



**COLORADO**

Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

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

November 2, 2022 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- Attendees - HCPF CFC Team:** Adam Tucker, Betty Vanderkaay, Eileen Saunders, Jordon Larson, Katie McGuire, Kristine Dos Santos, Lana Eggers and Madeline Quartaro

Attendees Represented: 29

- Persons over the age of 65, persons with a disability, or their representative: 13
- Provider: 10
- \*Unknown: 6

*\*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) Acquisition, Maintenance, and Enhancement of Skills (AME)

- Stakeholders raised concerns about the AME service suggesting that teaching a skill and performing a skill are very different and recommend the Department take that into consideration when thinking of staff and rates for AME
  - Department Response:** There are still some things that need to be worked out for the AME service. We will take this feedback and encourage others to also provide additional feedback as we continue developing the AME service.

#### 2) Case Management

- Stakeholders asked questions about what the role of case managers will be related to CFC and what changes there may be.
  - Department Response:** A lot of work needs to be done regarding how the case manager roles will change or not change related to CFC. At this time, we believe case managers will have the same roles and responsibilities as they do under waivers, but still need to work out some details and expect further discussions and updates in the future.

#### 3) Consumer-Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)

- The Department announced that CDASS is expected to be implemented into CFC at the same time as In-Home Support Services (IHSS) and will be available to adults and children. The Department is working on coordinating the stakeholder engagement plans specifically for CDASS and expects to have more information starting in January when CFC Council meetings resume.



#### 4) CFC Transition Plan

- a) “Currently, although there are no state level wait lists for children's waivers, many counties have wait lists for enrolling in waivers due to a backlog of applicants. I'm concerned this will get exponentially worse without a lot of preparations and possibly a phased in approach.”
  - i) **Department Response:** As part of our transition plan, we do intend to work with our county partners to ensure there is capacity and understanding to ensure we are prepared for this. It will also be important for HCBS waiver members and other CFC Stakeholders to engage with the Department in developing this transition plan through CFC Council meetings, CFC Listening Sessions, and other stakeholder opportunities.

#### 5) Eligibility

- a) The Department included multiple examples of scenarios to illustrate how eligibility may work with CFC within their presentation.
- b) Stakeholders raised concerns about those who may only use 1 service on a waiver currently and how that may result in them no longer being able to access HCBS waiver services.
- c) “If a child/family is accessing the CHCBS waiver currently due to being above income for any other Medicaid program and IHSS is moved to CFC how would they remain eligible?”
  - i) **Department Response:** The Department intends to implement a wellness education benefit as a waiver service to help members maintain their waiver eligibility and those at risk of not being able to access waivers if they only utilize 1 service on the waiver that is being moved to the State Plan as a part of CFC.
- d) Additional questions were raised around children accessing IHSS through CFC and how they would get Personal Care services.
  - i) **Department Response:** In this instance, a child would access IHSS Health Maintenance Activities services through CFC and personal care through the Pediatric Personal Care benefit.

#### 6) Exceptional Cleaning Services

- a) “For people on state plan services, there is still a big need for enhanced cleaning services to help those folks who are hoarders. So you need both and many of these folks aren't on SLS”
  - i) **Department Response:** As we are moving into next steps, we are going to keep enhanced cleaning in Children’s Extensive Support (CES) and Supported Living Services (SLS) waivers. The Department will continue to work internally on this and explore any opportunities that may arise.

#### 7) Pediatric Personal Care

- a) “If pediatric personal care would be available through CFC why would a child not be eligible for personal care through IHSS?”
- b) “Who should I take the comment or question to for why children can't access personal care under IHSS?”
  - i) **Department Response:** Pediatric Personal Care will not be moving to CFC and will remain on the state plan under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. If you would like to provide feedback or learn more about Pediatric Personal Care, we recommend attending the [Children's Disability Advisory Committee \(CDAC\)](#).



**8) Wellness Education Benefit**

- a) “Under CHCBS, if IHSS is moved to CFC how will members meet one waiver service per month?”
- b) “Do you anticipate implementing Wellness Ben. with CFC timeline? Sorry if you already answered!”
- c) “Sorry if I missed this - the wellness benefit would be a waiver benefit on which waivers?”
  - i) **Department Response:** The Department plans to implement a wellness education benefit to help members maintain their waiver eligibility but working with federal partners to work out details so is still under development. The Department intends to have the wellness education benefit be a part of CFC timeline and be available to all waivers.

**3. Agenda Items**

Meeting started on time and Eileen Saunders 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.

- **Council Meeting Updates:**
  - December Council meeting and Listening session are cancelled due to JBC hearings and the holidays. Council meeting will reconvene on January 4, 2023 and Listening session will be resumed on January 11, 2023
  - CFC Community Meeting on November 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.
- **Timeline Updates:**
  - CFC is now expected to begin implementation on July 1, 2025
  - Members will begin transitioning to CFC services at time of Continued Stay Review (CSR) beginning on July 1, 2025
- **Updates to Service Package:**
  - Consumer Direction
  - Decision on Homemaker Enhanced
  - Decision on Life Skills Training (LST)
  - Decision on Acquisition, Maintenance, and Enhancement of Skills (AME)
- **Data Collection & Quality Assurance:**
  - Collected through eligibility & enrollment systems
  - Member Satisfaction Survey



- Quality Assurance
- **Member Eligibility:**
  - Eligibility Group Flow Chat
  - Level of Care Requirements
  - Examples
- **Open Forum:**
  - All questions from attendances and chats were answered and recorded
- Eileen announced communications and accommodations information, next Listening Sessions - Wednesday, November 9, 2022, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and Volunteer Opportunities
- Adam announced to complete the Satisfaction Survey and survey link provided in the chat
- Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request for persons with disabilities. Auxiliary aids and services for individuals with disabilities and language services for individuals whose first language is not English may be provided upon request. Please notify John Barry at 303-866-3173 or [John.R.Barry@state.co.us](mailto:John.R.Barry@state.co.us) or the 504/ADA Coordinator at [hcpf504ada@state.co.us](mailto:hcpf504ada@state.co.us) at least one week prior to the meeting to make arrangements.

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