

## STATE MEDICAID RECOVERS OVER \$30 MILLION

**July 28, 2009**

Contact:

Joanne Lindsay

303-866-3144

303-877-2651

[Joanne.Lindsay@state.co.us](mailto:Joanne.Lindsay@state.co.us)

DENVER – July 28, 2009 – The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing announced today that Colorado Medicaid recovered over \$30 million from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

Colorado Medicaid employs a Benefits Coordination and Program Integrity team with the sole purpose of assuring that Medicaid payments to providers are accurate and that Medicaid is the payor of last resort when clients have access to third-party funds, private insurance or Medicare

Medicaid is public health insurance for low-income families, children, pregnant women, the elderly and people with disabilities. Eligibility is based on income and family size. The program is funded jointly by a federal-state partnership and is administered by the Department.

Last year, the Department's efforts in this area netted recoveries of over \$30 million.

"Recovering dollars that belong to the state is vital to managing the state and federal Medicaid funds," says Gary Ashby, Benefits Coordination manager. "We take our responsibility to the taxpayers very seriously and recover Medicaid overpayments whether the result of a provider's mistake or fraud," says Nancy Downes, manager of Program Integrity.

"Recovering dollars that belong to the state is an important cost-containment activity," says Joan Henneberry, executive director. "We need to spend dollars wisely, improve quality by influencing how we deliver care through prevention and care-coordination and improve access by maintaining rates for primary care services and paying claims quickly."

**About the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing:** The Department administers the Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* programs as well as a variety of other programs for Colorado's low-income, elderly and people with disabilities. The mission of the Department is to improve access to cost-effective, quality health care services for Coloradans. For more information about the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, please visit [colorado.gov/hcpf](http://colorado.gov/hcpf).