



# At a Glance

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Updates

September 27, 2012

Please feel free to share this publication with your colleagues. We strive to keep you up-to-date. Please let us know how we can improve the publication by sending your comments to [Joanne Zahora](#).

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## **Breaking News**

### **Lorez Meinhold joins the Department as the Community Partnerships Director**

Lorez Meinhold joined our workforce September 24, 2012 as our Community Partnerships Director and Deputy Executive Director. This Office will focus on strengthening relationships between the Department and our partners—advocacy organizations, providers, and other units of government.

Lorez brings a wealth of experiences and leadership in state government and health care advocacy to this new role.

To view the press release, please [click here](#).

### **Tom Massey joins the Department as the Policy and Communications Director**

Tom will have the responsibility for the management of government relations and communications as the Policy and Communications Director.

Tom served as a state legislator representing Colorado House District 60 (Poncha Springs, Salida) for eight years. He was a member of the Health and Environment Committee and chaired the House Education Committee. He sponsored several pieces of health care legislation, some of which included prescription drug monitoring, home health care, health information technology and electronic prescriptions in Medicaid.

Tom will join the Department in October.

To view the press release and receive more information, please click [here](#).

## **CHP+ and Medicaid Policy Changes – January 1, 2012**

Effective January 2013, there will be changes in policies involving income limit changes and the change in eligibility and state employee eligibility for CHP+.

The policy changes include:

- Changes will align Medicaid eligibility for children at 133% FPL eliminating the “stair step” for children. This is a result of the passage of SB 10-08
- Medicaid income eligibility for pregnant women will be increased. The Medicaid income level will increase from 133% to 185% FPL enrolling many pregnant women in Medicaid that had previously qualified for CHP+.
- CHP+ HMO will not be selected at the time of application.
- The CHP+ at Work Program will be eliminated.
- Children of state employees are eligible for CHP+ if the children meet all eligibility criteria.



If you would like more detailed information, please see the [fact sheet](#) or contact [Alan Kislowitz](#).

## **Improving Health Outcomes**

### **Dual Eligible Demonstration Project**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reviewed Colorado’s proposal and responded with a series of formal questions. We are working collaboratively to prepare our responses which are due in early October.

The Dual Eligibles Advisory Subcommittee met for the first time on September 12, 2012 with great success. Julie Farrar and Sheryl Bellinger were selected from the membership to serve as Subcommittee Co-Chairs. We expect adoption of the subcommittee’s charter and operating procedures’ guidelines at the next meeting and look forward to the subcommittee’s continued support and input. As always, subcommittee meetings are open to all and we will notify you in advance with complete details. All information is available on our [web page](#).

We appreciate your ongoing support of efforts to better integrate care for dual eligible individuals in Colorado.

If you would like more information please contact [Teri Bolinger](#).

## **Improve the Long-Term Services and Supports Delivery System**

### **Community Living Advisory Group (CLAG)**

The Governor’s Office signed an [Executive Order](#) in July directing the Department to establish the Office of Community Living and the CLAG to help meet the growing need for Long-term Services and Supports (LTSS) by people with disabilities and aging adults.

The CLAG held its first meeting on August 28, 2012 and has agreed to meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Due to the large number in attendance at the initial meeting the Department is searching for an appropriate location for the CLAG. The next meeting of the CLAG will be held on Monday, October 22 and the location will be announced in advance.

Member and meeting information can be found at the [CLAG web page](#).

For more information or to receive updates about the CLAG, please contact [John Barry](#).

## **Inaugural Aging & Disability Services Summit**

The departments of Health Care Policy and Financing, Human Services, and Public Health and Environment, and other state, local, and non-profit organizations, are pleased to announce Colorado's Inaugural Aging & Disability Services Summit: *Together, Forging a Path to the Top*. The event will be held **November 13 – 15, 2012** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The purpose of this inaugural assembly is to offer high caliber training and professional development for both private and public sector health and human services professionals who provide services to older adults, vulnerable adults, and persons with disabilities. The overall objective of the event is to promote collaboration, innovation, education, skills, and leadership to enhance service delivery to these populations throughout Colorado.

The target audience will include: academicians, advocates, county and state agency staff, caregivers, consumers, family members, funders, health care professionals, advocates, service providers, law enforcement, legal community, professionals, researchers, and other interested parties in the field.

To register, please click [here](#).

If you belong to an organization that might be interested in supporting the summit by having an exhibitor table at the event, please contact [John Barry](#).

## **LTCAC Subcommittees**



The Department is excited about the progress being made to implement the LTSS strategic initiatives created by the LTCAC.

The LTCAC has formed four subcommittees to implement transformation in the following areas:

1. Care Coordination
2. Consumer Direction
3. Entry Point and Eligibility
4. Waiver Modernization

These subcommittees began work in August and are scheduled to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, prior to the LTCAC meetings. The LTCAC and subcommittee meetings are open to the public.

For more information contact [John Barry](#) or visit the [LTCAC FY 12-13 Meetings web page](#).



## **Healthy Living Initiatives**

### **Top Five Innovations**

Two years ago the Department began work on the Healthy Living Initiatives, addressing issues of health promotion and disease prevention for Medicaid and CHP+ clients.

The Department has identified four priority areas for health promotion: oral health, behavioral health (with a focus on depression), nutrition and fitness (with a focus on obesity), and tobacco cessation. Following are the top five innovations for the first two years. Details are available on the [Healthy Living](#) web page:

- The Healthy Living leadership team collaborates extensively with prevention partners statewide.
- The Healthy Living web page provides information on [trends in population health](#), and outlines indicators for tracking changes in the health of the Medicaid population over time.
- The [Demographic Profile of Medicaid Clients](#) provides information on Medicaid participants in Colorado, in terms of income level, geographic distribution, age, gender, and ethnicity. This informs population health planning.
- New opportunities are proposed for [evidence-based prevention programming](#) for Medicaid clients, including chronic disease self-management, and nurse home visitation.
- An improved and [expanded client engagement](#) process has begun at the Department in order to more effectively involve clients and families in their own health, and engage clients as advisors to the Department.

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

## **Medical Services Board**

### **Call for Medical Services Board Applications**

The Medical Services Board and the Department are seeking individuals who are interested in becoming members of the Medical Services Board. The [Medical Services Board](#) is responsible for adopting regulations that govern the Department's programs. Members of the Board represent various areas of health care services.

Applications are submitted through the [Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions](#). Anyone interested in applying is encouraged to contact [Judi Carey](#) for additional information.

Regular meetings of the Board are scheduled in Denver the second Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m., at 225 East 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> floor conference room. Board meetings are open to the public and testimony is welcomed. Contact information and member biographies are available at [About the Board](#).

The next meeting is Friday, September 14, 2012. You can find the agenda and draft copies of proposed rules posted to the Department Web site one week prior to each meeting on the [Meeting Schedule](#) page. For those who can't attend meetings in person, a live audio broadcast of Board meetings is available on the [Live Broadcast](#) web page.

### **Public Rule Review Opportunities**

Partners who are interested in a one-on-one discussion with Department staff about upcoming rules are invited to attend the Department's Public Rule Review Meeting. Information is available on the [Public Rule Review Meetings](#) web page. Reasonable accommodations for the meetings are provided upon request for persons with disabilities.

*For more information or to be added to the Board email distribution list for updates on Board activities, please contact [Judi Carey](#).*

## **Employment Opportunities**

Applying for state government jobs is easy. 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 August 2012 there were 655,796 clients enrolled in Medicaid and 85,569 clients enrolled in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's [Budget Web page](#).



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