

Transferring Division for Developmental Disabilities (HB 13-1314) Background & Frequently Asked Questions

What will HB 13-1314 do?

Currently the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) and Department of Human Services (DHS) both administer Medicaid waiver programs. HCPF administers eight of the state's twelve Medicaid waivers. HB 13-1314 will transfer three waivers from the DHS to HCPF to eliminate system fragmentation, and improve the efficiency of the programs.

What is a "waiver"?

Waivers are Medicaid programs which have additional benefits to meet the needs of certain populations. Examples of additional benefits for those on waiver programs can include, home and community based services, home or vehicle modifications, day services and personal care depending on the waiver program. Waiver programs, unlike regular Medicaid, have enrollment limits and many programs have waitlists. An extensive list and descriptions of waiver programs and benefits for Adults and Children is posted on Colorado.gov/hcpf.

Which waiver programs does the Department of Human Services administer?

The Department of Human Services currently administers the following waivers, the **first three** will move to HCPF as a result of HB 13-1314:

- 1. Supported Living Services (Adults),
- 2. Developmental Disabilities (Adults),
- 3. Children's Extensive Support (Children), and
- 4. Children's Habilitation Residential Program (Children).

What are the benefits of transferring the waivers?

Moving waiver programs administered by the Department of Human Services' Division for Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing will help realign and simplify Colorado's Medicaid waiver system. The move will:

- Improve system navigation for clients and caregivers;
- Reduce duplication or variances in program rules;
- Allow Colorado to better leverage federal funding opportunities available through health care reform;
- Align planning and implementation efforts across programs and grant initiatives.

Have stakeholders been involved in process?

Yes, over the past 18 months, HCPF and DHS have held dozens of meetings with stakeholder groups including: Community Centered Boards, clients, parents and family members of clients, and others who could be affected by this realignment.

In July 2012, Governor Hickenlooper created the Office of Community Living and the Community Living Advisory Group. The Community Living Advisory Group includes representatives from across the long-term services and supports system, which provides an additional stakeholder forum to continue discussing long term services and supports redesign, including transfer of waiver programs.

What happens next, when would this legislation be effective?

The Colorado General Assembly is currently considering HB 13-1314. More details about implementation will be available as the legislation moves through the process. HCPF and DHS will be working together to ensure impacted staff and stakeholders are kept up to date on the implementation of this legislation.

If you have questions about the legislation please contact the below.

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