



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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

April 1, 2021

The Honorable Dominick Moreno, Chair
Joint Budget Committee
200 East 14th Avenue, Third Floor
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Senator Moreno:

In accordance with C.R.S. § 25.5-6-409.3 (4), The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (the Department) respectfully submits our quarterly status report on the redesign of a consolidated Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

Since the January 2021 update, the Department has continued to hold multiple stakeholder meetings where we have been incorporating work and recommendations completed with Waiver Redesign stakeholders to make necessary changes to our HCBS services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These changes ensure needed HCBS services are designed to be flexible, individualized and cost effective.

Furthermore, the Department has continued work to align service design, policies, and implementation across all HCBS waivers to serve all populations, including those who will access the IDD consolidated waiver. In doing so, the Department will advance the mutual aims of IDD waiver redesign and the larger effort to simplify and align across the state's system of HCBS Waivers. In simplifying and aligning services, the Department will make accessing services more straightforward and effortless and will help build provider capacity creating a more stable workforce for the future.

This quarter the Department was able to make significant strides implementing and growing the supportive employment pilot program aimed at incentivizing waiver providers to increase quality outcomes for our members and at a cost savings for the Department, partnering with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to strengthen HCBS provider sustainability and expansion by expediting provider enrollment and onboarding, streamlining member referrals, and offering technical assistance to providers, and lastly, expanding and making improvements to Day Services that have led to a more customizable and streamlined approach benefiting both our providers and our

members alike. These strides not only support a consolidated waiver, but also, strengthen and align the HCBS system as a whole, and the services our members receive.

Lastly, the Department has been building upon the work completed in the actuarial analysis conducted by Bolton Health Actuarial, (2019) “Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Waiver Redesign Project Cost Modeling”. Specifically, the Department has been closely engaging stakeholders on the development of the Person-Centered Budget Algorithm (PCBA), which is essential to implement a consolidated waiver. Using information gathered during the new assessment process, the PCBA will help identify a range of resources to be used during the support planning process. This quarter, the Department obtained roll-forward authority for this work to more fully engage stakeholders and allow time to implement the new Assessment and Person-Centered Support Plan to garner more data to use in the development of the PCBA. The Department will be working with stakeholders in late spring to begin to develop the structure for a new exceptions process to be implemented in tandem with the PCBA to address exceptional cases for individual’s whose needs are extraordinary and not fully captured within the PCBA.

Background information on the consolidated waiver is available on the Waiver Redesign Stakeholder Engagement [website](#). If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department’s Legislative Liaison, Jo Donlin, at Jo.Donlin@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Kim Bimestefer
Executive Director

KB/mab

Cc: Representative Julie McCluskie, Vice-chair, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Bob Rankin, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Leslie Herod, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Kim Ransom, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Chris Hansen, Joint Budget Committee
Carolyn Kampman, Staff Director, JBC
Eric Kurtz, JBC Analyst
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John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF

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