



# MyODP News Online

November 7, 2025

Welcome to MyODP News Online Digest, a virtual publication from the Office of Developmental Programs. **The Digest now features a listing of recently published ODP webinars!**

For complete stories, please visit [MyODP News Online](#). For all available webinar recordings, please visit [MyODP's Webinar Library](#).

Story suggestions and/or comments may be sent to: [ra-pwmyodp@pa.gov](mailto:ra-pwmyodp@pa.gov).

## News Stories



### PA Self-Advocate Oscar Drummond Receives National Recognition for Leadership

Pennsylvania self-advocate Oscar Drummond was the recipient of The Betty Williams, Champion of Equal Opportunity Award in recognition of his outstanding community leadership. The award is given by the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities' (NACDD) and recognizes self-advocates that make a real difference in their communities, states, and across the country. [Read More.](#)



### National Collaborative for Supporting Families Best Practices Webinar Series

The National Collaborative for Supporting Families invites you to [register for its Supporting Families Best Practices Webinar Series](#). The National Collaborative for Supporting Families' overall goal is to support families in all their strengths and challenges so they can nurture, love, and create opportunities for their family members to thrive with independence, connection, productivity, and inclusion in every part of community life. [Read More.](#)



**Communication Corner – November 1 is Autistics Speaking Day  
Strengthening the voices of autistic individuals.**

One of the most important ways that we all connect to the world is through communication. Autistics Speaking Day provides an opportunity for autistic individuals to communicate, by telling their stories, sharing their challenges and celebrations, and expressing their interests and ambitions. It's a day for them to celebrate who they are! [Read More.](#)



**A Message from the Deputy Secretary  
Recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). On October 1, Governor Josh Shapiro signed an official declaration recognizing NDEAM in Pennsylvania. Office of Developmental Programs Deputy Secretary Kristin Ahrens shares the following message to mark the importance of disability employment initiatives in Pennsylvania and beyond. [Read More.](#)



**Lifesharing Coalition Hosts 13th Annual Conference**

On October 6th and 7th, the Pennsylvania Lifesharing Coalition hosted its 13th annual Lifesharing Conference in King of Prussia, PA. The conference, sponsored by the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), brought together supports professionals, individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and/or autism, and their families to engage in presentations about best practices for lifesharing. [Read More.](#)