



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update Webinar

Colorado Department of Health Care Policy &
Financing

Office of Community Living
Health Programs Office

August 18, 2022

- **General ARPA Updates**

Presenter - Jill Schnathorst, Director, Compliance & Innovation Division, Office of Community Living (OCL)

- **ARPA Base Wage**

Presenter - Candace Bailey, Director, Home & Community Based Services Division, OCL

- **Key Project Highlights - Behavioral Health**

Presenter - Meredith Davis, Behavioral Health & Special Projects Manager, Health Programs Office

- **Key Project Highlights - HCBS**

Presenter - Candace Bailey, Director, Home & Community Based Services Division, OCL

- **Other Office Updates**

Presenter - Amanda Lofgren, Director, Case Management & Quality Performance Division, & Candace Bailey, Director, Home & Community Based Services Division, OCL

General ARPA Updates



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ARPA Extension

After national advocacy, associations are reporting (and CMS has verbally confirmed) that CMS will be extending the time allowed for spending ARPA HCBS to **March 31, 2025**



- Colorado has thoughtfully considered this opportunity
- Weighing the desire to push money out quickly while also giving project more time to be successful, we will be extending our spending end date to **December 31, 2024**
- **The majority of projects will continue on their original schedule**

ARPA Project Phasing



All projects have begun their launch process as of July 1, 2022!

Recent ARPA FAQs

Question:

How can I find grant opportunities that I might be eligible for?

Answer:

The new [ARPA Grant Opportunities page](#) has all information about upcoming (and past) grants. Including applications, supplemental materials, and grant details.

Recent ARPA FAQs



Question:

I just signed up for the newsletter or I missed one from the past. Where can I find old ones?

Answer:

All archived editions of the newsletter are available on the [ARPA Newsletter page](#), where you can also sign up to be on the list. Additionally, new grants will be announced via the newsletter.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA)

- The Department recently onboarded Maktub Limitless to support building equity, diversity, inclusion, & accessibility across our project teams and ARPA efforts.
- The contractor will:
 - Review Grant Request for Applications
 - Support the development of a disability cultural competency training
 - Develop a project self assessment for EDIA
 - Provide training for staff

Grant Financial Vendor

What's their role?

- The grant financial vendor will create the grant agreement documentation (contract), manage the agreements and make payments to the grantees.

What does that mean for grantees?

- In most cases, if you're awarded a grant you will work with this third-party entity execute the grant agreement and to submit invoices for payment and any other reporting requirements.

ARPA Base Wage

- Providers who provide these services are required to pay direct care workers at least the Base Wage and required to submit an attestation by June 30, 2022.
- Non-Compliance Letters are being sent out to providers.
- **Audits, recoupments, and corrective actions may be coming.**
- Submit attestations to HCPF_WageCompliance_FCU@state.co.us

- Adult Day Services
- Alternative Care Facilities (ACF)
- Community Connector
- Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)
- Group Residential Services and Supports (GRSS)
- Homemaker & Enhanced
- In-Home Services and Supports (IHSS)
- Individual Residential Services and Supports (IRSS)
- Job Coaching
- Job Development
- Mentorship
- Personal Care
- Prevocational Services
- Respite
- Specialized Habilitation
- Supported Community Connections (SCC)
- Supported Living Program



Questions & Discussion

*Use Raise Hand feature in Reactions
or
If you're on the phone
Press *6 to unmute or *9 to raise hand*



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Key Project Highlights

2.01 Behavioral Health Transition Community Grants

Grants to support Behavioral Health services for persons in need of community-based care are coming this FALL!

Project Goal: To keep individuals out of hospital and institutional settings, and support transitions back into the community with proper support. Focus on historically underserved, under-resourced populations.

Total Funding Available: \$14 million; \$2 million per award

Where can we find more information about this opportunity?

The ARPA website. The team hopes to create a pre-grant webinar for potential application to provide more detail on eligibility, outcomes resources and more!

3.07 Wrap-Around Services, including Peer Supports, for Members with Complex Needs

Statewide Supportive Housing Expansion (SWSHE) Pilot Project

HCPF and Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) joint venture to expand supportive housing across Colorado

Project Goals:

- Identify and expand wraparound services to address the safe housing social determinant of health for about 500 Health First Colorado members
- Evaluate the project impact and seek opportunities for future engagement

3.07 Project Model

Expanding Wraparound Services in Supportive Housing

- **500 Members:** Participant eligibility determined by a HCPF risk score demonstrating unmet health needs
- **Service Dollars:** Up to \$10,000 per member per year in services funding for the expansion of Tenancy Support Services
 - Additional funding for Peer Supports
- **Grant Agreements:** Funding will be distributed through grant agreements with Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) providers throughout the state

Housing
Subsidy

Tenancy Support
Services

Physical &
Behavioral
Health Services

Peer
Supports



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What is Permanent Supportive Housing?



“Permanent supportive housing is an intervention that combines affordable housing assistance with voluntary support services to address the needs of chronically homeless people. The services are designed to build independent living and tenancy skills and connect people with community-based health care, treatment and employment services.”

[National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

The SWSHE project will provide grants to existing PSH providers to fund the expansion of tenancy support services in order to support members in housing attainment and retention.

What are Tenancy Support Services?

A portfolio of wraparound services that are key to ensuring members address the safe housing social determinant of health

This includes:

Pre-Tenancy Services

Services that assist individuals to prepare for and transition to housing

This may include:

- Assisting with finding and leasing housing
- Securing ID and Documents
- Arranging and supporting a move
- Etc.

Tenancy Sustaining Services

Services provided once an individual is housed to help the person achieve and maintain housing stability

This may include:

- Training on the role, rights, and responsibilities of the tenant and landlord
- Crisis/Conflict Management
- Etc.

Statewide Supportive Housing Expansion (SWSHE) Pilot Project Timeline

Fall 2022

- Grant Agreements signed by Cohort 1 PSH providers

Early 2023

- Estimated launch of Cohort 2

**Additional cohorts of eligible providers will be added, as needed, in order to serve about 500 members through the pilot*

For More Information

Contact: Amy Austin
Wraparound Housing Policy Advisor
amy.austin@state.co.us

Questions about accessing homelessness services?

Eligibility for participation in SWSHE will be determined through collaboration with the Continuum of Care (CoC) Coordinated Entry system and with contracted PSH providers.

Please contact your region's Continuum of Care (CoC) to learn more about accessing homelessness services in your community:

Metro Denver: www.onehomeco.org

Northern Colorado: www.nocococ.org

Pikes Peak: coloradosprings.gov/coc

Balance of State: www.coloradocoalition.org/BoSCoCCES



Questions?



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6.01 PDN/LTHH Acuity Tool

Project Goal:

- Create a new assessment tool for adult and pediatric Private Duty Nursing (PDN) and adult Long-Term Home (LTHH) Health Services
 - Evidence-based Tools will be used to determine medical necessity
- Create valid and reliable tools
- Move from using a paper tool and into a system for conducting the assessment

Status:

- Request For Proposal (RFP) now live to create **new acuity assessment tools** that
 - RFP can be found <https://vss.state.co.us/home> (public access button)

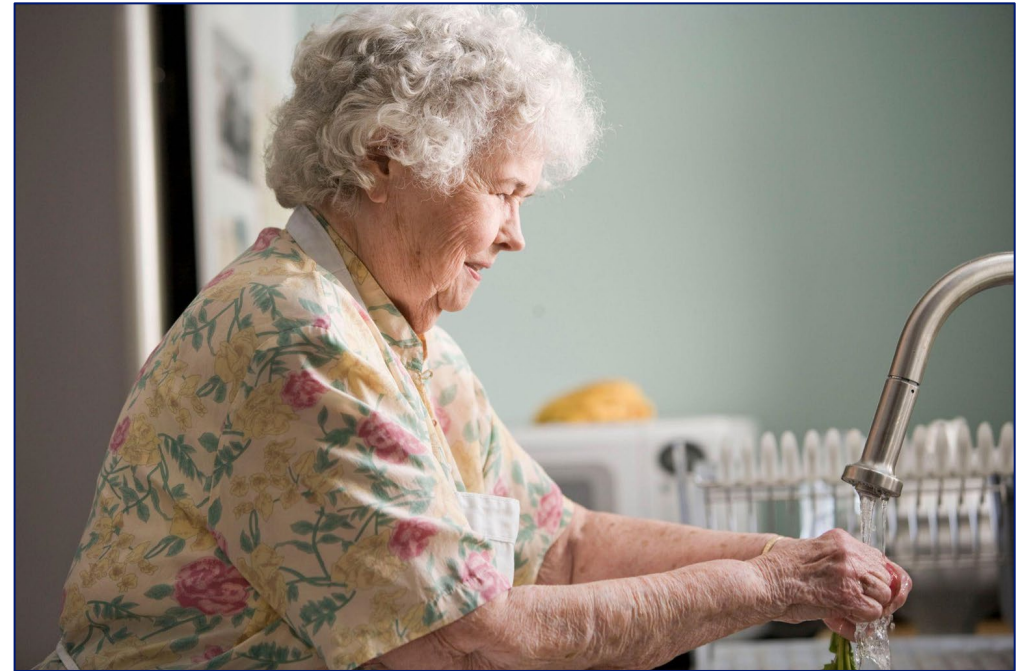
Residential Innovation

Project Goal

- Create financially viable small residential programs that provide:
 - Person-centered outcomes
 - Focus on rural communities
 - Sustainable small group living
- Supportive Communities

Scope of Work (FY 23)

- **Conduct a Models of Care Analysis**
 - To improve transitional care from institutional settings to new models
 - Through stakeholder surveys, current models, & innovative solutions
- **Informant Interviews**
 - With links to Long-Term Care
- **Stakeholder Engagement Meetings**



Respite Grants

Goal and Eligibility

- The Department will create a state-only grant program to:
 - Expand providers' ability to provide respite services
 - Extend funding for respite care supports
 - Allows providers to develop unique and creative ways to deliver respite services, thinking outside of the box of the current delivery method
- Examples of potential respite grant projects:
 - Respite voucher programs
 - Respite Events - such as hosting a group activity for both members and their siblings, providing an educational course for caregivers while providing care of the member during caregiver attendance

Timeline

- The Request for Application (RFA) will be posted in the coming weeks
- Goal: Grants awarded and programs beginning no later than January 2023

6.06 - HCBS Provider Digital Transformation

Survey Request

HCBS & Behavioral Health Provider Technology and Digital Tools Investment Grant Purpose of the Grant

- Assist eligible HCBS & behavioral health providers in adopting, implementing, &/or upgrading technology & digital tools to support their service delivery
 - The program intends to award \$18 million to providers in 2023
 - The application opens this Fall 2022

Request

- HCPF & the Office of eHealth Innovation (OeHI) is requesting feedback on the technology needs for HCBS & behavioral health providers to inform the planning & development of a technology grant program.
- Link to the [Digital Tools and Technology survey](#)
- For questions about this survey contact: Amanda Smith, amanda.b.smith@state.co.us

6.13: Connect CMAs to ADT Data

- Optional, grant-funded pilot program to connect Case Management Agencies (CMAs) to timely admission, discharge and transfer (ADT) data for their members.
- Timely notification will improve critical incident reporting, support Care and Case Management System (CCM) operational readiness.
- Grant supports Case Management Agency (CMA) overhead related to processing data, creating best practices for its use statewide.



Questions & Discussion

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or
Raise your hand in Zoom*



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Other Office Updates

Department of Justice Findings

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

In March 2021, the Department of Justice (DOJ) issued findings that that Colorado is violating Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by “administering its long-term care system in a way that unnecessarily segregates individuals with physical disabilities in nursing facilities and places others with physical disabilities at serious risk of unnecessary institutionalization.”

Department of Justice Findings

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

- The Department is working closely with the DOJ to remediate these concerns and **wants to hear from you** about what is most important when reviewing and revising our policies
- We will be conducting a series of **conversations in September and October** to hear from a variety of stakeholders
- If you are interested in participating, please join us on September 1, 2022 at the [Transitions Stakeholder Advisory Council](#) meeting to kickoff the engagement series

HCBS Settings Final Rule Update

- CMS [announced](#) that because of the workforce crisis exacerbated by COVID-19, states could request a cross-waiver corrective action plan (CAP) allowing for extra time to implement the rule. We plan to request a CAP from CMS.
- Pre-provisional notices going out soon will identify settings that have not been verified as fully compliant and advise providers to immediately finish submitting their updates for these settings.
 - In these messages, the Department will identify the **very few** settings (4% of active settings) that are potentially eligible for additional time, i.e., those that:
 - have qualifying open compliance issues;
 - have no disqualifying open compliance issues; and
 - are not host homes.
 - Providers may request extra time for these settings.
 - **Do not assume any of your settings will qualify for additional time.**

HCBS Settings Final Rule Update

The schedule for implementing the HCBS Settings Final Rule is set forth in the [Statewide Transition Plan \(STP\)](#). Key upcoming deadlines are in effect and include:

Milestone	Completed By
The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) will complete verification of updated Provider Transition Plans (PTPs)	September 14, 2022 (for residential settings) and October 14, 2022 (for nonresidential settings)
HCPF will send provisional notices to providers that have settings determined to be noncompliant, as well as to individuals receiving services at these settings (and/or guardians and any other legally responsible parties) via their case managers	September 21, 2022 (for residential settings) and October 21, 2022 (for nonresidential settings)
HCPF will complete informal reconsideration of settings and send final notices to providers and individuals, beginning the individual transition process where necessary	November 17, 2022 (for residential settings) and December 16, 2022 (for nonresidential settings)
End of transition period, with termination of Medicaid HCBS funding at noncompliant settings	March 17, 2023



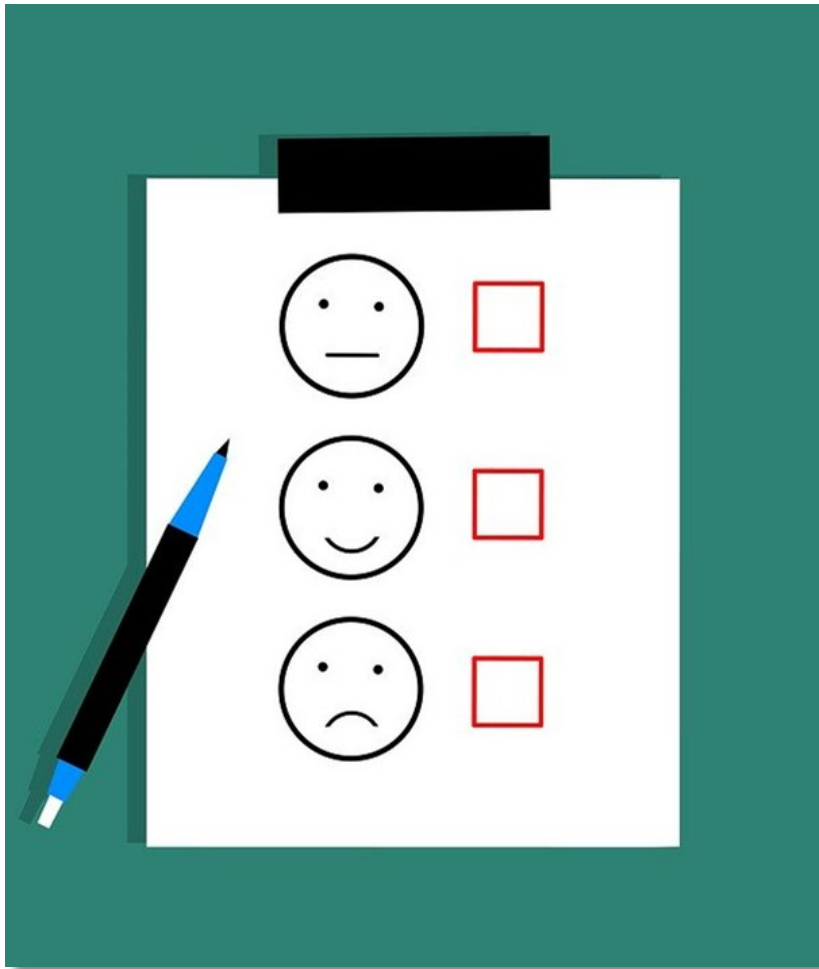
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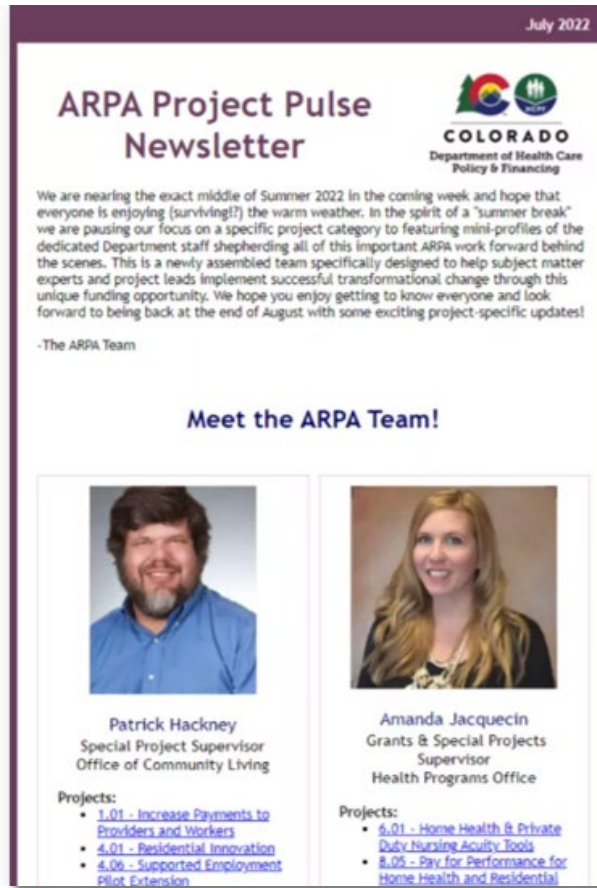
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60 Second Satisfaction Survey

www.surveymonkey.com/r/GenARPA

Project Pulse Newsletter & Quarterly Reports



hcpf.colorado.gov/arpa/newsletter



Quarterly Report #4

Implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Section 9817

Enhancing Colorado's Home and Community-Based Services System through an Enhanced Federal Match

August 1, 2022

Submitted to: The Joint Budget Committee

Quarterly Report
April 2022 - June 2022



Q1 2023 QUARTERLY REPORT

Colorado Spending Plan for Implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Section 9817

Enhancing Colorado's Home and Community-Based Services System through an Enhanced Federal Match

July 18, 2022

Submitted to: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Quarterly Report Submission to CMS
Q1 2023 Report
April 2022 - June 2022

hcpf.colorado.gov/arpa#reports

Next Webinars



OCL General Updates

Thursday September 15, 2022

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. - Disability, Older Adult, & Advocacy Communities

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - Providers

ARPA Quarterly Update

Thursday November 17, 2022

9:30 - 11 a.m. - Disability, Older Adult, & Advocacy Communities

3:30 - 5 p.m. - Providers



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Thank you!



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