What is the Children’s Habilitation Residential Program (CHRP) waiver?

The Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) Home and Community Based Services – Children’s Habilitation Residential Program waiver provides benefits and services for eligible children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and complex behavioral or medical needs.

Children who qualify for the waiver have high needs for support that put them at risk for out-of-home placement or institutional care. CHRP waiver services are provided in addition to a member’s Health First Colorado benefits.

The CHRP waiver was established in 1996 and was expanded to better serve children and families in July 2019.

How to apply

The child’s family and/or caregiver(s) must contact their local Community Centered Board (CCB) by visiting this website: hcpf.colorado.gov/community-centered-boards to start the waiver application process. Click on the CCB link to find the right contact for the county.

If you have additional questions, please email: HCPF_CHRP@state.co.us

Health First Colorado Provides Support for Families who have Children with Developmental Disabilities and High Needs
How can the CHRP waiver help children, families and caregivers?

The goal of the CHRP Waiver is to help eligible children and their families live well and safely in their homes and communities while preventing the need for out-of-home placement or institutional care and to support them in circumstances when the child may need out-of-home placement.

Benefits and services provided by CHRP waiver help children and their families during times of crisis – when the child’s support needs become more severe than normal, unmanageable or poses a danger to the child and/or their family, caregiver(s) or community. The crisis may be identified by the child, their family, caregiver(s) or an outside party.

To learn more or apply for services, contact the Community Center Board (CCB) in the area where the child lives. The CCB helps the eligible child get services and supports that meet their individual needs. The CCB will help with:

- Waiver eligibility
- Screenings and assessments as appropriate
- Coordinates with county regarding financial eligibility
- Development a service plan
- Connections with local service provider(s) who will develop a treatment plan
- Service and support coordination and monitoring
- Transitioning and/or stopping services

Who qualifies?

To qualify for the CHRP waiver, individuals must:

- Be a child from birth (0) up to the age of 21
- Qualify for Health First Colorado
- Be eligible for developmental disability services through the Community Centered Board in the area where the child lives
- Have extraordinary needs – including complex behavioral and/or medical support needs – that put them at risk of, or in need of, out-of-home placement or institutional care

*Children who meet these qualifications are eligible regardless of child-welfare involvement.

Benefits and services

CHRP waiver members have access to the following benefits and services:

- Habilitation Services (24 hour out-of-home residential)
- Respite Services (in and out-of-home)
- Community Connector
- Massage Therapy
- Hippotherapy
- Movement Therapy
- Intensive Support (Wraparound* and Child & Youth Mentorship Services)
  - Strategies to support the child, their family and/or caregiver(s) to prevent the need for out-of-home placement prior to or during a crisis
- Transition Support (Wraparound* and Child & Youth Mentorship Services)
  - Strategies to support the individual and family when a child transitions back to the family home from an out-of-home placement

Wraparound is an individualized approach to help children with complex needs. Service providers, support team members, the child and their family and/or caregiver(s) all work together to help achieve success for the child and the family at home, in school and in the community.

For a list of the Community Centered Boards in Colorado visit hcpf.colorado.gov/community-centered-boards