



At a Glance

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Updates March 29, 2012

This publication updates you on major Department initiatives including policy changes and program updates. Please feel free to share it with your colleagues and contact the designated staff person if you would like more information.

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Breaking News

Adults Without Dependent Children Program Launches April 1

The [Adults without Dependent Children program \(AwDC\)](#) will provide Medicaid benefits to 10,000 eligible adults, ages 19 through 64, who are at or below 10% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), do not have a Medicaid-eligible dependent child living in the home and who are ineligible for Medicare and other Medicaid programs. Applications will be accepted beginning April 1, 2012. All applicants determined eligible between April 1, 2012 and May 15, 2012 will participate in a randomized member selection process.

The initial randomized selection process will occur in mid-May and is limited to 10,000 clients. All others determined eligible, but not selected, will remain on a waitlist. Benefits for those

selected will be retroactive to May 1, 2012. The AwDC program was authorized by the Colorado Health Care Affordability Act (HB 09-1293) and is paid by the [Hospital Provider Fee](#) and federal funds; no Colorado general funds are used in this program.

To assist guiding your clients through the application and enrollment process, the Department has several resources on the [Benefits for Adults without Dependent Children Web page](#). You will find examples of various materials including a one-page flyer to use in your agency, fact sheets, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and a correspondence and desk guide.

For more information, please contact [Susan Mathieu](#) at 303-866-3582 or [Andrea Skubal](#) at 303-866-3632.

Improving Long-Term Services and Supports Delivery System

Long-Term Care Advisory Committee Appointments

Executive Director Sue Birch has appointed two additional members to the [Long-Term Care Advisory Committee](#) (LTCAC). Renee Boyes Walbert, a founding member of Parent to Parent of Colorado, was appointed to represent children and family members. Vivian Stovall, Chairperson of the Colorado Commission on Aging, was appointed to represent the aging population. Complete LTCAC member contact information is available on the [LTCAC web page](#).

The LTCAC conducted an all-day strategic planning retreat in March to identify strategic priorities in Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) in Colorado. The draft strategic planning document is available on the LTCAC [March 6, 2012](#) portion of the Web page.

The LTCAC meets again in Denver on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. in the 1st Floor Conference Room at 225 E. 16th Avenue. The purpose of this meeting will be to finalize the strategic initiatives developed at the March 6 retreat. Please [see the agenda](#) for this upcoming meeting.

For more information or to be added to this email distribution list, please contact [John Barry](#) or 303-866-3173.

Upcoming Dual Eligible Demonstration Contract Stakeholder Meeting

April 20, 2012 will be the next Dual Eligible Demonstration Contract stakeholder meeting. To provide greater participation, the Department will facilitate two concurrent meetings--one in person and another via Webex/conference call. The meeting will run from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

This is a change from previous meetings to increase the ability of call-in participants to share feedback and input. Notes from both meetings will be posted on the [Dual Eligible Web page](#). Click [here](#) for meeting location and call-in information.

RSVP to [Laura Pionke](#) at 303-866-3980 by April 16 and indicate whether you will attend in person or call in to the meeting; you may also contact Laura if you have questions. To best accommodate individual needs, the Department asks that requests be made at least seven days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Improving Health Outcomes

Accountable Care Collaborative Update

To date the [Accountable Care Collaborative](#) (ACC) has enrolled 107,167 members who are served by 107 PCMP's, which represent 1,700 individual practitioners.

Ongoing stakeholder input is crucial to the success of this program. Anyone interested in the program is invited to attend the quarterly ACC Program Improvement Advisory Committee meetings. The next meeting will be held April 18, 2012, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at 225 East 16th Avenue, 1st Floor Conference Room. All meetings are open to the public and your participation is welcomed.

For more information, please contact [Marceil Case](#) at 303-866-3054.

Containing Health Care Costs

Colorado Medicaid Launches Telehealth Services

Telehealth services are now available to Medicaid clients meeting specific [program eligibility criteria](#). Telehealth enables the remote collection of vital signs such as weight, temperature, blood glucose levels, blood pressure, pulse and lung functions. Several studies, including one in 2011 from [Centura Health at Home](#), have shown telehealth services to reduce hospital readmissions.

Collection of vital signs can often be made in real or near-real time and is particularly beneficial for those in rural or remote parts of Colorado who would need to travel great distances for routine medical monitoring. However, the program is not limited to rural clients.

The telehealth program is funded by the [Colorado Foundation for Home Care Technology and Education](#) from a \$224,000 grant received from the [Colorado Health Foundation](#).

For more information, please contact [Guinevere Blodgett](#) at 303-866-5927.

CHP+ Copayments Update

Beginning July 1, 2012, there will be a change in copayment amounts for some Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) members. Clients in the State Managed Care Network (SMCN) will receive new member ID cards in mid-June which will list their new copayment amounts. Clients in other managed care organizations will receive information about copayments from their individual plans.

To help clients and stakeholders stay current on the changes, the Department has posted a [Summary of Copayment Changes on the CHP+ Web page](#). Please visit the Web page often between now and July 1, 2012 for Department updates, sample letters to clients informing them about the changes, and other resources that will be posted on this site in mid-April.

For more information, regarding the SMCN please contact [Alan Kislowitz](#) at 303-866-3646. For all other health plans contact [Teresa Craig](#) at 303-866-3586.

Increasing the Number of Insured Coloradans

Update on Medicaid Buy-In for Working Adults with Disabilities (Adult Buy-In)

Since launching the Adult Buy-In program on March 1, the Department has [updated FAQs](#) based on feedback from our partners and other stakeholders. The Department has also updated a number of [reference documents and guides](#) available for download from the [Adult Buy-In Web page](#).

As a reminder, the Adult Buy-In program is for adults with disabilities ages 16 through 64, who are employed and whose income and/or resources were previously too high to qualify for Medicaid. Adult Buy-In allows eligible clients to pay a monthly premium based on their income to access Medicaid benefits.

Visit the [Adult Buy-In Web page](#) for more information or contact [Martha Beavers](#) at 303-866-3998, or [Kimberley Smith](#) at 303-866-3991.

2012 FPL Income Charts Available

The Department has published updated income limits for the various Medical Assistance categories. Updated income limit charts for the Family Medicaid and CHP+ categories are posted on the Department [Web site](#), while increased income limits for Medicare Savings Program and Low Income Subsidy are found within Agency Letter [HCPF 12-005](#).

For more information, please contact [Medicaid Eligibility](#) at 303-866-3048.

Increasing Access to Health Care

IAPD Process - ACA Implementation Update

The Department will be submitting an Implementation Advance Planning Document (IAPD) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to secure federal funding for Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation as it pertains to public programs. Background on this planning process is available on the Department's [planning Web page](#). The IAPD will consist of enrollment process improvements and technology enhancements including real-time eligibility determinations. Once funding is secure, the Department will reach out to stakeholders to provide feedback and participate in the design and testing of different pieces as they come to fruition between now and 2015.

For more information on the IAPD process, please contact [Megan Wood](#) at 303-866-5925.

Health Care Reform Summit, May 14 and 15 – Save the Date!

The Department will be hosting the "Health Care Reform Implementation, Health and Human Services Summit" on May 14 and 15. The Summit will provide an overview of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) provisions and Colorado's vision for a more effective, efficient and elegant delivery of health care services for the state. The Summit will include information on planned changes to eligibility processes and caseloads for Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+), describe planned technology and organizational changes to support ACA provisions for expanded health care coverage, and discuss potential impacts on county Health and Human Services agencies.

The summit is primarily designed for county and state health and human services professionals involved with Medicaid and other health care assistance programs, but other health and human services professionals are also welcome to attend.

Space is limited and advanced registration is required. [Click here](#) to register; the formal agenda will be forthcoming.

For more information, please contact [Cindi Terra](#) at 303-866-5459.

Healthy Living Initiatives

Baseline measures of health status for the Medicaid population



Through our Healthy Living Initiatives, the Department has identified baseline measures to track population health in the areas of oral health for children, depression, obesity and tobacco use. The performance indicators include both outcome and process measures. These measures are outlined in the Healthy Living Performance Measures, on our [Healthy Living web page](#).

Some of the key health measures for Medicaid recipients in Colorado:

- 49% of children (ages 0-20) have received dental services in the past year
- 9% of adolescents (ages 12-17) have received a diagnosis of depression in the past year
- 19% of adults (ages 18-65) have received a diagnosis of depression in the past year
- 29% of children (ages 0-14) are overweight or obese
- 56% of adults (ages 18-74) are overweight or obese
- 29% of adults (ages 18-65) report using tobacco every day or some days

If you would like more information about the Department's Healthy Living Initiatives, please visit our [Healthy Living Web page](#) or contact [Lisa Waugh](#) at 303-866-2029.

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 job openings.

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, and accrual of paid sick and vacation time.

The Department is a tobacco-free campus.

Enrollment

In February 2012 there were 626,106 clients enrolled in Medicaid and 81,665 clients enrolled in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's Budget Web page .
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