



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Community Living Office
1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

TO: All Stakeholders

FROM: The Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

DATE: November 8, 2017

SUBJECT: COMMUNICATION BRIEF - Notification that the Department has published more detailed responses to public comments on the HCBS Statewide Transition Plan (STP) and Systemic Assessment Crosswalk from June 2016

Purpose: To notify stakeholders that the Department has published more detailed responses to public comments received in June 2016 relating to the Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Statewide Transition Plan (STP) and Systemic Assessment Crosswalk.

Background: In January 2014, the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published a rule setting forth new criteria for ensuring that the settings where people live or receive HCBS are integrated in the community and not institutional. CMS established five requirements for all HCBS settings, and several additional requirements for provider-owned or -operated residential settings. Since the issuance of this rule, the Department has worked with stakeholders to draft, revise, and implement a STP and Systemic Assessment Crosswalk for coming into compliance with the rule. More information about the rule, the STP, and the Crosswalk is on the Department's website (<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/home-and-community-based-services-settings-final-rule>).

Information: The third version of the STP (STP.3) and the first version of the Systemic Assessment Crosswalk were open for public comment from May 6, 2016 through June 9, 2016. The Department provided public notice of the availability of the full STP and Crosswalk, the comment period, and the ways to comment through the following means:

- Emailing a Communication Brief to the Long-Term Services and Supports Stakeholder list; the Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Stakeholder list; and providers.
- Publishing a notice on the Department's [website](#).
- Emailing a notice to Tribal Consultation recipients.
- Publishing notices in the newspapers of widest circulation in each city in Colorado with a population of 50,000 or more.
- Publishing a notice in the [Colorado Register](#).

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The public could provide comments via email at STP.PublicComment@state.co.us, Lori.Thompson@state.co.us, or caitlin.phillips@state.co.us, via phone at 303-866-6873 (Caitlin Phillips—ACF Specialist, Long Term Services and Supports Division) or 303-866-5142 (Lori Thompson—HCBS Specialist, Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities), via fax at 303-866-3991 (Attention: Statewide Transition Plan Team), or in person or via U.S. mail at ATTN: Lori Thompson, Statewide Transition Plan Team, 1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203.

The Department received six comments, all via email. In a [document](#) submitted to CMS on June 30, 2016, the Department summarized the comments and its responses. By [letter](#) dated August 30, 2016, CMS asked the Department to provide more detailed responses to some issues. The Department submitted a [letter](#) to CMS on December 26, 2016 that included more detailed information on these issues, as well as a revised STP (STP.4) and revised Crosswalk. On February 9, 2017, CMS emailed a [response](#) asking the Department to submit an updated summary of public comments reflecting its current responses to the comments. By email dated May 25, 2017, CMS confirmed that the only item it required for initial approval of the STP and Crosswalk was the Department's more detailed responses to the June 2016 public comments.

In the [document](#) now available on its website, the Department provides more detailed and current responses to the public comments received in June 2016.

Action: The Department invites stakeholders to review the more detailed responses.

Contact Information: Lori Thompson, HCBS Specialist
Kyra Acuna, HCBS Adult Waiver Specialist
Leah Pogoriler, Strategic Policy Advisor

Telephone/email: Lori.Thompson@state.co.us/303-866-5142
Kyra.Acuna@state.co.us/303-866-5666
Leah.Pogoriler@state.co.us/303-866-6470