



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Accountable Care Collaborative Program Improvement Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2021 // 9:30 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.

1. Welcome, Introductions, & Minutes Approval

Kiara Kuenzler welcomed members to the Program Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) meeting and called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M.

The following people were in attendance: Kiara Kuenzler, Christina Suh, Donald Moore, Ian Engle, Joanna Martinson, Steve Johnson, Tom Keller, Wendy Nading, Dede de Percin, Kelly Phillips-Henry, Kevin JD Wilson, Catania Jones, Daniel Darting, and Michael Aragon.

A quorum of voting members was present.

Kiara presented the [November meeting minutes](#) for approval. There was one abstention. November meeting minutes were approved.

Action Items:

- None

Parking Lot Items

- None

2. Action Item Review

Kiara Kuenzler introduced Milena Guajardo, an Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC) Program Specialist and PIAC liaison from the Department, to review action items from previous meetings. The Department updated the spreadsheet to include a follow-up column and color coding based on status. The Department will continue to share the spreadsheet with PIAC before each meeting.

Action Items:

- PIAC will review the action item spreadsheet and send feedback to Milena Guajardo.

Parking Lot Items

- The Department will look into whether an archive folder of meeting materials prior to 2020 can be added to the PIAC website.

3. PHE Unwind

Kiara Kuenzler introduced Marivel Klueckman, the Department's Eligibility Division Director, to give an update on the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE). Federal authority will

provide 60 days advance notice before the end of the PHE. This means that the PHE will not be ending in January. The Department is waiting for the final language and timeline, but based on current available guidance, the PHE will likely end between April 2022 and October 2022. Updating of the renewal process is still on target to be completed in February 2022, regardless of when the PHE ends. The Department will be providing a training for community partners on updates to the renewal process. The Department is also focusing on obtaining updated member contact information for sending out renewal packets and information on the end of the PHE.

Action Items:

- The Department will share information on the training for the updated renewal process with PIAC when it is available.

Parking Lot Items

- None.

4. Health Inequities and EDI Program Manager Discussion

Kiara Kuenzler introduced Aaron Green, the Department's new Health Inequities and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Manager. Aaron [responded to the questions](#) developed by PIAC at the November meeting regarding his role and the Department's plans to address EDI for Medicaid members.

Action Items:

- None.

Parking Lot Items

- None

5. Regional PIAC Presentation

Kiara Kuenzler introduced Addison McGill, the Director of Business Development for Women's and Oncology Services at Rose Medical Center and the Region 3 PIAC Chair. Addison shared [recent successes and challenges](#) from the Colorado Access Regional PIAC. The current priorities in this region are COVID-19 vaccinations and behavioral health. Successes include overall COVID-19 vaccination efforts and partnering with community mental health centers to increase access to care. Challenges include expanding vaccination efforts to ages 5-11 and addressing workforce shortages.

Action Items:

- None.

Parking Lot Items

- None.



6. BHIS Committee Update

Kiara Kuenzler introduced Daniel Darting, a co-chair of the Behavioral Health Integration Strategies (BHIS) subcommittee, to give an [update](#) on the subcommittee's recent work. BHIS is currently prioritizing three work areas:

- Using BHIS member experience to monitor and improve previous BHIS initiatives.
- Improving behavioral health access and engagement.
- Participating in statewide behavioral health reform initiatives.

Daniel and Joanna Martinson, a P&CE co-chair, asked the Department for more guidance on PIAC's request to delegate workforce challenges work to the subcommittees.

Action Items:

- BHIS and P&CE will ask their members to identify what the specific workforce challenges are and recommendations to the Department on ways to support the workforce.
- The Department also requested feedback from the BHIS and P&CE subcommittees on the following topic areas:
 - Aspects of the current ACC structure that have supportive or inhibitive impacts on workforce.
 - New provider categories that could be added to strengthen workforce development.
 - Strategies for funding, reimbursements, payment models, and incentives for providers.
 - How to remove administrative and structural barriers for members of the workforce.

Parking Lot Items

- None.

7. PIAC Discussion and Next Steps

Action Items:

- Kiara Kuenzler reviewed action items from the meeting:
 - PIAC will review the action item spreadsheet and send feedback to Milena Guajardo.
 - The Department will share information on the training for the updated renewal process with PIAC when it is available.
 - The BHIS and P&CE subcommittees will ask their members to identify what the specific workforce challenges are and recommendations to the Department on ways to support the workforce.
 - BHIS, P&CE, and the Department will meet to review and discuss the subcommittee findings on workforce challenges.

Parking Lot Items



- None.

8. Open Comment

Milena Guajardo opened the meeting for public comment. There were no comments from the public. Milena closed the open comment period.

Action Items:

- None.

Parking Lot Items

- None.

9. Wrap Up

Kiara Kuenzler adjourned the meeting at 12:02 P.M.

