



As part of the Polis-Primavera Administration's vision to build a Colorado for All, the administration has made significant investments to support Coloradans with disabilities as we recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### How the Polis Administration is Supporting Coloradans with Disabilities

- Hired a Disability Policy Advisor in the Office of the Lt. Governor
- Lt. Governor Primavera meets regularly with members of the disability community, including representatives of the Arc of Colorado, Colorado Cross Disability Coalition, Developmental Disabilities Council, Centers for Independent Living, Disability Law Colorado, Family Voices, Mental Wellness Network, MINDSOURCE, along with many others
- Administered the Colorado Disability Funding Committee, raising \$62,470 for organizations that provide innovative support for people with disabilities.

#### Behavioral Health

- Governor Polis created the Behavioral Health Task Force in 2019, including the Co-Occurring Disabilities workgroup, to collect stakeholder feedback on how to improve mental and behavioral health services across the state
- Governor Polis signed legislation creating the Behavioral Health Administration to put people first and streamline Colorado's behavioral health system
- The Administration is collaborating with legislators on the SB21-137 interim committee to maximize the benefit of federal funds for behavioral health care

#### American Rescue Plan Act Funding

- The Administration will be investing \$500-\$700 million over 3 years for Medicaid Home and Community Based Services
  - ◆ Strengthen the Workforce and Enhance Rural Sustainability
  - ◆ Improve Crisis and Acute Services
  - ◆ Improve Access to HCBS for Underserved Populations
  - ◆ Support Post COVID Recovery and HCBS Innovation
  - ◆ Strengthen Case Management Redesign
  - ◆ Invest in Tools and Technology
  - ◆ Expand Emergency Preparedness
  - ◆ Enhance Quality Outcomes
- The Administration will also invest over \$450 million into housing in collaboration with the Legislature during an interim committee process.



Legislative Accomplishments

- SB21-205 the “Long Bill” or state budget, which restored Medicaid provider rate cuts from the 2020 budget
- SB21-039 eliminates sub-minimum wage for people with disabilities
- SB21-095 continues the Employment First Advisory Partnership and creates a state disability hiring incentive pilot
- SB21-099 continues the Colorado Disability Funding Committee, which maximizes support for new and innovative programs benefiting Colorado’s disability community
- HB21-1110 will ensure people with disabilities can seek remedies for failure to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and makes state and local government websites accessible to everyone, no matter their ability
- HB21-1014 and HB21-1122 will improve interactions and outcomes between people with disabilities, law enforcement, and first responders
- SB21-075 will allow some people with disabilities to use supported decision making instead of guardianship, giving them more control of their own lives
- SB21-138 and HB21-1211 will better assess and support people with brain injuries in the criminal justice system
- SB21-188 increases voting access by enabling some voters with disabilities to vote electronically, securely and privately
- HB21-1169 prohibits discrimination against a potential organ transplant on the basis of disability