



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

Colorado Annual Substance Use Disorder Stakeholder Forum

FAQ 2022

About the Forum

The second annual substance use disorder stakeholder forum was held virtually in October. During the annual forum, the Department reviewed the Annual Report for Demonstration Year 1, provided an update about the 1115 Waiver “Expanding the Substance Use Disorder Continuum of Care”, and provided an opportunity for participants to ask questions. There were four opportunities for the public to attend. Forums were held on the following dates and times:

- Friday, Oct. 7, 2022, 12-1 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022, 9-10 a.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022, 4-5 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022, 2-3 p.m.

Summary

Cumulative number of registrants: 71

Cumulative number of attendees: 39

Note: There were a number of people who registered for multiple webinars but did not attend all of the webinars.

Q&A

Question #1: Will utilization management be more standardized for residential services to align with ASAM standards, as services that weren’t required in residential level of care previously are now?

Utilization management reporting under 21-137 is standardized and uses ASAM criteria for making authorization and denial determinations.



Question #2: Is funding available to be able to enhance crisis services or to start these services to have this available across the state?

Yes, there are funding opportunities for crisis services through both BHA and HCPF ARPA grants. Information can be found on the respective webpages by searching funding opportunities.

Question #3: For clarification, does this demonstration include young people under 18 years?

Yes, all Medicaid members are included in the demonstration regardless of age.

Question #4: Is there a list of those organizations/facilities who are taking part in this waiver and have this continuum of care available?

All organizations who are Medicaid providers of SUD services are required to deliver care in accordance with 1115 requirements as outlined by the Department and overseen by the MCEs. The SUDD Benefits webpage does list providers by level of care that are licensed by BHA, enrolled with Medicaid and contracted with an MCE.

Question #5: What is happening right now with residential?

Residential LOC services as defined by ASAM are licensed by the BHA, enrolled with Medicaid and then contracted with one or more MCEs to deliver those level of care to members.

Question #6: There is an insufficient number of residential settings to address substance misuse. With this waiver, are there funds that would allow them to build out this type of service within their own practice or in coordination with other organizations?

The 1115 waiver does not provide funds for building infrastructure, it allows for services to be SUD residential services to be delivered in settings with 16 or more individuals for more than 14 days and ensures that all levels of care including outpatient level 1 and 2 and inpatient level 4 are provided to members in the state.

Question #7: Can I get information about requirements for harm reduction or peer support services in rural areas? If a community is interested in starting a program, what are the requirements for someone to start a program?

More information about peer organizations across the state, including in rural areas, can be found about Peer services through the BHA webpage and specifics about enrolling as a peer service organization with Medicaid and contracting with MCEs can be found on the Department Peer Services webpage. Harm reduction would be an approach to service



delivery that SUD providers of services in the area may engage in and reviewing provider sites would be necessary to identify those providers.

For a community interested in starting a program, connecting with the BHA would be a good starting point to determine what licensing requirements would need to be met to set up the program. Once a program is licensed discussing with the Department to determine enrollment steps would be next.

