HB 23-1300 Feasibility Study

Exploring Health Related Social Needs

Suman Mathur, Colorado Health Institute August 14, 2025



Background: Health Related Social Needs

What are Health-Related Social Needs (HRSNs)?

- HRSNs are non-medical factors that influence a person's health and well-being
- These factors include things such as affordable and safe housing, nutritious and available food, consistent utilities, freedom from violence and discrimination, and health care availability
- Research has found that these factors can account for up to 55% of health outcomes

How can Medicaid impact HRSNs?

- Many states have implemented approaches to impact HRSNs through Medicaid. Examples include:
 - Paying for services such as home-delivered meals or utilities up to 6 months
 - > Providing HRSN case management services
 - Investing in infrastructure to support the implementation and delivery of HRSN services (such as health-infrastructure exchange technology, workforce development, and/or stakeholder convening)

1115 Waiver Amendments for HRSNs

- Colorado is currently implementing housing and nutrition services in a phased approach for the following populations:
 - Individuals eligible for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) vouchers experiencing a behavioral health need and/or chronic health condition
 - Individuals eligible for Community Access Team (CAT) vouchers
 - Individuals eligible for Colorado Fostering Success (CFS) vouchers

1115 Waiver Amendment HRSNs Services Timeline

1115 waiver amendment Approved January 13, 2025 No sooner than July 1, 2025, voucher recipients receive housing services Jan 1, 2026, Housing Populations may also be eligible for pantry boxes July 1, 2027, Housing recipients may be eligible for medically tailored meals

2025

2026

No sooner than Jan 1, 2026
Housing populations may be eligible for nutrition counseling

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Study feasibility of:

- Expanding continuous eligibility of specific populations
- Implementing services that address HRSNs for expanded populations

HRSNs Services Considered for 1300 Feasibility Study

- Housing
- Extreme Weather
- Nutrition
- Social and Community Supports

Timeline of 1300 Feasibility Study Activities

June-July 2025	August-December 2025	January 2026	Future Work 2026 and beyond
Explore the possibility of HRSNs Services and identify who would benefit from them	Analyze feasibility of expanding identified HRSNs services	Publish the feasibility study	Identify considerations for future decisions about potential implementation of HRSNs services

Initial Research Findings: Stakeholder Engagement



- Different populations need different intensities of housing services:
 - Permanent supportive housing is highly effective for high-needs
 - Financial assistance, pre-tenancy support, and temporary housing is important for less-intensive situations.
- Attendees also noted the importance of respite care service and hospice/end-of-life housing.
- Stakeholders noted the importance of quality, stable housing to support early childhood development.





- Attendees prioritized home-delivered meals and pantry stocking as the highest impact services.
- Attendees suggested expanding nutrition services to include farmers market vouchers, congregate meal sites, and child and family-focused programs, with strong interest in medically tailored and clinically supported options.
 - Who would benefit most from nutritional education?
 - What type of nutrition services would be most beneficial to children and families? How does this vary for young children (0-3) compared to older children?





- Stakeholders prioritized power supplies and other items to maintain access to basic needs during power/water outages.
- Stakeholders also noted the importance of safe heating and cooling options for housed and unhoused people.
- HCPF could also consider services like mold remediation.

Q: Who would benefit most from access to home heating or AC improvements?





Social and Community Supports

- Attendees prioritized caregiver supports and transportation to community activities as the most impactful social and community support services.
- Attendees recommended expanding social and community support services to include case management, education and vocational support, housing and legal assistance, and access to child care and translation services.

Q: What type of caregiver education or support services would be most impactful?

Additional Discussion Questions

 What are barriers to accessing these services that would need to be addressed to be successfully implemented?

Next Steps

- Public Meetings August 26 11am and 6pm
- Final study to be published early 2026
- Subscribe to our newsletter

Thank you!

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