



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Accountable Care Collaborative Program Newsletter

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The Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC) is the primary vehicle for delivering health care to Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) members. Regional Accountable Entities (RAEs) are the central component of the ACC and are responsible for promoting members' physical and behavioral health in each of seven regions. The ACC provides the platform from which other health care initiatives can thrive as they better serve members and create value.

In this issue, you'll find:

- Featured Announcement: Medicaid Statewide Managed Care System Public Comment period
- RAE Practice Support Plan deliverables posted
- Maternity Report Released
- ARPA funding

We encourage you to visit [the ACC webpage](#) for more resources.

You previously signed up for the ACC Phase II implementation newsletter and we hope you will continue to find these communications valuable. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, you can opt-out by using the SafeUnsubscribe link at the bottom of this email.

Featured Announcement

Public Comment: Medicaid Statewide Managed Care System

The Department of Health Care Policy & Financing has opened a 30-day public comment period to collect feedback on the revised Medicaid Statewide Managed Care System rule. The comment period will run from Oct. 25, 2021 through Nov. 24, 2021. Existing rules regarding Medicaid managed care programs have been revised to reflect the changes for Phase II of the Accountable Care Collaborative.

The purpose of the rule changes is to align the language and policies with the following:

- C.R.S. 25.5-5 Part 4 describing the Statewide Managed Care System
- The Department's 1915(b) waiver with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services authorizing the ACC
- Federally approved contracts with the RAEs and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).

A brief overview of primary changes to the existing rule include the following:

- Language and terminology have been aligned with that in C.R.S. 25.5-5 Part 4 on

- the Statewide Managed Care System
- Current Section 8.212 on the Community Behavioral Health System has been integrated into Section 8.205
- New sections were added
 - The 8.205.1 Definitions section has been added for clarity and consistency.
 - The 8.205.10 Utilization Management section has been added to reflect federal requirements and comply with C.R.S. 25.5-5-402 (15)
- Changes were made to reflect current policy
 - Enrollment is mandatory into the Statewide Managed Care System
 - Client eligibility
 - Clients/members can no longer opt out of the Statewide Managed Care System
 - There are new covered services for the inpatient and residential substance use disorder benefit
- Other modifications

To view the draft Medicaid Statewide Managed Care System rule revision and to submit comments through the electronic form, please visit the [Medicaid Statewide Managed Care System webpage](#).

All comments received during this public comment period will be reviewed by the Department to assist in the determination of what further revisions, if any, to incorporate into these documents prior to rulemaking. For questions, contact hcpf_acc@state.co.us.

Department Guidance on COVID-19

The Department has created a [COVID-19 resource center](#) for providers, stakeholders, community partners and staff containing updates from the Department about the COVID-19. Please check the page frequently for updates.

ACC Program Updates

RAE Practice Support Plans Posted

RAE Practice Support Plans for the 2021-2022 state fiscal year have been posted for each RAE on the [ACC Deliverables webpage](#). The deliverable is designed to capture the ways in which the RAEs support their network providers, including the types of assistance offered such as informational and administrative support, provider trainings, and data and technology supports. The value of this deliverable is for the Department to understand the different strategies RAEs are utilizing to respond to the needs of their network providers and support practice evolution and implementation of the Population Management framework.

Visit the [ACC Deliverables webpage](#) to view the reports.

Initiatives and Reports of Interest

Maternity Report Released

Health First Colorado is a key player in the lives of both expectant parents and their children as it is the primary insurer for more than 40% of births in the state. The program covered the delivery of nearly 27,000 births in 2019 and provided prenatal care, delivery, and postnatal services to expectant parents in 63 of Colorado's 64 counties.

In September, the Department released a first-of-its-kind report. Find the "Health First Colorado Maternity Report" on our [Publications page](#).

HCPF American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding

The Department has received approval from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) and the Colorado Joint Budget Committee (JBC) to use \$530 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to implement initiatives to enhance, expand, and strengthen Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) in Colorado over the next three years.

The [Department's plan](#) categorizes these 72 funded initiatives into eight focus areas as prioritized by our stakeholders:

- Strengthen the Workforce & Enhance Rural Sustainability
- Improve Crisis & Acute Services
- Improve Access to HCBS For Underserved Populations
- Support Post-COVID Recovery & HCBS Innovation
- Strengthen Case Management Redesign
- Invest in Tools & Technology
- Expand Emergency Preparedness
- Enhance Quality Outcomes

More information about the Department's work to implement the recently passed federal law is on our [ARPA webpage](#).

Upcoming Meetings

Accountable Care Collaborative Program Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC)
Wednesday Nov. 17, 2021
9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
More details are on the [PIAC website](#).

Where Can I Get Vaccinated? or call
1-877-COVAXCO (268-2926)

Department COVID-19 Webpage

ACC Program Improvement Advisory Committee

Getting Health Care Coverage Through Health First Colorado and Child Health
Plan Plus