

# Hospital Transformation Program Newsletter



**COLORADO**  
Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

Hello HTP Stakeholders,

Welcome to the February 2023 edition of the Hospital Transformation Program (HTP) newsletter. February marks Black History month in which we honor the achievements and contributions of African Americans to the country. There are great events happening throughout Colorado all month long and beyond. We have surpassed another big milestone for the HTP with hospitals completing their first data reporting period on Jan. 31, 2023. We commend and congratulate the hospitals on all the hard work they have been putting into implementing their programs and all the great effort to report their baseline data to the Department. We will be finalizing and preparing the data for benchmark calculations throughout the rest of the quarter.



We have a lot of great information, news, and updates in this month's newsletter. Thank you for reading!

**Matt Haynes**  
Special Finance Projects Manager

## HTP Timeline

### HTP Timeline & Milestones



## Black History Month

The observation of Black History Month dates back to 1915, when Carter G. Woodson, now known as the 'Father of Black History,' created an organization called the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. In 1926, Woodson initiated the first Negro History Week in February.

Also known as African-American History Month, it was first observed by students and faculty at Kent State University in 1970. In 1976 it evolved into a month-long celebration and became a national holiday when President Gerald Ford recognized "the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor

throughout our history” in a speech to mark the United States Bicentennial.

Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history.

Dr. Justina Ford (January 22, 1871 - October 14, 1952) is Denver's first African American female physician. Dr. Ford was born in Knoxville, Illinois, and relocated to Denver in 1902. She graduated from Herring Medical College in 1899, and started a private practice in her home, in the [Five Points](#) (Denver), where she practiced medicine for over 50 years.

Dr. Ford is well known for delivering over 7,000 babies, and her home houses the Black American West Museum. Justina treated anyone who needed medical care, regardless of race, gender, language, citizenship, or ability to pay. Many of her patients were poor whites, African-Americans, and non-English speaking immigrants who were turned away from hospitals. Ford learned multiple languages to help treat her patients. Her patients paid her in goods, services, or money.

To learn more about Dr. Ford, watch this [video](#), by Rocky Mountain PBS.

History Colorado has also unveiled a new app called the Black History Trail. With the app History Colorado highlights the African-American experience in Colorado and features both virtual and in-person guided experiences to various historical narratives to trace Black history in Colorado from pioneer days to modern times. [Learn more about the app](#) and [the Black History Trail](#).



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## HTP Workgroups

The [HTP Hospital Workgroup](#) will meet Feb. 16 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The agenda will include status update, hospital self-reported measures submission review, baseline data submission requirements and timeline for NBA entries, accessing and reviewing scores, claims-based measure process and PY2Q1 SRRP process. This will be a jam packed HTP workgroup, so don't miss this one!

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## Rural Provider Access and Affordability Stimulus Grant Program (SB 22-200)

- The 9-member Rural Provider Access and Affordability Advisory Committee began meeting Sept. 7 and met every two weeks through November 2022.
- With the advisory committee's recommendations, **the Department presented rules to the Medical Services Board in December 2022** and presented again in January 2023 for the final hearing.
- Grant applications are expected to open March of 2023. Award determinations will be made and grant agreements executed by June 2023.
- Information about the grant and advisory committee [is available on our website](#).

## CHA Conversation about Workforce Safety and Well

As hospitals and health systems continue to face major workforce challenges, burnout and wellness remain in focus. Burnout may result in harmful consequences for patient safety and has been identified as a major public health priority by The National Academy of Medicine and U.S. Surgeon General. Strategies centered on physical, emotional, and psychological wellness are needed to ensure a thriving workforce.

I hope you'll make plans to join CHA for an educational and action-oriented session from **1-2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14**, to learn about strategies your organization can implement immediately. This session is available exclusively to CHA member hospitals and health systems and is available at no charge. [Register here.](#)

### Presenters:

- **Read Pierce, MD**, is chief of the Division of Hospital Medicine, associate chair for Faculty Development and Well-being, and associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at Dell Medical School. Dr. Pierce led organizational transformation initiatives at the University of Colorado, including programs focused on quality, process-improvement methods, culture, teamwork, systems redesign, finance, innovation (design thinking) and leadership of change.
- **Elizabeth Harry, MD**, is the senior medical director of well-being for UCHHealth, Assistant Dean of Faculty Well-being for the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado Hospital School of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine. She has practiced internal medicine for 10 years, both inpatient and outpatient.

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## Growing the Health Care Workforce

**Help build the health & child care workforce by spreading the word to your patients, community, and staff about these once-in-a-lifetime educational opportunities!**

Please help us grow the health care workforce as well as the child care workforce. Please print and display these time-limited training opportunity communications in your patient waiting rooms, exam rooms, staff break rooms and other related areas. The links below include a poster that can be printed and a digital display that can go on TV screens in patient or staff areas. [Print and digital resources are online.](#)

The first poster communicates free, short-term training for in-demand health care professions (i.e. CNA, EMT, MA, pharm tech, etc). The second poster also communicates free early childhood education courses to become a certified child care professional. Both of these free education opportunities are essential to revitalizing the health care workforce, while offering upward mobility for low-income Coloradans seeking new career paths. If these communications get to the right people - specifically Medicaid members - they can be life-changing, giving people a once-in-a-life-time opportunity for free certifications that create a meaningfully different income trajectory, while helping grow the workforce.

Please help fully leverage these unique educational and career advancement opportunities by displaying these important communications today!

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## Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment

This is a training for health and mental health care providers through Peer Assistance Services. This training provides interactive training for health and mental health professionals on the evidence-based approach of Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). Screening assists providers in identifying and intervening with patients at risk for health problems due to alcohol and other drug use.

#### Learning Objectives:

- Summarize the relationship between substance use and health
- Describe SBIRT as an evidence-based public health approach for screening patients for alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use
- Demonstrate how to incorporate SBIRT into practice

Contact [SBIRTinfo@peerassistanceservices.org](mailto:SBIRTinfo@peerassistanceservices.org) to schedule a training for your organization.

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### Health Colorado Inc. (HCI) and Care on Location supporting RAE 4 hospital HTP efforts

#### Bridge Care Program

Health Colorado Inc. (HCI) is partnering with Care on Location (CoL) to build a Bridge Care program that supports Hospital Transformation Program (HTP) initiatives and RAE 4 Access to Care standards which are amenable to telehealth modalities such as RAH1, RAH2, CP1, SW-CP1, and COE2 and care coordinators being able to connect patients directly to a care source.

#### Goals:

- Strengthen care transitions and bridge access to care gaps in a timely manner
- Respect local resources and workflows that already exist
- Extend access to care to those who are often lost through the cracks

HCI and CoL have been meeting with several hospitals interested in collaborating. For those wanting to learn more about this opportunity can reach out to Christina Brown [christina@healthcolorado.health](mailto:christina@healthcolorado.health)

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### Telligen Learning Assets and Support

In Case You Missed It: the [Telligen QIN-QIO](#) has no-cost [Learning Assets](#) to offer that are in direct alignment with many of your HTP measures and interventions.

If you have a specific request for technical assistance related to evidence-based interventions, coalition building/strengthening, data and/or quality improvement training, you can [submit a request](#).

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### An End of an 'X' Era

In a ceremony on Jan. 24, at the White House, the Biden administration marked the end of the so-called X waiver requirement, a move that federal officials, lawmakers, and public health experts hope will open up access to a drug proven to dramatically reduce the risk of fatal opioid overdoses.

The Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act, which eliminates the X waiver, among other measures, was first introduced in Congress in 2019. But it gained broad bipartisan support in the last Congress and was endorsed by hundreds of organizations before it was added to the year-end omnibus bill passed in December.

Practitioners who want to prescribe buprenorphine to their patients will still be required to get a DEA license, as they would any other controlled substance like morphine or Xanax. But they won't have to face additional administrative requirements that have slowed down patient access to the drug for years.

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### Community Engagement Resource

The Assessing Community Engagement project from the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) [Leadership Consortium: Collaboration for a Value & Science-Driven Health System](#) is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Guided by a committee of national and community leaders who reflect diverse backgrounds and perspectives, the project aims to provide community-engaged, effective, and evidence-based tools to those who want to measure engagement to ensure that it is meaningful and impactful, with a special emphasis on ensuring equity as a critical input and outcome. As part of this effort, the Organizing Committee developed the [Assessing Community Engagement Conceptual Model \(ACE-CoM\)](#), which identifies outcomes associated with meaningful community engagement. More information is on their [website](#).

Thanks to the Community Advisory Council (CAC) for sharing this resource.

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## Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention Act (HB22-1326)

[House Bill 1326](#) officially dubbed the Fentanyl Accountability And Prevention Act, will go into effect July 1, 2023. There is a lot that the bill implements. One area of note for HTP hospitals who are implementing interventions to initiate Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the emergency department, is that the bill requires community correctional facilities to begin providing MAT - considered the gold-standard way to treat opioid-use disorders. If they can't offer MAT, the programs must help inmates assess MAT providers in the community.

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## Colorado AIM Substance Use Disorder Learning Collaborative

Improve birth outcomes while boosting your HTP and Hospital Quality Incentive Payment (HQIP) performance! The Colorado Perinatal Care Quality Collaborative (CPCQC) is recruiting new clinical teams and patients with lived experience - especially in the southern and eastern parts of Colorado!

Want to improve care for pregnant and postpartum people with substance use disorder, depression and anxiety? Join CPCQC's [Colorado AIM: Substance Use Disorder Learning Collaborative](#). This QI learning collaborative can boost your team's performance if you've chosen measures on HTP related to screening and referral for perinatal depression and anxiety, social needs screening and notification, or discharge planning with RAE notification for mental illness or substance use disorder. This opportunity is also open to outpatient clinics serving pregnant or postpartum people! Please pass the opportunity along to any outpatient clinics you may know.

Want to reduce neonatal complications, especially if you chose that measure for HTP? Join CPCQC's NICU quality improvement programs: [CHoSEN](#) or [DEFINE](#).

Want to reduce first-time, low-risk (NTSV) Cesarean sections, especially if you are working on the **HQIP Cesarean Section Measure**? Join CPCQC's [SOAR initiative](#).

CPCQC would also love to recruit additional patients and family members with lived experience to inform our patient-centered programs. These can be patients or their loved ones with lived experience of Cesarean, birth trauma, substance use disorder, perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, racism, or just someone who has experienced birth first or secondhand and is passionate about improving outcomes.

The southern and eastern areas of Colorado are particularly underrepresented in CPCQC programs, so be sure to pass this along to clinical teams or patients in those areas.

If you're interested in any of the above, please email [info@cpcqc.org](mailto:info@cpcqc.org) for more info!

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## Breaking Through Bias in Maternity Care Training

CPCQC is partnering with March of Dimes to provide both a live and self-paced training for Breaking Through Bias in Maternity Care, an interactive racial bias training. This

training is great for anyone who participates in the bedside care of perinatal patients in any setting: nurses, OBs, midwives, neonatologists, doulas, pediatricians, and front desk staff.

Work at your own pace and complete the self-paced, eLearning version of this training by Jan. 30, 2023. This is a 1.5 hour training with the same learning outcomes as the live session. 1.5 CME/CNE are available upon completion. Attendance is first come, first served for 115 participants. [Access the training.](#)

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## Public Dashboard

The Collaboration, Performance and Analytics System (CPAS) hospitals will be using for HTP has a public dashboard that stakeholders can access to view each participating hospital's measures and interventions. The information is sortable and can be exported into Microsoft Excel. This is a nice tool for exploring all the interventions that the hospitals will be implementing and the measures that the interventions are focused on. Go to the new [dashboard](#).

## Community Advisory Council

**The Community Advisory Council is currently looking to recruit new members!**

Community Advisory Council meetings continue to take place monthly to provide important perspectives to the HTP as well as community awareness of and engagement with the program. The next meeting is in February 2023. Agendas, materials, and notes from previous meetings are on the [Community Advisory Council website](#).

## Colorado Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Enterprise (CHASE) Board meeting

The next Colorado Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Enterprise (CHASE) Board meeting will take place [via Zoom](#) on **Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 3 p.m.**

Additional information about the board, as well as meeting materials, are on the [CHASE Board website](#).

## Helpful Links & Program Contact

[HTP Communications archive](#)

[Community Advisory Council website](#)

[CHASE Board website](#)

[HTP website](#)

Email HTP Program  
Contact

Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing | 1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203

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