



# At a Glance

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Updates

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This publication contains updates from the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. Please feel free to share it with your colleagues.



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## **Breaking News**

### **Provider Payment Delay Update**

The Long Bill has been sent to Governor Hickenlooper for signature. If the bill is signed in its current form, there will not be any provider payment delays. We will post an announcement upon signature on the Department’s Web site and on the Web Portal Message Center.

### **CO-CHAMP Funding**

In mid-April, HRSA SHAP grant funding for years 3 and 4 was cut from the federal budget. The Department is awaiting official confirmation from HRSA. We will be talking with them about the continuation of funding current CO-CHAMP activities. As soon as we have received direction we will post the information on the Web site and future At a Glance editions.

*If you would like more information, please contact [Megan Wood](#).*

## **Improving Health Outcomes**

### **Accountable Care Collaborative**

All seven Regional Care Collaborative Organizations’ contracts have been awarded and program implementation has begun. This [map](#) illustrates the RCCOs and their corresponding counties. The Department sent enrollment [letters](#) to 521 Medicaid clients in Weld County (RCCO 2- Colorado Access) in April notifying them of their enrollment in the ACC program effective May 1. Only five clients chose to opt-out of the program.

For a June start date, the Department will send letters to approximately 4,000 more clients living in Northeast Colorado (RCCO 2- Colorado Access); approximately 5,000 thousand clients on the Western Slope and in Larimer County (RCCO 1- Rocky Mountain Health Plan); and approximately 5,900 clients in Southern Colorado, including Pueblo, Huerfano and Las Animas Counties (RCCO 4- Integrated Community Health Partners) will receive letters in May for a June start date. *If you would like more information, please contact [Sarah Roberts](#).*

### **The CRS Team**

The executive directors of the [Department of Health Care Policy and Financing](#), Sue Birch; the [Department of Public Health and Environment](#), Dr. Chris Urbina; and the [Department of Human Services](#), Reggie Bicha; have made a commitment to collaborate as the CRS Team (Chris, Reggie, Sue) This collaboration is a strong and a natural fit as these three sister agencies have complementary roles in supporting optimal health for Coloradans.

The CRS Team will work to improve efficiency, decrease red tape, and lower costs throughout the three departments. The CRS Team is traveling statewide to receive input and recommendations. The counties' daily interaction with clients and processes will provide invaluable input, which will be used to improve processes and to create or change policy.

The directors will also meet on a weekly basis to discuss health and human services' issues and how best to streamline programs across departments to ensure that clients are receiving the right services, in the right way, at the right time. The goal: get people what they need.

The team will examine program rules that may conflict with one another, evaluate where programs are best housed, and determine how to use dollars most efficiently. The CRS team will measure its effectiveness through collaboration and the use of good data to measure progress.

We will keep you updated on the progress being made by the CRS Team and our partners. *If you would like more information, please contact [Joanne Lindsay](#).*

### **Funding Received to Improve Care for “Dual Eligibles”**

Colorado was selected as one of 15 states to pioneer strategies to improve efficiency and lower costs for people receiving both Medicare and Medicaid, or the “dual eligibles”. Colorado will receive \$995,914 over 18 months to develop a plan to assist approximately 80,000 Coloradans who are covered by Medicare and Medicaid. We will work with clients, their families and other stakeholders to develop our demonstration proposal that will focus on coordinating acute and chronic care, behavioral health and long-term supports and services.



After federal review of the proposals, CMS will work with states to implement the plans that hold the most promise.

*If you would like more information, please contact [Joanne Lindsay](#).*

### **Healthy Living Initiatives**

#### **Health on the Go**

Traveling this summer? Visit the [CDC](#) site to learn about required vaccinations, illnesses and injury abroad and travel-related diseases.

### **Partner Support**

#### **Regional Conferences**

Regional conferences are around the corner. Beginning in May, the Department will hold six regional conferences. Days 1 and 2 of the conferences will focus on outreach topics. Community-based organizations, external community partners, and advocates interested in learning more about public

health insurance and Department updates are invited to register. Days 3 and 4 of the conferences will focus on policy training. Medical assistance eligibility specialists and managers and CBMS users and trainers are invited to register. Please visit our Web site under "What's New" for updates and registration information for the upcoming conferences.

*If you would like more information, please contact [Andrea Skubal](#).*

## **Employment Opportunities**

Applying for state jobs has just become easier! Applications are electronic, you will receive updates, and you do not need to answer any written questions until it is determined that you meet the minimum qualifications. Check out the new [Web site](#) and our jobs.

The Department offers a competitive benefits package that includes the Public Employees Retirement Account (PERA), a 401K or 457 retirement plan, health and dental insurance options, 10 holidays, accrual of paid sick and vacation time.

The Department is centrally located and offers affordable ECO passes and has a fitness center on-site. A variety of discounts on services and products are available to state employees through the State of Colorado's Work-Life Employee Discount Program. The Department also offers the ability to take advantage of college tuition through CSU Global for their employees.

The Department is a tobacco-free campus.

## **Enrollment**



In March 2011, 578,192 clients were on Medicaid and 70,438 clients were in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's Web site, [Budget](#).