Assistance Programs

Eligibility for each program is determined on an individual basis according to State and Federal Guidelines.

Food Assistance

This is a federally funded program. It is designed to safeguard the health and well-being of both families and individuals by raising the level of nutrition. Food Assistance is issued through an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card.

Medicaid

The Colorado Medical Assistance Act provides eligible low-income Colorado individuals with medical coverage ranging from pre-natal to nursing home care. Other medical programs are available including transitional Medicaid benefits, emergency services, and CHP+, (Child Health Plan *Plus*).

CCCAP (Colorado Child Care Assistance Program)

This program provides eligible families with financial assistance for child care of their choice and allows them timely and efficient access to appropriate childcare. This includes childcare for low-income parents, childcare for work program participants, and special circumstance childcare for those who meet Child Welfare criteria.

Colorado Works

The Colorado Works Program serves low-income families with children by providing income assistance and supportive services to help participants become and remain self-sufficient. It is federally funded with TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) dollars.

TANF recipients are required to participate in work related activities designed to prepare them to accept and retain employment.

LEAP (Low Income Energy Assistance Program)

This federally mandated and funded program helps low-income households pay their home heating costs from November 1-April 30 of each year. Most LEAP payments are made directly to heat or fuel providers.

OAP (Old Age Pension)

This program provides financial assistance and medical benefits to low income adults age 60 and older.

AND (Aid to the Needy Disabled)

This program provides financial assistance to disabled individuals from ages 18 through 59. To be eligible, clients must also apply or have applied for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Child Support Enforcement

Child Support Enforcement provides services for the establishment of paternity, child support and medical support when available. It also provides services for the enforcement of child support financial orders and medical support orders and modifies existing support orders. It does NOT establish or enforce custody or visitation issues. There is a $20.00 application fee.

Child Welfare

To offer a specialized set of services intended to strengthen the ability of families to protect and care for their children, minimize harm to children and ensure permanency planning. Services are provided without regard to income. Fees may apply to some of the services provided based on income.

Services Available:

- **Child protection** – investigation for abused/neglected children and their families/or for children and their families who are at high risk for abuse/neglect.
- **Youth in conflict** – assessment provided to reduce or eliminate conflict between youth, their family members or the community.
- **Out of home placement** – range of services includes kinship care, foster home care, child placement agency foster and group care, residential child care facilities; also includes recruitment, certification and on-going monitoring and support of kinship and foster care homes. On-going services provided to children when placed in out-of-home placement facilities.
- **Children and youth in need of specialized services** – adoption/subsidized adoption or other long term options; children eligible for home and community based services or home health care

services; recruitment of adoptive parents or other long term options for children.

Adult Protection Services

Adult protection services are designed to intervene with or on the behalf of at-risk adults to correct or alleviate situations in which actual or imminent danger or abuse, neglect, or exploitation exists and to utilize support systems to provide continuing safety from the incidents of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Services are provided without regard to income.

Services Available:

- Investigation of reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation.
- Case management/monitoring.
- Guardianships, representative payee, money management.
- Education and advocacy.

Core Services Expedited Permanency

Treatment services for families who have one or more children who are at risk for out of home placement. The purpose of the treatment is to increase safety/nurturing in the home and to help families live together better. In the case of children who are in placement, the purpose is to reduce time in placement or keep a child in a family-like setting, when possible, rather than in a residential treatment facility. Services are provided without regard to income. Fees may apply if a child is in placement.

Services Available – Core Services Programs may include any of the following elements of service:

- **Therapeutic Services:** Interactive parenting, family therapy, support groups, educational groups, problem solving methods, communication skills, and family conflict management.
- **Therapeutic Education:** Interactive Therapeutic Educational Environment, Group Therapy, family Therapy problem solving methods, communication skills, and family, authority and peer conflict management.
- **Concrete services:** Concentrated assistance in the development and enhancement of parenting skills, stress reduction, problem solving, communication skills, budget and household management and recreational activities.

- **Collateral services:** Teaching families to work with community agencies such as health care, mental health treatment services, substance abuse treatment, job training, information and referral, advocacy groups, housing assistance agencies and schools.
- **Crisis intervention services:** Phone or in-home counseling, medical services, respite or other intervention necessary to resolve the immediate crisis.