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Breaking News

New FPL Guidelines – April 1, 2013

Effective April 1, 2013, the federal poverty level guidelines have been updated. You may find the updated tables here for CHP+ and here for Family Medicaid.

What is the Affordable Care Act?

The Affordable Care Act, or ACA, can be complicated and is moving fast. To help you stay “in the know”, please click here to access the latest edition of the ACA Implementation News publication.

The ACA Implementation News is published twice a month and includes information on the work being done to prepare Colorado for implementing the Affordable Care Act, and as that work moves forward, it will include specific details beneficial to all who are charged with implementation of the ACA.

Improve the Long-Term Services and Supports Delivery System

Colorado Choice Transitions Launches

The Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT) program is now ready to take referrals and enroll clients. CCT is a \$22 million, five-year grant initiative that is expected to move approximately 490 Medicaid clients from nursing homes into home- and community-based settings.



Clients who are willing and able to live in their communities will receive enhanced home and community-based services (HCBS). The program’s objective is to provide Medicaid

At a Glance

clients who use long-term services and supports with choices about how, when and where they want to receive their services. Services are intended to promote independence, improve the transition process, and support individuals in the community.

Colorado Choice Transitions requires that participants meet the eligibility requirements for Long-Term Care Medicaid, and:



- Are 18 years of age or older;
- Have Medicaid eligibility for at least one day before discharging from a nursing facility;
- Reside in a long-term care facility for 90 consecutive days or more, (rehabilitation days do not count toward the 90 day minimum); and
- Are willing to move into qualified housing.

If you would like more information, please visit Colorado.gov/hcpf/CCT.

Long-Term Services and Supports Committee Thank You

Thanks again to all who contributed to the work of the Long-Term Care Advisory Committee (LTCAC). As reported in last month's At a Glance, the committee's last meeting was held earlier in March; its subcommittees will continue their work. Their work was critically important at bringing input into the Department around LTSS. Thank you again to all who participated, your work will be put to good use going forward.

For a link to the Strategic Plan developed by the Committee please click [here](#).

Department Bills

[HB13-1068](#) (Rep. Young/Sen. Roberts) On-site Inspections of Medicaid Providers

Bill Summary: Federal law mandates that CMS, its designated contractors, or the State Medicaid agency have the authority to conduct unannounced on-site inspections of any and all provider locations. Our state statute says the Department must give a provider 10 days notice of a request for records review and must give the provider the option to either provide the records or conduct an onsite inspection. This bill would change state statute to align with federal law that is designed to protect clients and provide another mechanism to guard against fraud, waste, and abuse.

Status: *Passed out of Senate Health and Human Services unanimously and headed to the Senate for final approval.*

[SB13-044](#) (Sen. Nicholson/Rep. Coram) Concerning Incentive Payments in Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan Agreements

Bill Summary: A Prepaid Inpatient Health Program (PIHP), under contract with the Department, provides medical services to our clients including any inpatient hospital or institutional services. Currently the state has one PIHP administered by Rocky Mountain Health Plans; we pay them a capitated payment to provide health services to Medicaid clients. In addition, we pay a performance incentive to qualifying PIHPs if they meet certain health performance metrics. If met, current statute requires the Department to pay that incentive payment within six months of providing service. The Department has been unable to pay the PIHP incentive payment within six months as required by statute which puts us at risk for CMS disallowance of the federal match. This potentially risks over \$1 million in General Fund monies. This bill will remove unfeasible six month deadline from statute and replace with "within a reasonable period following the end of each fiscal year".

Status: *Signed into law by the Governor on Friday, March 22, 2013.*

[HB13-1199](#) (Rep. Pettersen/Sen. Kefalas) Concerning Clarifications to the Statute Governing Provider Fees Paid by Nursing Facilities.

Bill Summary: HB13-1199 will clarify the definition of a Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRC) without affecting any facilities that are currently considered a CCRC. It will also align the reporting requirements of nursing facilities with original intent of SB09-263 and the Department's current practice.

Status: Passed successfully out of both chambers and is awaiting Governor's signature into law.

[SB13-200](#) (Sen. Aguilar/Rep. Ferrandino) Medicaid Expansion

Bill Summary: This bill allows the income eligibility level for parents and caretaker relatives of Medicaid children and adults without a dependent child to be expanded up to 133% of Federal Poverty Level.



Status: Passed out of Senate Health and Human Services on a vote of 5-2 and will be heard next in Senate Appropriations committee.

Contain Costs

CORHIO e-Newsletter

CORHIO is a nonprofit, public-private partnership that is improving health care quality for all Coloradans through implementation of health information exchange (HIE). CORHIO is [designated by the State of Colorado](#) to facilitate HIE. To learn more about HIE, please read the [Newsletter](#).

Medical Services Board

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 [website](#) for state of Colorado jobs including the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing jobs.

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 2013 there were 693,865 clients enrolled in Medicaid and 76,825 clients enrolled in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's [Budget](#) Web page.



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