

# COVID-19 Updates

Colorado Department of  
Health Care Policy & Financing

November 13, 2020

# Overview

## Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) Update

- Kim Bimestefer, Executive Director, HCPF
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# 2021-2022 Budget Basics

- State Budget: \$35.4B Total Funds, \$13.6B General Funds
- State Totals Cuts:
  - \$422M Total Funds and \$272M General Fund
- HCPF Total Cuts
  - \$165M Total Funds and \$146M General Funds
- HCPF will account for 37.6% of TF and 29% GF (is 34%, 26%)
- HCPF budget will be \$12.4B TF and 3.5B GF
- Increase of \$1.7B TF (15.6% from 2019-2020)
- Increase of \$557.3M GF (18.9% from 2019-2020)

# Revenue Insights

- Improving 2020-2021 budget outlook
- Colorado is still the #1 economy in the nation, but 672k Coloradans have filed for Unemployment Insurance (22% of working population)
- Longer-term budget outlook is still out-of-balance and uncertain
  - \$1.6B revenue shortfall for FY 2021-2022 (released budget)
  - \$2.2B revenue shortfall projection for FY 2022-2023
- Governor's budget includes \$1.28B in 2020-2021 stimulus
  - To boost economic growth since the Fed is not acting
  - Makes immediate investments in Colorado businesses, families

# Temporary Budget Reductions

Temporary budget reductions: \$95.4M TF, \$115.8M GF

“Temporary” means that the reductions create savings in the current year, but not in future years.

- \$80M GF transfer from the Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Fee (hospital provider fee)
- \$10M GF transfer from the Primary Care Fund
- Reduction to Inpatient SUD Budget based on lower-than-expected projected costs (not a benefit or reimbursement change)
- Savings from federal funds associated with enhanced FMAP

# Permanent Budget Reductions

Permanent budget reductions: \$69.5M TF, \$29.9M GF

“Permanent” means that the reductions will not be restored until the General Assembly takes new action

- Negotiated enrollment in PACE
- Reducing BH incentive payments (25%)
- Targeted rate and benefit reductions

Item	Total Funds	FTE	General Fund
Anesthesia Rate Reduction	(\$5,959,562)	0.0	(\$1,904,319)
Allergy Testing Rate Reduction	(\$694,456)	0.0	(\$161,298)
Benchmark Certain Rates to Medicare	(\$1,360,741)	0.0	(\$546,717)
Repricing Pulse Oximeter	(\$458,993)	0.0	(\$184,413)
Lab Testing Code Rate Reduction	(\$12,587,595)	0.0	(\$2,923,654)
Outpatient Hospital Physician Administered Drugs	(\$6,546,978)	0.0	(\$1,805,502)
Remove Nursing Facility Rate Growth Limit	(\$13,741,537)	0.0	(\$6,870,769)
Cash Fund Transfer to Offset the General Fund	\$0	0.0	(\$1,354,330)
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>(\$41,349,862)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>(\$15,751,002)</b>

No across-the-board provider rate reductions

# Enhanced Federal Funding

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act increased the federal match rate for most Medicaid services for all states while the Public Health Emergency is in effect.

- Colorado's federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) went from 50% to 56.2%
- So far, the enhanced federal funds have created **\$565 million** of General Fund relief

# Decision Items

**Total impact:** \$20M TF, \$9.5M GF increase

**Key requests include:**

- Convert contractor resources to FTE
- Restoring reductions to Family Medicine Residency Training Programs
- Nurse Advice Line
- HCBS Remote Supports benefit
- Supported Living Services Flexibility



# Next Steps

## Joint Budget Committee Briefing and Hearing:

- Briefing: December 10, 2020
- Hearing: January 7, 2021
- Figure Setting: March 2021

Next revenue forecast: December 18, 2020

Start of the Legislative Session: January 13, 2021

## Budget

- [www.colorado.gov/hcpf/budget-1](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/budget-1)
- [www.colorado.gov/governor/office-state-planning-budgeting](http://www.colorado.gov/governor/office-state-planning-budgeting)

# COVID Update - Colorado

- Coloradans Tested: 1,387,268
- Coloradans Positive: 142,402 (10%)
- Coloradan Deaths among COVID: 2,443 (1.7%)
- Coloradans Deaths due to COVID: 2,134 (1.5%)

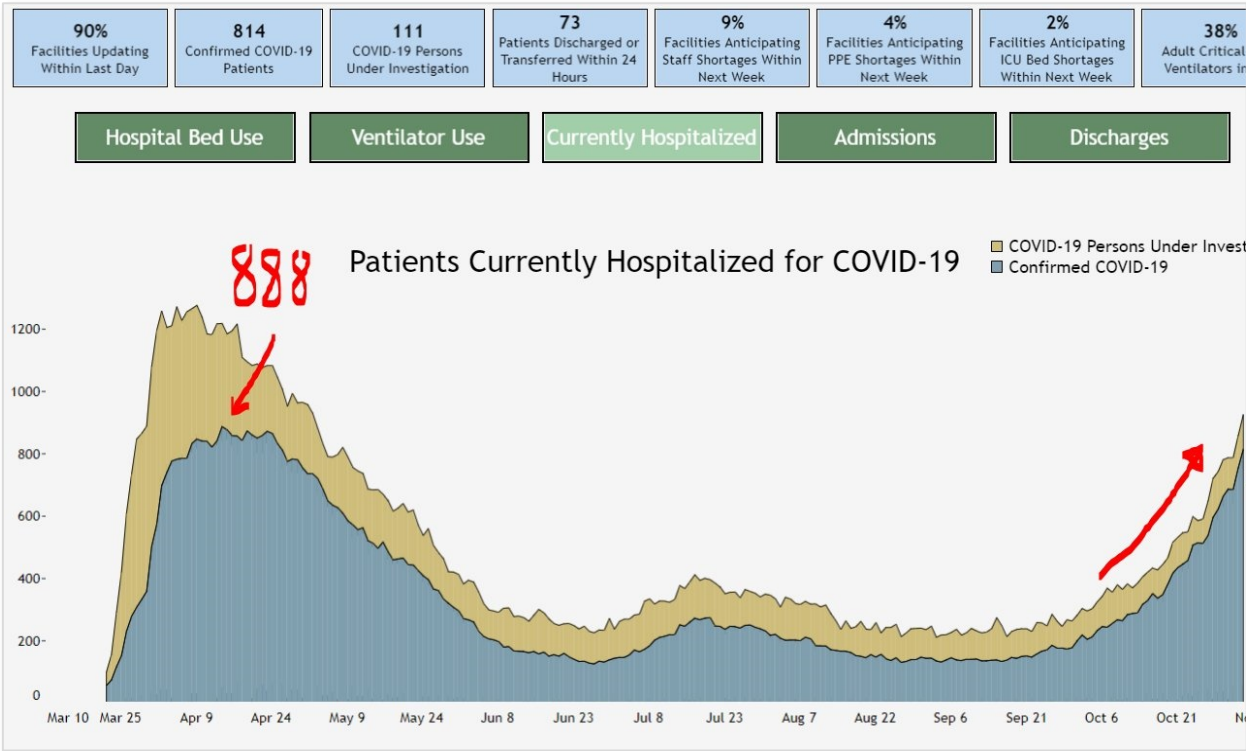
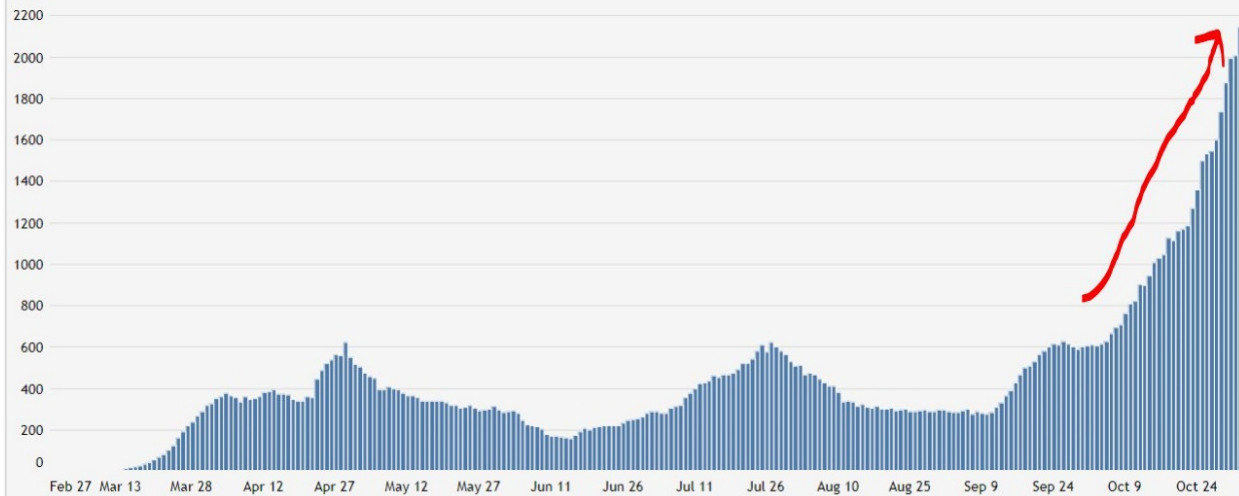
As of November 12, 2020

Flu 2018-2019 Season: 35M Americans, 34k deaths 0.1% = 1 in every 1000  
Kids 1 in 10k and 50-64 y/o is 6 in 10k

# COVID Cases and Hospitalizations

- Continuing to see numbers move in the wrong direction
- Cases are at record highs, positivity rates are near 10%, and hospitalizations could surpass capacity

7-Day Average of COVID-19 Cases in Colorado by Date Reported to the State





# CO Exposure Notifications

- A phone-based exposure notification (EN) system is now available to Coloradans!
  - CO Exposure Notifications is a free and voluntary service developed in partnership with Google and Apple that can notify users of possible exposure to COVID-19
- For the system to be effective, at least 10% of the population needs to opt in
  - Furthermore, if 10-15% of Coloradans opt in, we will likely see ~10% increase in the State's contact tracing capacity
- Visit [covid19.colorado.gov/Exposure-Notifications](https://covid19.colorado.gov/Exposure-Notifications) for FAQ's and videos on how to setup the notifications on your iPhone or Android phone
  - Android users can download CO Exposure Notifications on the Google Play store
  - iPhone users can enable CO Exposure Notifications in their phone settings by finding Settings > Exposure Notifications > United States > Colorado

# Key Program Updates

# Telehealth in Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

- Separate initiative from Telemedicine
- SB 20 - 212 does not include HCBS
- OCL is looking to use research and resources where appropriate, from Telemedicine work
- Positive outcomes and increased flexibility of service use during the PHE, have driven the OCL to look to how to sustain Telehealth
- OCL is working towards permanent Telehealth Policy implementation by the expiration of the Appendix K

# Telehealth in Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

- OCL has hosted a series of five stakeholder engagement opportunities, topics including: regulation and policy development; rate setting and methodology
- OCL, with stakeholder input, have identified 17 services for Telehealth inclusion based on service integrity being maintained using Telehealth
- Of these 17 services, 11 services will have no change to the Telehealth rate from the current in person rate

# Telehealth in Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

- OCL will continue to collect input from stakeholders and intends to present draft regulation in January, to the Medical Services Board (MSB)
- Please visit: [www.colorado.gov/hcpf/OCL-stakeholder-engagement](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/OCL-stakeholder-engagement) for recordings of stakeholder meetings
- Please send any comments or questions to: [HCPF\\_HCBSWaivers@state.co.us](mailto:HCPF_HCBSWaivers@state.co.us)



# Public Comment Opportunity

- The Department invites the public to comment on proposed waiver amendments for the BI, CMHS, DD, EBD, SCI, and SLS waivers.
- Comments will be accepted from November 12 - December 11, 2020.
- The proposed waiver amendments will give the Department, if agreed upon with stakeholders, the ability to include changes to Day Habilitation Services.
- [www.colorado.gov/hcpf/hcbs-waiver-transition](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/hcbs-waiver-transition)

# Approved HCBS Amendments

- CMS approved amendments to all ten (10) HCBS waivers effective January 1, 2021.
- Notable changes for all waivers include:
  - Addition of Virtual Case Management when there is a safety risk to the case manager or client.
  - Removal of Professional Medical Information Page (PMIP) in reassessment processes.
  - Digital Signatures on all documents (including Consumer-Directed Attendant Support Services forms).

# Proposed Amendment Changes

- New 3-tiered structure for Adult Day service for CMHS, EBD, SCI and new 2-tiered structure for BI.
- New 3-tiered structure for Specialized Habilitation and Supported Community Connector for DD and SLS.
- Annual cap on spending for Specialized Habilitation and Supported Community for DD and SLS.
- Update budget projections for new tiers for BI, CMHS, DD, EBD, SCI, and SLS.

# New Guidance Issued



[OM 20-096](#)

[MCT FAQs](#)

All COVID-19 related Memos can be found here: [www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response)

# MCT Frequently Asked Questions

- This is a resource for Providers to find answers to frequently asked questions regarding the requirements of the Medicaid Client Transport (MCT) Permit for providers of Non-Medical (NMT) services, per Informational Memo HCPF [IM 20-048](#).
- As a reminder, the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (Department) is not full compliance until 7/1/2021. Additionally, the Department commits to working with providers in ongoing stakeholder dialogs to understand any additional concerns.

Link: [MCT FAQs](#)

# OM 20-096

## Single Entry Point Requirements for Completing A Second Optional Member In-Person Monitoring Contact

- Inform Single Entry Point (SEP) agencies of the requirements and considerations for completing the second In-Person Monitoring contact that may be completed during a member's certification period.
- Due to the Public Health Emergency, SEP case managers may complete the one required In-Person Monitoring using electronic video unless the member's only option is to use a telephone.
- If a case manager determines a second In-Person Monitoring is necessary, the case manager must clearly document the rationale for the enhanced level of monitoring and related payment and should include:
  - The circumstance requiring the monitoring
  - The steps beyond routine monitoring the case manager has taken to assure the health and safety of the member
  - And detailed follow-up needed as an outcome from the monitoring

Link: [OM 20-096](#)

# Strike Team Updates

# PHO 20-20

[Public Health Order 20-20](#) updated on November 10, 2020

- Requires at least weekly surveillance testing of staff and residents who have left the building + outbreak testing by November 20, 2020
- Group homes are now included in the Public Health Order

## Surveillance Testing Requirements

- Weekly surveillance testing for all staff
- Weekly surveillance testing for all residents who have left the facility premises to interact with individuals outside of the facility in the last 14 days.
- Twice weekly required if county the facility is located in reaches a two-week test positivity rate of 10% or greater, using the Colorado COVID-19 dashboard
  - Continues until the county is below 10% for 2 consecutive weeks

[NEW TESTING REQUIREMENT GUIDANCE DOCUMENT](#)



# Curative

- To ensure compliance with the updated Public Health Order, the State of Colorado has partnered with [Curative](#), a national leader in COVID-19 testing
- Through Curative, the State will be providing test kits to all residential care facilities at no cost

## Key Details About Curative:

- Saliva-based testing (with the alternate option for nasal if needed using same kits)
- Self-administered
- Results within 36 hours on average
- Sophisticated tracking, shipping logistics, and reporting system
- Comprehensive training materials and virtual trainings

# HCBS Provider Testing Letter

- [Residential Care Strike Team letter dated Nov. 9, 2020](#)
- We highly recommend **weekly** tests for direct care staff
- The state is providing **free** testing for all home care and day program direct care providers
- Please register in advance with our testing partner at [www.primarybio.com/l/cdphe](http://www.primarybio.com/l/cdphe) (offers nine sites)
- Four additional community-based sites are also available
- No requirements for referrals, insurance, or proof of job

# Connect to Care Jobs Site: V3 Launch

**Eligible Providers:** Licensed Nursing Facilities, Assisted Living Residences, Group Homes, Intermediate Care Facilities, Day Programs, and Home Care and Home Health Agencies

New Features	
One organization can register multiple facility locations	Additional documentation
Multiple zip code matching	Enhanced reporting
Travel for job placement	



New Questions?

# Stay Engaged

*Memos, Webinar Info, and FAQs - Updated Regularly*

[www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response)

*Email us*

[HCPF\\_HCBS\\_Questions@state.co.us](mailto:HCPF_HCBS_Questions@state.co.us)

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# Previous COVID-19 Guidance

## Case Management Agencies

### Operational Changes

- [OM 20-049](#)
- [OM 20-027](#)
- [OM 20-037](#)
- [OM 20-045](#)
- [OM 20-075](#)

### PASRR Changes

- [OM 20-043](#)

### Level of Care Changes

- [OM 20-053](#)

### Transition Coordination

- [OM 20-056](#)

### In-Person & Travel Add-On

- [OM 20-076](#)

### Critical Incident Reporting for COVID-19

- [OM 20-080](#)

### Updated Statement of Agreement

- [OM 20-092](#)

## Facilities and PACE

### Infection Control And Prevention in NHs (CMS)

- [CMS QSO-20-14-NH](#)

### Telemedicine in Nursing Facilities

- [OM 20-032](#)

### Training & Certification

- [OM 20-038](#)

### Rate Increase

- [OM 20-050](#)

### Options Counseling

- [OM 20-054](#)

### Stimulus Payments

- [OM 20-059](#)

### Civil Money Penalty (CMP)

- [IM 20-021](#)

## HCBS Providers

### HCBS Therapy Services

- [OM 20-020](#)

### Guidance for Class B Providers

- [OM 20-023](#)

### Changes to Benefits & Services (Table)

- [OM 20-046](#)

### Telemedicine

- [Temporary Policy](#)

### Host Home Inspections

- [OM 20-036](#)

### CDASS Sick Time

- [OM 20-047](#)

### Changes to Benefits & Services Rates (Table)

- [OM 20-048](#)

### Flexibility in Hiring

- [IM 20-019](#)

### CC & SCC Clarifications

- [OM 20-060](#)

### Additional Provider Relief Funds

- [IM 20-024](#)

### Non-Medical Transportation

- [OM 20-063](#)

### Retainer Payments Ending

- [OM 20-069](#)

### Guidance for Reopening or Expanding Day Programs

- [OM 20-070](#)

### CDPHE TA for IRSS

- [IM 20-031](#)

### Updated Residential Guidance

- [OM 20-072](#)

### Day Hab Svcs in Response to COVID-19

- [OM 20-083](#)

### Reporting COVID-19 Supplemental Payments on the MED-13

- [OM 20-086](#)

### Billing Guidance for HCBS Providers When Using Telehealth

- [OM 20-090](#)

### Adult Day Svcs in Response to COVID-19

- [OM 20-091](#)

### Removing Travel Time from PARS for Homemaker and PC

- [OM 20-093](#)

### NMT MCT Permit Requirements

- [IM 20-048](#)

### Denver Based Rate Increase

- [OM 20-089](#)

# Other Resources

Added a “COVID-19 Resources for LTSS” document to our webpage:  
[www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response)

## LTSS COVID-19 Webinars and Training

LTSS stakeholders and providers are invited to participate in an informational webinar to discuss the implications for service delivery, case management, payment, operational

+ [Upcoming Webinars](#)

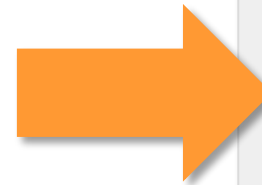
+ [Webinar Recordings and Materials](#)

+ [COVID-19 Training for Frontline Staff](#)

+ [COVID-19 Toolkit](#)

- [Other Resources](#)

- [COVID-19 Resources for LTSS](#) - Updated September 11, 2020
- [Supporting You, Supporting Us Poster](#) - September 2020
- [Have You Changed Poster](#) - September 2020
- [Your Guide to Wearing PPE Video](#) - September 2020



# Reminder: Personal Protective Equipment

If you or your organization are experiencing a shortage or outage of personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, gowns, etc.) to conduct essential or life saving functions during this crisis, please reach out to your **local emergency manager** or **local public health department**.

[Find Your Local Community Emergency Manager](#)  
[Find Your Local Public Health Department](#)

To report issues in  
obtaining PPE please  
notify:

Sadie Martinez  
Access and Functional Needs  
Coordinator  
Office of Emergency Management  
720.610.1691  
[sadie.martinez@state.co.us](mailto:sadie.martinez@state.co.us)



# More Information



[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/)



[www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page](http://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page)



[covid19.colorado.gov](http://covid19.colorado.gov)



Local Public Health Agencies

[www.colorado.gov/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency)



[www.colorado.gov/hcpf/COVID](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/COVID)



Residential Care Strike Team -  
[www.colorado.gov/cdphe/residential-care-strike-team](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/residential-care-strike-team)

# Next Steps

# Upcoming Webinars

Break for Joint Budget Committee and Holidays

**SEE YOU IN 2021!**

**Dates and Times TBD**

Stay up to date on other meeting dates and times at:

[www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response)

# Upcoming Meeting

Person-Centered Budget Algorithm Statewide Meeting II

Monday, November 16, 2020

- Two options to attend
  - 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
  - Webinar Link: <https://cohcpf.adobeconnect.com/pcba/>
  - Phone: 1-877-820-7831; Participant Code: 982280#

# Thank You!