

HOSPITAL PROVIDER FEE BOARD CHAIR APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR

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Contact:

Joanne.Lindsay@state.co.us

303-866-3144

DENVER – May 26, 2010 – The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing announced today that Ellen Robinson, COO, Scholar Centric, has been appointed chair of the Provider Fee Oversight and Advisory Board by Gov. Ritter. She replaces Bruce Alexander as the board’s chair and representative of a business that purchases or provides health insurance for its employees as dictated by statute.

The Provider Fee Oversight and Advisory Board is responsible for working with the department to implement the historic [Colorado Health Care Affordability Act](#). The board monitors the implementation of the bill, helps with preparation of annual reports and ensures that the Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* eligibility expansions are implemented as intended.

“Ellen has extensive experience as a leader in the business community,” said Joan Henneberry, executive director. “She has the ability to see through the eyes of employers who purchase health insurance and want to get the highest quality and most affordable health care for their employees.”

The Colorado Health Care Affordability Act, signed by Gov. Ritter in 2009, authorized the department to collect a hospital provider fee to expand health care coverage to more than 100,000 Coloradans. When fully implemented, \$600 million in fees will be matched by federal dollars for a total of \$1.2 billion annually.

The first phase of the Act was implemented on May 1, 2010 which made more children, pregnant women and parents eligible for Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus*, or CHP+, without the use of General Fund dollars.

Income eligibility for CHP+ was increased to \$55,000 per year for a family of four and parents with a child on Medicaid can make up to \$22,056 to qualify for Medicaid.

About the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing: The Department administers the Medicaid, CACP 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.

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