



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

FY 2015 Legislative Request for Information (LRFI) #3: Office of Community Living – Summary

December 2015

Introduction

This LRFI asked the Department to report on its plans, timeline and budget to implement the recommendations of the Community Living Advisory Group (CLAG), Colorado's Community Living Plan (response to the Olmstead decision), and the federal rule that sets forth requirements for home- and community-based services (79 CFR 2947). The response includes information about plans and timeline, but not budget because the Department cannot commit to any future budget or legislative action outside of the statutorily authorized budget and legislative process. The work plans described below are a "living" plan that will need to be updated regularly.

For an overall timeline, see Appendix E on p. 38 of the [full report](#).

Summary of Accomplishments

The Department has secured grant funding (No Wrong Door; Testing Experience and Functional Tools) to make Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) system changes to eligibility, needs assessment and case management. The Department has also made changes to some of the waivers (for example, eliminating waitlists and consolidating waivers), has done some analysis on the feasibility of adding personal assistance services to the Medicaid State Plan (Community First Choice option), and has submitted a plan to comply with the final federal rule on settings for home- and community-based care.

Summary of Work Planned

The Department is planning to implement LTSS system changes for eligibility,

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assessment and conflict-free case management. The Department will also continue to examine if and how to consolidate waivers, and to look at the best way to provide personal assistance services to those who need them in order to remain in the community. This may mean including such services in the Medicaid State Plan. The Department will continue to work with its stakeholders and agencies such as the Colorado Departments of Human Services, Labor and Employment, Public Health and Environment, and Transportation to create better infrastructure for people to continue to live in the community. Finally, the Department will improve data and evaluation infrastructure to better coordinate and integrate LTSS with other care, and track the program outcomes.

The Department reported on its progress and plans in these categories:

- Person-centered care coordination (p. 12)
 - **Main accomplishments:** Created task group for conflict-free case management; awarded TEFT grant to give clients better access to their records; outlined steps to align the Department's Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC) with LTSS.
 - **Planned work:** Plan for conflict-free case management submittal due to the Colorado General Assembly in July 2016; as part of waiver redesign, provide clients a choice for case management agency; align the ACC and LTSS; develop a person-centered care plan; improve IT infrastructure to allow for better coordination and integration of LTSS with other care.
- Entry point and eligibility (p. 15)
 - **Main accomplishments:** Received No Wrong Door Grant; currently developing new eligibility tool and process for LTSS.
 - **Planned work:** Develop and implement new eligibility tool and process for LTSS; test No Wrong Door model in 3 – 5 regions; design statewide No Wrong Door system.
- Waiver simplification and benefit redesign (p. 17)
 - **Main accomplishments:** Eliminated waitlists for the HCBS Children's Extensive Support (CES) and Supported Living Services (SLS) waivers; merged the Persons Living with AIDS waiver into the HCBS Elderly, Blind and Disabled (EBD) waiver; sought and received stakeholder feedback on waiver redesign; submitted plan to comply with the final federal regulations regarding settings for home- and community-based services; added pediatric personal care benefit to the State Plan.
 - **Planned work:** Update the feasibility analysis for the Community First Choice option to include personal assistance services in the State Plan; add CDASS to the SLS waiver; streamline rules and create consistent regulations



for personal assistance services; convene the Respite Care Task Force; consolidate waivers for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities; implement plan to comply with the final federal regulations regarding settings for home- and community-based services.

- LTSS workforce (p. 20)
 - **Main accomplishments:** Provided staff training on person-centered thinking; worked with RCCOs to train care coordinators on the LTSS system and person-centeredness; published an updated list of In-Home Service and Support (IHSS) provider agencies on the Department website.
 - **Planned work:** Develop training on person-centeredness and deliver it to state staff and case managers; develop a universal attendant list for the Department's Consumer-Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) and improve quality through appropriate background checks for attendants.
- Regulations (p. 21)
 - **Main accomplishments:** Four bills were passed to allow the Department to better meet LTSS needs in Colorado; completed a comprehensive review of [10 CCR 2505-10 sections 8.400 through 8.499](#), regarding long-term care.
 - **Work planned:** Review and update the rules governing programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Continue to engage stakeholders for their ongoing input in these and all other areas of implementation of LTSS redesign.
- Housing and transportation (p. 22)
 - The Department partners with CDHS and CDOT in their efforts to improve access to housing and transportation for older adults and those with disabilities. CDHS and CDOT are the lead agencies for this work.
- Employment (p. 25)
 - **Main accomplishments:** Built cross-agency relationships, especially with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, to help employers, job coaches, and Medicaid case managers understand how to connect individuals with disabilities to employers; increased participation in the Medicaid Supported Employment benefit through the DD and SLS waivers; expanded the Medicaid Buy-In program to the HCBS-EBD and HCBS-CMHS waivers.
 - **Work planned:** Expand Medicaid Buy-In to additional eligible groups; continue to collaborate with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act and other workforce initiatives and issues.
- Monitoring and evaluation (p. 27)



- **Main accomplishments:** Participating in the National Core Indictors project; established the Office of Community Living Quality Improvement Committee which begins its work in January 2016.
- **Work planned:** Implement the Experience of Care survey (from the Testing Experience and Functional Tools grant); create standards for LTSS electronic health data and interoperability with other systems.

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