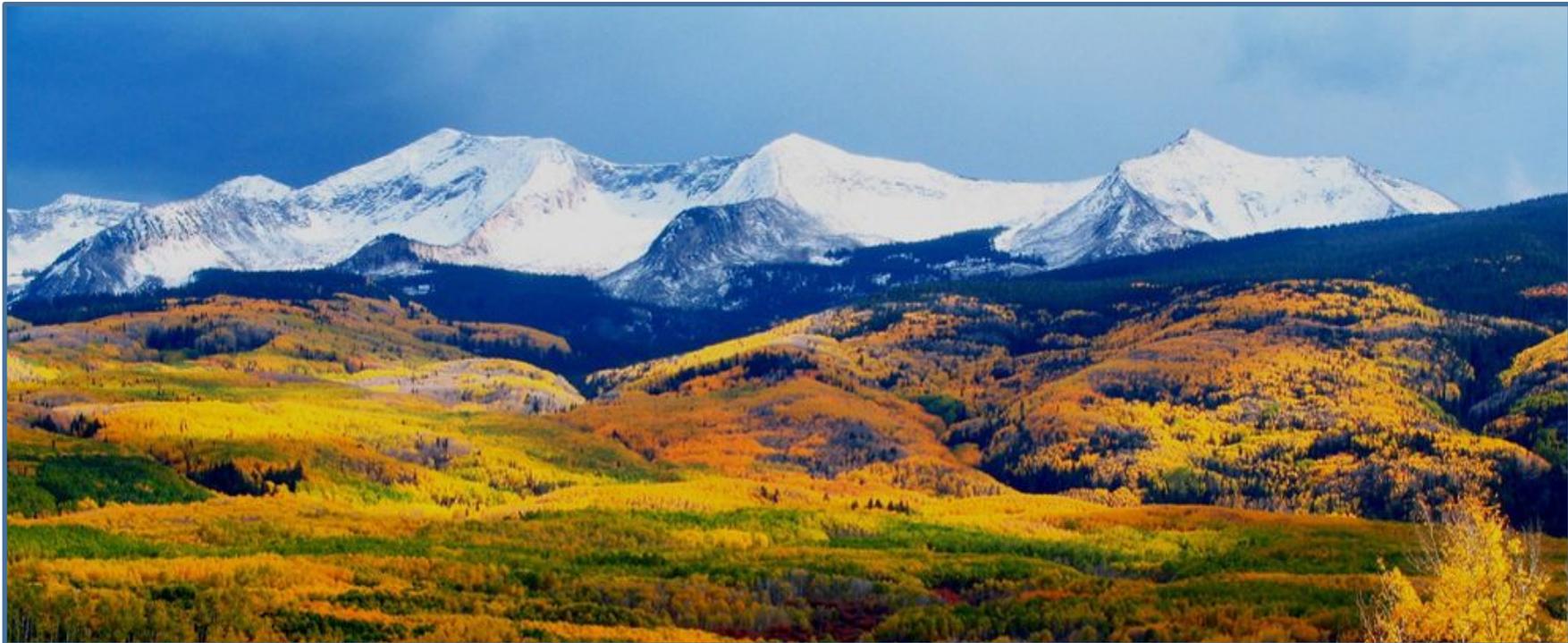


Final Recommendations to Increase Access to Childhood Vaccines Across Colorado

Submitted by the Senate Bill 13-222 Task Force
to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
June 3, 2014



Background

Overall Goal of SB 222 Task Force:

- Improve access to childhood vaccines by leveraging public/private partnerships to provide affordable, sustainable, and geographically diverse solutions that address vaccination barriers across Colorado.

Presented by: Rachel K. Herlihy, MD, MPH, Deputy Director,
Disease Control & Environmental Epidemiology Division, CDPHE

SB 222 Task Force Ground Rules

- **Open Invitation to Participate**
 - Everyone has a voice
 - Room at the table
- **Decisions Made at Meetings**
 - 9 meetings → Sept 2013 thru May 2014
 - Approximately 40 participants per meeting
 - Drafting & editing work groups → final say Task Force

Presented by: Lynn Trefren, RN, MSN
Immunization Section Chief, CDPHE

SB 222 Task Force Ground Rules

- **3 Initial Areas of Focus**

- Medical Home Solutions
- Safety Net Solutions (Community Immunization Providers)
- CHP+ Solutions

- **Communications**

- Lots of emails
- Open phone lines
- Lots of opportunities for vetting

Presented by: Lynn Trefren, RN, MSN
Immunization Section Chief, CDPHE

SB 222 Task Force Ground Rules

- **Group Charge**
 - Focus on “what” not “how”
 - Implementation is for Phase II

- **Consensus**
 - Strive for it.
 - Achieved it!

Presented by: Lynn Trefren, RN, MSN
Immunization Section Chief, CDPHE

Recommendations

Guiding Principles

- Vaccine administration should occur in the Medical Home.
 - When not feasible, a referral should be made to a community immunization provider.
- The Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS) is the primary, consolidated source for immunization data in the state.
- Implementation of SB222 task force recommendations will require ongoing commitment by CDPHE and SB222 stakeholders.

Presented by: Rachel Lee
Associate, PoliticalWorks (Sanofi Pasteur)

Systems-based Solutions

- Several cross-cutting issues or barriers related to access to vaccines in rural or urban settings and across different health care delivery systems.
- Need for solutions that can impact broad populations and providers and be applicable in geographically diverse communities.

Presented by: Bernadette Albanese, MD, MPH
Medical Officer, Boulder County Public Health

Systems-based Solutions

- There are challenges with finding appropriate system-based solutions and the need, in certain circumstances, to customize programming to address the specific community.
- There is also a need for comprehensive data on vaccination coverage rates that represents diverse populations and calls attention to disparities and gaps that impact access to vaccines across Colorado.

Presented by: Bernadette Albanese, MD, MPH
Medical Officer, Boulder County Public Health

Strategy 1

- Establish infrastructure to support vaccination providers, particularly those that provide vaccination services at a relatively low volume and/or underserved areas.

Presented by: Phyllis Arthur,
Senior Director, Vaccines, Immunotherapeutics and Diagnostics Policy
Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO)

Objective 1a

- Offer optional centralized group (private or public) purchasing solutions that address low volume needs and/or underserved areas, offer competitive pricing, and allow the return and refund of expired vaccine in order to decrease financial barriers and risk associated with offering immunizations.

Objective 1b

- Offer optional centralized billing, credentialing, and contracting services for Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) and other interested providers in order to decrease logistical and financial barriers associated with billing for vaccinations.

Presented by: Stephanie Wasserman, MSPH
Executive Director, CCIC

Objective 1c

- Obtain formal, mutual commitment from Colorado's health plans including CHP+, primary care associations, and the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO) to support health plan contracts with Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) and/or school-based health centers as in-network providers.

Presented by: Ben Price
Executive Director, Colorado Association of Health Plans

Objective 1d

- In order for CIIS to continue to meet the needs and expectations of its user base and stakeholders, funding must be secured to support the development of additional billing and inventory management infrastructure, remove barriers for providers to submit data electronically and support access to and utilization of immunization data.

Presented by: Jeff Thormodsgaard
Principal, Mendez Consulting (CAFP, Rx Plus)

Strategy 2

- Create a dynamic resource network to address capacity issues and support the needs of vaccination providers statewide.

Presented by: Mike Ripperton
Practice Manager, 5280 Pediatrics

Objective 2a

- Provide mentoring opportunities for practices seeking to improve administrative, clinical, and technical expertise in the management and delivery of vaccines, including:
 - insurance contracting, credentialing, and billing,
 - vaccine administration, storage and handling, and documentation,
 - patient outreach and education.

Presented by: Kristi Yamasaki, PharmD, BCPS
Medication Use Coordinator, Denver Health Medical Center

Objective 2b

- Promote models/best-practices in public-private partnership (providers, public health, pharmacies, etc.) to deliver vaccines in practices and communities where it is not feasible to provide vaccinations in a typical medical home setting, including full participation in CIIS.

Presented by: Martha Hubbard, RN, BSN
Director of Public Health, Teller County Public Health

Objective 2c

- Provide and promote centralized, electronic (web-based) toolkit with existing resources relating to best practices in vaccine management and delivery.

Presented by: Manthan Bhatt
Communications Director, Colorado Academy of Family Physicians

Strategy 3

- Explore, in partnership with the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), the development of a Vaccines for Children (VFC)-like program to purchase and distribute vaccine to providers serving CHP+ patients, which allows HCPF to take advantage of cost-savings available through federal vaccine contract pricing.

Presented by: Diana Herrero, MS
Deputy Immunization Section Chief, CDPHE

Objective 3a

- Conduct a financial analysis to estimate the cost savings to HCPF for vaccines purchased by CHP+ at federal vaccine contract pricing as compared to the current practice of provider reimbursement. Assess cost impact for both CHP+ program as a whole and for CHP+ managed care organizations. Ensure involvement of key leaders at CDPHE and HCPF to determine a go-forward strategy based on the evaluation of cost-savings.

Presented by: Alan S. Kislowitz, MSHA
Health Plan Manager, HCPF

Objective 3b

- Identify and examine the components necessary to implement a VFC-like program for CHP+ providers, taking into consideration factors such as vaccine distribution, inventory management, reporting, accountability, and data sharing.

Presented by: Alan S. Kislowitz, MSHA
Health Plan Manager, HCPF

Objective 3c

- Work with stakeholders (including HCPF, CDPHE, CDC, CHP+ providers, vaccine industry, and managed care organizations) to address needs, concerns, and other financial or logistical barriers related to implementing a VFC-like program. Assure the process does not pose undue burden on participating CHP+ providers, particularly those who already serve as VFC providers.

Presented by: Diana Herrero, MS
Deputy Immunization Section Chief, CDPHE

Objective 3d

- Determine the cost to build a VFC-like program for CHP+ program and investigate potential funding sources.

Presented by: Diana Herrero, MS
Deputy Immunization Section Chief, CDPHE

What's Next?

- July 2014
 - CDPHE internal strategic planning
- August 2014
 - Present to Board of Health
 - Distribute to State Legislators and Governor
 - Convene Implementation Planning Group
- September 2014
 - Quarterly Updates to Task Force and Stakeholders
- TBD
 - Launch Implementation Work Groups

Presented by: Rachel K. Herlihy, MD, MPH, Deputy Director,
Disease Control & Environmental Epidemiology Division, CDPHE

What's Now?

- Implementation activities underway
 - Exploring CIIS funding opportunities – CDPHE
 - CHP+ financial analysis – HCPF
 - Exploring centralized billing solutions – CALPHO
 - Drafting commitment statement for billing stakeholders – CDPHE
 - Cataloging resources for toolkit – CDPHE

Presented by: Rachel K. Herlihy, MD, MPH, Deputy Director,
Disease Control & Environmental Epidemiology Division, CDPHE

Q&A

With SB 222 Task Force Members & CDPHE

Closing Remarks

Presented by: Joni Reynolds, RN/CNS, MSN
Director of Public Health Programs, CDPHE

