



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Project: Community First Choice (CFC) Council Meeting Notes

January 4, 2023 - 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

1. Attendees - HCPF CFC Team: Adam Tucker, Betty Vanderkaay, Eileen Saunders, Jordan Larson, Katie McGuire, Kristine Dos Santos, Maddie Quartaro

Attendees Represented:

- Persons over the age of 65, persons with a disability, or their representative: 11
- Provider: 14
- *Unknown: 7

**Unknown - this section includes individuals that were on the call but did not identify which group they represent. Since they did not self-identify, we cannot assume which group they represent.*

2. CFC Council Highlights

1) Consumer-Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)

- a) When CDASS moves to CFC, if a current parent caregiver wants to move from IHSS to CDASS will the parent or relative caregiver be allowed to provide services under CDASS to their child?
 - i) **Department Response: Yes**, and families can still be the caregiver, but there is still the condition that an Authorized Representative (AR) can't be paid to be an AR and the caregiver. So, when thinking about who a caregiver and AR can be, need to keep this in mind.
- b) AR and attendant can't be the same person/paid person. If you are a parent care provider and providing care to your child under CDASS, does your AR need to be in Colorado or can be out of state?
 - i) **Department Response:** Nothing in rule at this time that states AR must be in the state. Currently, there are ARs that live out of state that take care of administrative portions of being an AR, like timesheets, checking in with case managers, etc., that are all done from a different state.
- c) Can the AR be the company providing CDASS Services? This is currently possible with IHSS as well.
 - i) **Department Response:** There was a recent rule change to IHSS that no longer allows agencies to also be the AR. For CDASS, the member/AR is the employer of record of the attendant, so there is no company that is providing care. It is the member/AR that is the employer of those attendants. For additional information on this rule change, please visit the [Participant-Directed Programs webpage](#).



d) Does the Department have a vision for what this CDASS workgroup is going to look like?

- i) **Department Response:** The CDASS workgroup will review, prioritize and investigate key CDASS policy areas in relation to the federally required aspects of the CFC regulations. The CFC/CDASS workgroup will collaborate with the Department to support the implementation of CDASS in the CFC option in Colorado. The Department plans to have the CDASS workgroup be a place that gives people a voice for that program and changes related to CFC, help keep the program similar to how it currently is, and to minimize impacts to CDASS members and program. More information about the CDASS workgroup can be found on the [CFC Stakeholder Webpage](#).

2) Eligibility

a) Do clients need a disability determination from the State for CFC, like they do for the HCBS waivers?

- i) **Department Response:** For CFC, an institutional level of care requirement must be demonstrated, meaning that a member's needs are like that of a person in a nursing facility. Some examples include,

(1) If a child's care needs could not be met in the home, they would be at risk of needing to receive care in a Nursing Facility, or Intermediate Care Facility.

(2) They have acute care needs or their condition is unstable and unpredictable

(3) They require regular medical care, in home services at least once every 30 days, and oversight of a physician to maintain stability.

b) Will CFC look at multiple pieces of eligibility similar to HCBS waivers? Such as target (institutional), functional (ADLs) and Financial?

- i) **Department Response:** CFC won't require same targeting criteria that waivers do, so eligibility isn't the same as HCBS waivers. CFC will have the institutional level of care requirements, as well as financial requirements and other limitations.

3) Program Approved Service Agencies (PASAs)

a) Will provider qualifications impact pediatric PASAs providing homemaker, respite, community connector, etc.?

- i) **Department Response:** Licensing requirements will only relate to Personal Care services, so any PASAs that don't provide Personal Care will not need to look into licensing.

4) Wellness Education Benefit (WEB)

a) How do you track utilization for the WEB if it is being mailed to Members?

- i) **Department Response:** Currently we intend to send the WEB through USPS and the WEB not being returned due to an inaccurate address or something is going to be a part of it. There is also a process that will take place prior to the WEB being sent to members that will help make sure addresses are verified and accurate, and the WEB is going to the right people.



3. Agenda Items

Meeting started on time and Adam Tucker welcome everyone and presented our mission statement, meeting agenda, announced to use the google attendance form, meeting etiquette & ground rules, and provided call in information for those who called in for meeting attendance.

- 2022 Recap of CFC by Eileen Saunders
 - Service Package Selection:
 - ✓ Mandatory Services and Optional Services
 - ✓ Waiver Services Moving to CFC
 - ✓ Services in CFC vs Waiver - added Wellness Benefit as a new service and will talk more in February's meeting
 - Service Delivery Models:
 - ✓ Traditional Agency-Based Care
 - ✓ In-Home Support Services (IHSS)
 - ✓ Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)
 - Member Eligibility:
 - ✓ Level of Care Eligibility
 - Provider Qualifications:
 - ✓ Personal Care: providers will obtain a Class B license
- Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) Overview
 - Established in 2002
 - Available throughout Colorado
 - Member/Authorized Representative (AR) Responsibilities
 - Attendant Requirements
 - ✓ Effective the end of 2022, age requirement changed from 18 to 16 years old
 - ✓ Criminal background check



- What's Next?
 - CDASS Stakeholder Engagement
 - ✓ Beginning on Feb 9 from 1 to 2:30pm, two meetings every month through April. Will report to CFC Council
 - ✓ CFC Council meetings - same day & time but will last 90 minutes
 - Topics for CDASS Stakeholder Engagement
 - ✓ Information & Assistance
 - ✓ Training
 - ✓ Children Utilizing CDASS
 - ✓ Unstable Health
 - ✓ Statute Changes
 - [CDASS Workgroup Interest Form](#): Commitment to CDASS workgroup is 3 hours of meetings per month.
- Open Forum: Questions were answered during the meeting
- Communications: provided communication methods
- Next Meeting will be February 1, 2023
- Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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