claims billed by the provider and how many EVV units were logged by the provider for a service date.



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[Read Memo](#)

FREE Technology Trainings coming soon!

The Licking County Library has partnered with the LCBDD to offer trainings that are free and open to everyone, but presented in formats and about topics of interest to people we support. These are open to staff, providers, parents, teens, really anyone! The library will be promoting these through their typical means. More info. to come on how to sign up.

Tuesday, Jan 28 4:00 Android Reminder apps
 4:30 Apple Reminder apps

Thursday, Feb 27 4:00 Online Safety
 4:30 Avoiding Scams

Tuesday, March 24 1:00 Beginning eContent
 1:30 Intermediate/Advanced eContent

ISP Process change

The Licking County Board of D.D. recently received technical guidance from DODD on re-sending ISPs if a new signature is received. Based on this guidance, if a Provider submits their signature after the ISP has already been sent out to the team, a new copy with their signature will not be sent. Providers continue to have 7 business days to review and sign off on ISPs and addendums. Please let David know if you have questions or concerns.

Reminders from our Housing Corporations

Our two Housing Corporations are the landlords for houses that many people live in. They asked if we could circulate the following friendly reminders to Service Coordinators and Providers.

- Wipes should not be flushed, even if the container indicates otherwise, as this can cause serious plumbing issues
- Communicate repairs/updates in a timely manner using the process outlined in the lease, especially any issue involving water (leaks, etc.) or pest control (LCCH may cover the cost of pest control per lease or at least have experience with lowest cost pest control service)



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Guidance: Provider Bed Bug Policies

DODD has determined that day services providers placing people on a Leave of Absence when a person has a confirmed bed bug infestation in his or her home does not meet the definition of a suspension of waiver services and therefore is not prohibited by DODD. As this does not constitute a suspension of waiver services, county boards are not required to provide due process in these instances.

[Read Memo](#)

Health Care survey

The Nisonger Center at the Ohio State University would like to hear from you if you are a person with a disability or a person who provides support to a person with a disability. A survey is being done to find out more about health services and health care for people with disabilities. Please click the following link to share your thoughts about this issue. <https://www.facebook.com/167491856643330/posts/2628104410582050?d=n&sfns=mo>