

# COVID-19 Updates

Colorado Department of  
Health Care Policy & Financing

May 8, 2020

# Overview

## Executive Director Update

- Kim Bimestefer, Executive Director, HCPF

## Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Update

- Greg Schlosser, Branch Chief, CDPHE

## Colorado Department of Labor & Employment (CLDE) Update

- Caitlin Adams, State Advisor on Disability Employment, CDLE

## Connect to Care

## Residential Settings Strike Force Update

## New Guidance

## Provider Resources

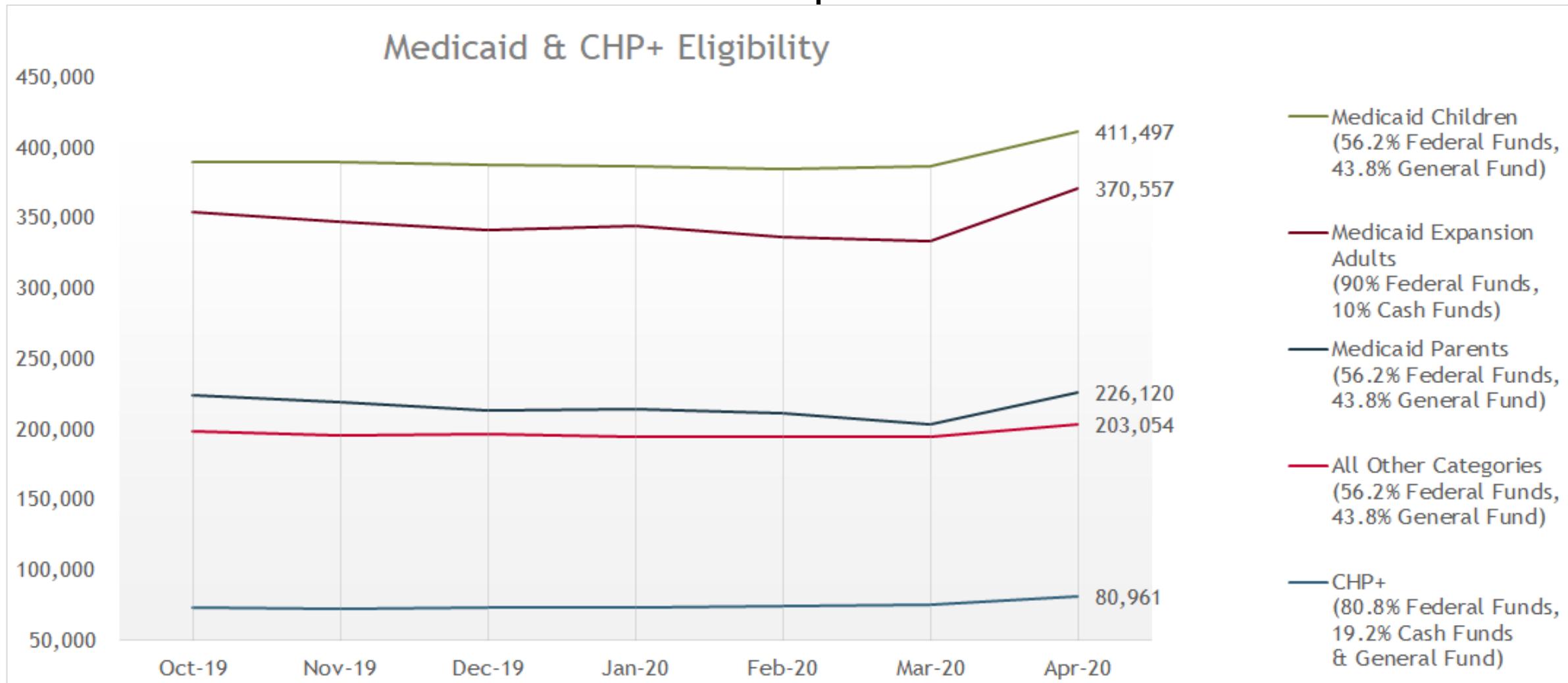
- Bonnie Silva, Office of Community Living Director, HCPF

# HCPF Executive Director Update

- Eligibility and Membership Surge
- Budget Update & Questions
- Service Update

# Medicaid Category Enrollment

Enrollments and composition over time



# Continuous Enrollment Impact

	New Members	Disenrolled Members	Locked-in (disenrolled)	Locked-in (lower category)	Net Change in enrollment	Total enrollment (MA)	COVID-19 Testing Only
January	34,080	38,530	0	0		1,259,195	
February	24,882	34,424	0	0	-9,596	1,249,599	
March	29,264	42,650	0	0	-13,331	1,236,268	
April	32,580	7,053	47,033	497	25,527	1,261,795	139
May			55,516				23

**New Member:** Members who started receiving MA benefits in that month, and who were not eligible the previous month

**Disenrolled:** Members who terminated *as of the end of previous month* (Members are locked in the first of the month after their benefits would have ended)

**Locked-in (disenrolled):** Members who would have been disenrolled at the end of the previous month, but were locked-in their MA benefit due to *Maintenance of Effort (MOE)*

**Locked-in (lower category):** Members who would have switched to a lower MA benefit, but were locked in due to *Maintenance of Effort (MOE)*

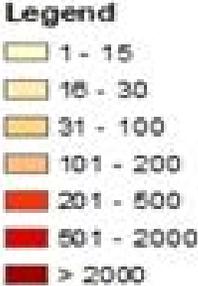
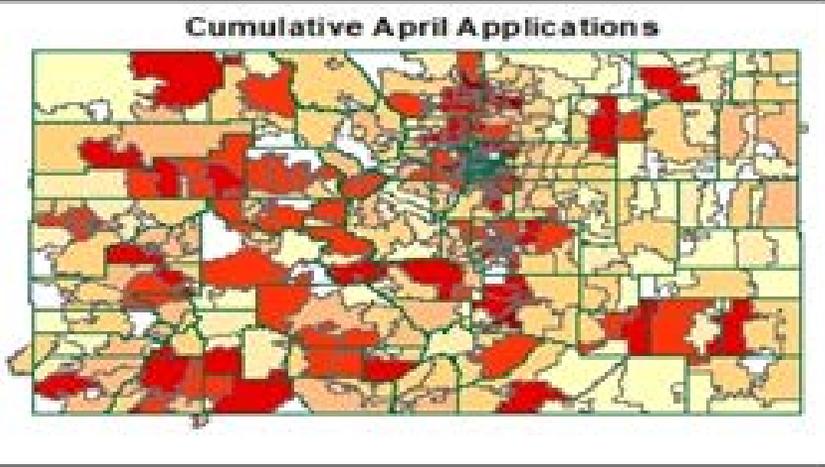
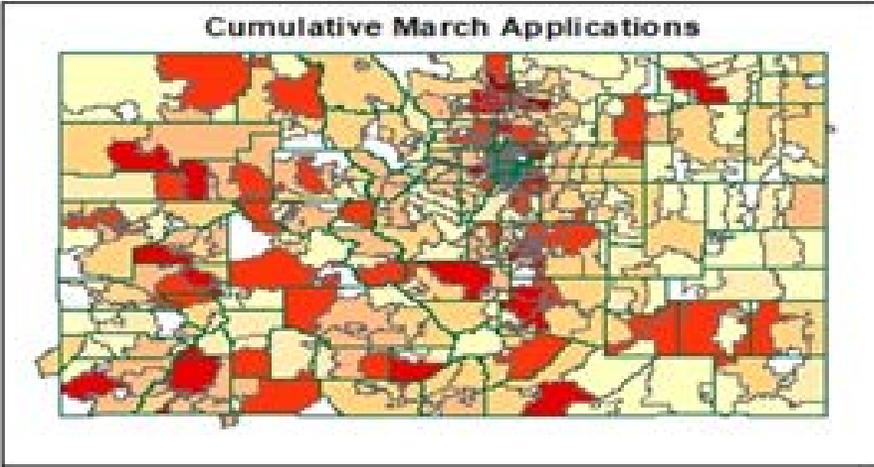
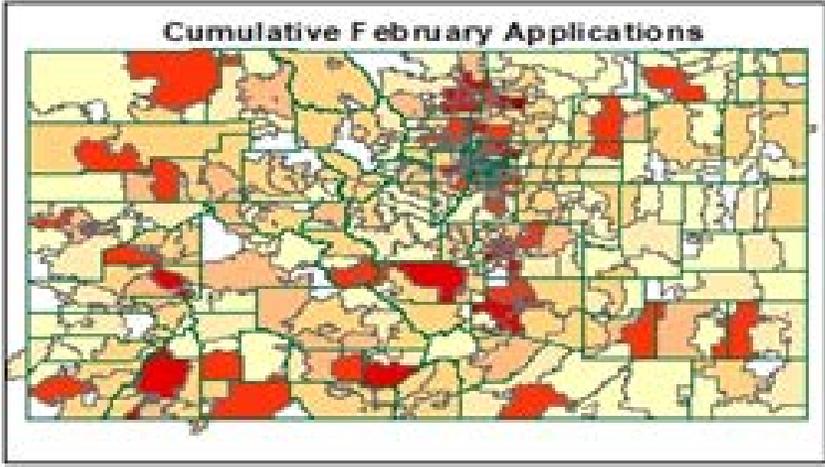
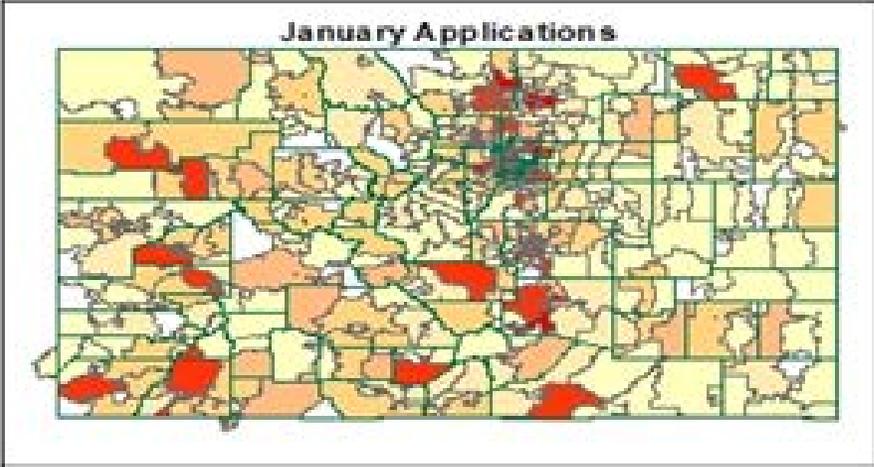
**Net Change:** Net change in Total Enrollment compared to previous month

**Total Enrollment (MA):** Total unique members eligible and receiving *Medical Assistance* benefits

**COVID-19 Testing Only:** Members eligible for COVID-19 testing benefit only. NOTE: As of 5/6/2020. April includes March numbers

# Cumulative Monthly CBMS Applications by Zip Code Submitted Jan-Apr 2020

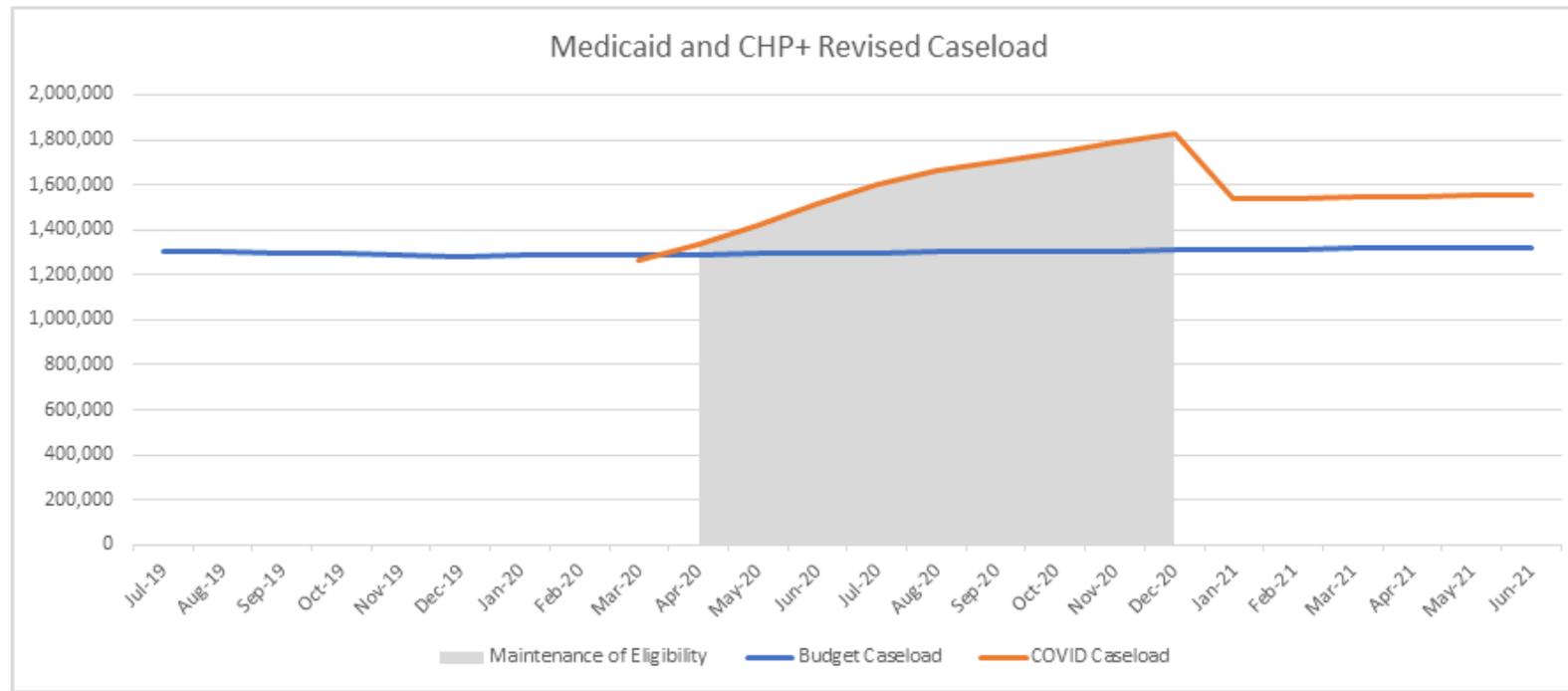
The five zip codes with the largest number of apps through April are in Denver, Arapahoe, El Paso, Adams and Weld Counties, in that order.



OIT GIS Coordination and Development Program  
May 7, 2020

# Updated Medicaid, CHP+ Membership Surge Forecast

- Membership surge of about 563,000 Coloradans between April 1 and December 31, reflecting a 44% increase to the 1.3M members covered in Medicaid and CHP+ as of March 2020. (OSPB adjusted assumed Emergency period)
- The maintenance of effort ends with the public emergency period (now presumed 12/31/2020). We project an estimated disenrollment of 332,000 members who do not meet eligibility criteria 12/31/2020.
- Net surge of 368,000 members, 29% increase, FY 2020-21 compared to March 2020.

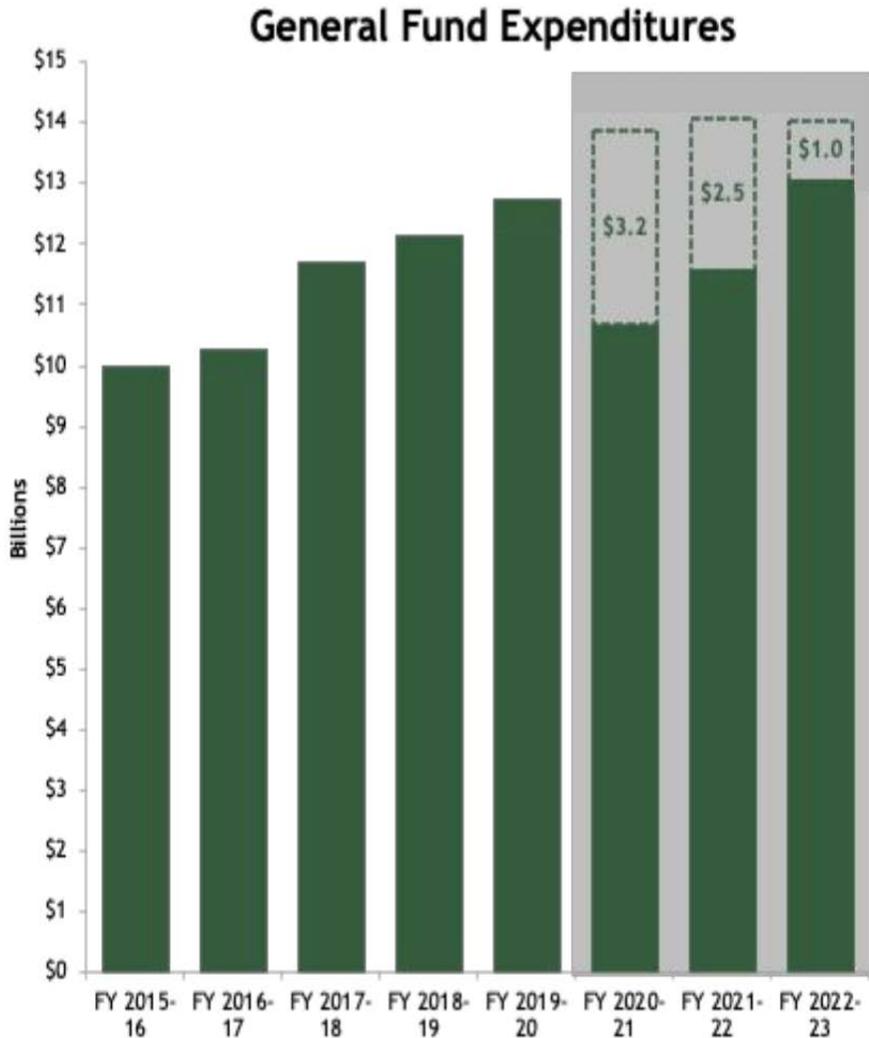


# Service Update

- HCPF service centers are still running at target performance

% of Calls Answered in <2 Minutes	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Member Call Center	46%	75%	86%	93%
Provider Call Center	72%	58%	95%	98%

# Why the \$180M+ FY2019-2020 HCPF Reversion?



- **Cost Increase:** Emergency payments, Maintenance of Effort for CHP+, New members
- **Rev. Increase:** 6.2 pts FMAP Stimulus
- **Claim/Expense Savings:** Utilization Decrease (need help with projections)
  - Reduction in utilization due to
    - "Stay/Safer at Home" Orders
    - Cont'd Patient/Consumer fear of COVID19 infection/spread

\*Estimate assumes steep drop in revenue, then gradual build back.

\*Estimate is very rough, and **does not** represent a forecast update.

**To Date HCPF Reversion to General Fund \$180+ Million**

# Tough JBC Decisions in Process

## HCPF Key Considerations

- ✓ Incorporated utilization declines before budget cuts
- ✓ Protect our most vulnerable - coverage and benefits
- ✓ Budget to Consensus Membership Surge/Average Projection
- ✓ Tier Budget Cuts - as needed
- ✓ Recognize Stimulus dollar recipients
- ✓ Recognize for every \$1 of Medicaid GF reduction **generates a loss of roughly \$2 in Federal Funds** to the state
- ✓ Transparent, collaborative approach - together with our partners
- ✓ Get more stimulus \$\$ from the Fed

# Budget Timing

- Difficult legislative decisions ahead
- Joint Budget Committee meeting now to consider changes to address projected shortfalls (JBC Analyst Review on HCPF Cuts was on 5/6)
- OSPB/Administration to present to JBC on Monday, May 11
- Updated revenue forecast scheduled for May 12
- General Assembly expected to reconvene and start on the Long Bill in the House the week of May 18
- Budget must be passed and signed into law by June 30
- As they become available, HCPF will post our projections, fact sheets and overviews on [Colorado.gov/hcpf/legislator-resource-center](https://colorado.gov/hcpf/legislator-resource-center)

# Budget: JBC Actions

JBC have approved approximately \$201M total fund and \$102M GF reductions in HCPF's Budget. JBC tabled items total over \$270M TF.

## Actions specific to Long Term Services and Supports

- Removed rate increases for Assisted Living Facilities and Adult Day Programs
- Maintained Personal Care and Homemaker increases in Denver due to minimum wage increases
- Added utilization management requirements to CDASS (IHSS already approved); adding savings requirements

# Budget: JBC Actions

## Actions specific to Long Term Services and Supports

- Voted to not carry legislation related to increasing HCBS-DD enrollments from the waiting list
- Voted not to carry legislation to implement Community First Choice

Questions on Budget for Kim?



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Department of Public  
Health & Environment

# Update

- State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
- Survey Priorities
- Isolation Plan Submissions
- [HEMSD COVID-19 Blog](#)



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# Connect To Care Jobs

A website to match health care job seekers with immediate openings in residential care settings

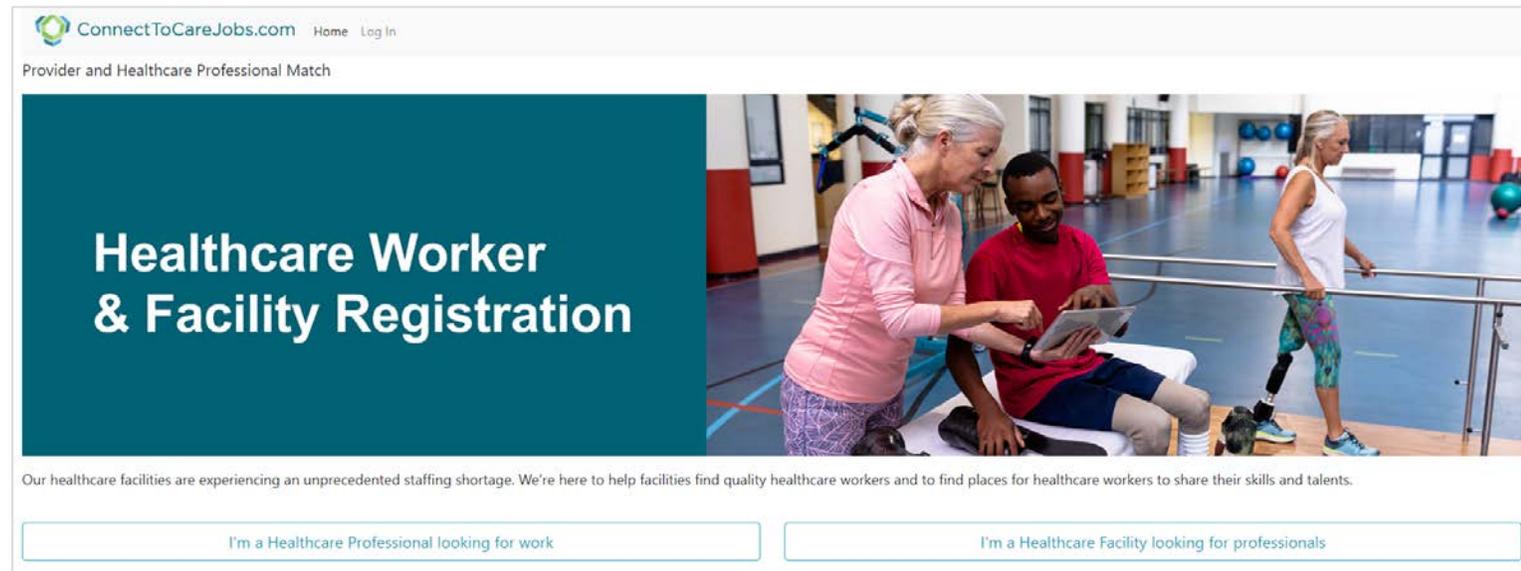
Site specifically tailored for long term care staffing

Licensed residential care settings will be invited to register through the CDPHE portal

Will launch first for nursing facilities, assisted living and residential care facilities

Future capability for hospitals, home care, direct support professionals, personal care attendants (self-directed), hospice and home health

[www.connecttocarejobs.com](http://www.connecttocarejobs.com) is now LIVE!



# Residential Settings Strike Force

- **Target Settings** - Nursing Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities, Assisted Living, and Group Homes
- **Asymptomatic Testing** - mitigating spread
- **Personal Protective Equipment** - delivered directly
- **Enforcement & Education** - Increase of enforcement by 50% along with weekly webinars
- **Staffing** - Connect to Care and Partnership

# Safer at Home...Day....Residential... What's Next?

- Long term plan needs thoughtful approach
- Vulnerable populations: 65 and older; chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions, immunocompromised, pregnant, or determined high risk
- Social distancing
- Infection Control
- Face coverings
- Congregate settings/living with vulnerable populations

# Flexibility/Funding Priorities

## Tough Decisions

- **Legally Responsible Person:** Community Connector, Homemaker, Personal Care, Supported Community Connections - No budget impact
- **Virtual/Alternative Delivery:** HCBS Behavioral Health Therapies, Day Services, Case Management, Employment, Mentorship - No budget impact
- **Retainer Payments:** Day Services, Employment (Pre-voc) - No budget impact
- **Residential and Personal Care:** Budget impact

# New Guidance Issued



[IM 20-019](#)

[OM 20-050](#)

[OM 20-053](#)

[OM 20-054](#)

All COVID-19 related Memos can be found here: [www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response)

# IM 20-019

TITLE: STATE CROSS-AGENCY GUIDANCE ON FLEXIBILITY IN HIRING AND TRAINING STAFF FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- Informational Memo summarizing temporary changes in requirements for hiring and training healthcare staff to expand efforts to combat COVID-19
- Memo includes temporary changes authorized by the Departments of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF), Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA)
- This document is meant to serve as a guide to help providers navigate cross-agency flexibility in hiring and training healthcare staff. Providers are encouraged to visit the affiliate links detailed in the table within the memo

*Table with all temporary changes included in memo*

[Link: IM 20-019](#)

# OM 20-050

## TITLE: TEMPORARY PROVIDER RATE INCREASE FOR NURSING FACILITIES AND INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES

- Per [MSB-20-04-21-A](#) and Governor's Executive Order [D-2020-054](#), the Department will implement a temporary rate increase of 8% for Nursing Facilities and ICF-IID
  - For ICF-IID, the 8% increase will be added to the per diem rate for each ICF-IID provider
- Providers that do not recognize and comply with infection control requirements may be at risk for recoupment of the enhanced payment.
- Payments will be calculated based on historical Medicaid utilization.
- These rate changes go into effect on April 1, 2020 and will go through June 30, 2020. However, the Department may adjust rates back to the original rate at its discretion.
- Billing instructions within the Memo

[Link: OM 20-050](#)

# OM 20-053

## TITLE: LEVEL OF CARE OPERATIONAL CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

- Temporary modification of the requirements for the completion of the Universal Long-Term Care Functional Eligibility Assessment (ULTC 100.2)
- For assessments completed on or after April 1, 2020, case managers will complete the ULTC 100.2 without the requirement for a completed Professional Medical Information Page (PMIP) for the duration of COVID-19 public health emergency.
- For admissions, all facilities will continue to follow all applicable requirements for a physician to recommend/prescribe/certify admission as outlined at 42 CFR 483.20(a), 483.30, 483.440(b) and 456.360.
- *Additional information and steps for Case Managers in memo specific to Nursing Facility Transfers*

### APPLICABLE PROGRAMS

- Nursing Facility (NF)
- Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- Hospital Back Up (HBU)
- Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID)
- Long Term Home Health (LTHH)

[Link: OM 20-053](#)

# OM 20-054

## TITLE: OPTIONS COUNSELING EXPECTATIONS COVID-19

Effective March 12, 2020, all options counseling visits shall be conducted by telephone or another electronic modality

- Department has waived the signature requirement on all options counseling forms.
  - In place of the signature, options counseling agencies are advised to write on the form "signature not available at the time due to COVID-19".
- The Department recommends coordinating with skilled nursing facility staff and the member's family for those who may be hard of hearing or have difficulties communicating over the phone or video
- If an options counseling visit takes longer than the required 10 business days to conduct due to the restrictions on face-to-face visits, agencies are expected to record how many attempts were made and the extenuating circumstances that delayed the visit in the required monthly referral log.

[Link: OM 20-054](#)

# Previous Guidance

## Case Management Agencies

### Operational Changes

- [OM 20-049](#)
- [OM 20-027](#)
- [OM 20-034](#)
- [OM 20-037](#)
- [OM 20-045](#)

### PASRR Changes

- [OM 20-043](#)

### Critical Incident Reporting for COVID-19

- [OM 20-044](#)

## Facilities and PACE

### Infection Control And Prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes (CMS)

- [CMS QSO-20-14-NH](#)

### Telemedicine in Nursing Facilities

- [OM 20-032](#)

### Training & Certification

- [OM 20-038](#)

## HCBS Providers

### Long-term Care and Congregate Settings

- [OM 20-017](#)

### HCBS Therapy Services

- [OM 20-020](#)

### Guidance for Class B Providers

- [OM 20-023](#)

### Changes to Benefits & Services (Table)

- [OM 20-046](#)

### Telemedicine

- [Temporary Policy](#)

### Non-medical Transportation

- [OM 20-031](#)

### Residential Guidance

- [OM 20-035](#)

### Host Home Inspections

- [OM 20-036](#)

### Retainer Payments

- [OM 20-039](#)

### CDASS Sick Time

- [OM 20-047](#)

### Changes to Benefits & Services Rates (Table)

- [OM 20-048](#)

All COVID-19 and LTSS related memos can be found here:

[www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response)



# New Questions?

# Stay Engaged

*Memos, Webinar Info, and FAQs - Updated Regularly*

[www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response)

*Email us*

[HCPF\\_HCBS\\_Questions@state.co.us](mailto:HCPF_HCBS_Questions@state.co.us)

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# Funding Resources

## Employee Retention Credit

- Provides a refundable payroll tax credit for 50% of wages paid by employers to employees during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Available to employers whose operations were fully or partially suspended due to a COVID-19-related shutdown order or gross receipts declined by more than 50% when compared to the same quarter in the prior year.
- Credit is based on qualified wages paid to the employee and provided for the first \$10,000 of compensation, including health benefits, paid to an eligible employee.
- The credit is provided for wages paid or incurred from March 13, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

## Subsidy for Certain Loan Payments

- Requires the Small Business Administration (SBA) to pay the principal, interest, and any associated fees that are owed on certain loans for a 6-month period starting on the next payment due.
- Loans eligible for this payment include an existing 7(a) (including Community Advantage), 504, or microloan product.
- Loans already on deferment will receive 6 months of payment by the SBA beginning with the first payment after the deferral period.
- Loans made up until 6 months after enactment will also receive a full 6 months of loan payments by the SBA

# Funding Resources

## Emergency Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)

- Expands eligibility to include Tribal businesses, cooperatives, and employee stock ownership plans with fewer than 500 employees, any individual operating as a sole proprietor, or an independent contractor during the covered period (January 31, 2020 to December 31, 2020), and private non-profits (including 501 c3 and c6).
- Waives personal guarantees, the requirement that an applicant have been in business for 1-year before the disaster, and the “credit elsewhere” requirement on advances and loans less than \$200,00 for EIDL loans made in response to COVID-19 before December 31, 2020.
- Instead, during the covered period, the SBA can approve and offer EIDL loans based solely on an applicant’s credit score, or use an alternative appropriate alternative method for determining applicant’s ability to repay.

## Emergency Grants/Advances from EIDL Loans

- Establishes an Emergency Grant to allow an eligible entity who has applied for an EIDL loan due to COVID-19 to request an advance on that loan, of not more than \$10,000, which the SBA must distribute within 3 days.
- Establishes that applicants shall not be required to repay advance payments, even if subsequently denied for an EIDL loan. In advance of disbursing the advance payment, the SBA must verify that the entity is an eligible applicant for an EIDL loan.

# COVID-19 Health Care Workforce Toolkit

New CMS and Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response (ASPR) toolkit with resources for providers

Helpful webinars, trainings, and guidance documents

**[COVID-19 HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE TOOLKIT](#)**



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Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

# More Information



[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/)



[www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page](http://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page)



[covid19.colorado.gov](http://covid19.colorado.gov)



Local Public Health Agencies

[www.colorado.gov/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency)



[www.colorado.gov/hcpf/COVID](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/COVID)

# Reminder: Personal Protective Equipment

If you or your organization are experiencing a shortage or outage of personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, gowns, etc.) to conduct essential or life saving functions during this crisis, please reach out to your **local emergency manager** or **local public health department**.

[Find Your Local Community Emergency Manager](#)  
[Find Your Local Public Health Department](#)

To report issues in  
obtaining PPE please  
notify:

Sadie Martinez  
Access and Functional Needs  
Coordinator  
Office of Emergency Management  
720.610.1691  
[sadie.martinez@state.co.us](mailto:sadie.martinez@state.co.us)

# Next Steps

# Thank You!