# Children's Disability Advisory Committee

Children with Complex Health Needs Waiver and Waiver Actions

**January 8, 2025** 

### **CwCHN Overview**

- With Community First Choice (CFC) implementation in July 2025, In-Home Services and Supports - Health Maintenance Activities, will be moved from the Children's Home and Community-Based Services (CHCBS) Waiver into CFC.
  - This leaves only one benefit on the CHCBS Waiver, the Wellness Education Benefit, as Case Management has transitioned to an administrative function and is no longer a CHCBS service.
  - ➤ The Department has made the decision to merge the existing CHCBS waiver population with the Children's Life Limiting Illness Waiver (CLLI) and close the CHCBS waiver.

### Children with Complex Health Needs Waiver

- The new CwCHN Waiver will include all current CLLI Waiver services, plus the new Wellness Education Benefit
- The new waiver will have expanded eligibility criteria to capture both populations
- Services available to CHCBS members will increase
- Services available to CLLI members will remain the same (plus the Wellness Education Benefit)
- To see a chart of what the children's waivers and services will look like after the merger and CFC implementation, <u>visit our</u> website and click "CFC vs. HCBS Children's Waivers Comparison Chart"

### **CwCHN Rule Changes**

- Listening Log from the CwCHN Rule changes will be posted to our <u>CFC website</u> in the coming weeks
- Additional feedback or questions can submitted by email to <a href="https://hcpf\_cfc@state.co.us">hcpf\_cfc@state.co.us</a> or phone at 303-866-2354

## Legislation

- The new waiver requires a statutory change, but has no fiscal impact.
- We expect that the Children with Complex Health Needs (CwCHN) Waiver Bill will be introduced in the House of Representatives in early January, as one of Rep-Elect Stewart's and Rep-Elect Brooks' first bills of the 2025 Legislative Session.
- Please join us on January 14 from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, to review the bill and provide feedback.



## What to Expect

- 1915 (c) waiver application are the agreement between the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on how the state will run their program.
- The full CwCHN waiver will be open for review during the 2025 Spring Waiver Actions.

### 2025 Waiver Action Timeline

February 2025  30 Day Public Noticing Period

March 2025 Waiver Applications
 Submitted to CMS

July 1, 2025 CwCHN Effective Date



#### **HCBS Public Comment Opportunities Webpage**



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#### **HCBS Public Comment Opportunities**

The Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Public Comment Opportunities page allows stakeholders to provide input to the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) on proposed 1915(c) HCBS waiver changes. HCPF is required to provide at least a 30-day public notice period when making substantive changes and all open commenting opportunities with supporting documents are available. Closed commenting opportunities are also available for review.

HCBS Waiver Page

Approved Waiver Documents

#### **Open HCBS Public Comment Opportunities**

Nothing to review at this time

#### https://hcpf.colorado.gov/hcbs-public-comment

## What to Expect

#### Things we can change:

- Grammar or technical language errors
- Alignment of language across the waivers
- Changes in alignment with Budget and Regulatory Authority

# Things we cannot change:

- Existing Contracts
- Budgetary Allocations

## **HCBS Public Comment Page**

#### hcpf.colorado.gov/hcbs-public-comment

- Documents related to the renewals
- Documents related to any current Public Comment Period
- Documents related to previous public comment periods

#### **HCBS Public Comment Email**

hcpf\_LTSS.PublicComment@state.co.us



# Questions?

## Thank you!