

Older Adult Stakeholder Meeting

February 1, 2022

Agenda

- Policy Updates
 - Demonstration of Need
 - Health First CO Buy-In Program
 - Expansion to the 65+ population
- American Rescue Plan Act Update
- Other Updates
- Questions

Policy Updates

Demonstration of Need

- Reminder- Legislation passed during the 21/22 session to develop criteria for new Medicaid SNF beds; also allows for up to 5 Medicaid beds in private pay facilities
- The DON is moving forward and is currently being reviewed by the Attorney General
- Draft regulations can be found on our website:
<https://hcpf.colorado.gov/sites/hcpf/files/Nursing%20Facilities%20Demonstration%20of%20Need-8.430%20Rule%20Revision-DRAFT-October%2013%2C%202021.pdf>
- There will be another public hearing in the future when stakeholders can provide feedback

Health First CO Buy-In Program for Working Adults with Disabilities

- Implemented March 1, 2012
 - State Plan Amendment submitted Jan. 20, 2012. CMS approved March 22, 2012
- Age 16 through 64 years old to change to Age 16 and older effective July 1, 2022
- Be employed,
- Have a qualifying disability (clinical as defined by social security without regard for exceeding substantial gainful activity) *and*
- Have income, after disregards, below 450% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).* Additional income may be disregarded.
 - Spousal income is disregarded/not counted.
- Resources/assets are not counted.
- Premiums remain the same.

* The FPL is updated annually. In 2021, 450% of the FPL allowed for earning up to \$9,655 per month. Includes disregards and exempted income.

Buy-In Program For Working Adults With Disabilities: HCBS Waivers

Health First Colorado Buy-In beneficiaries have access to all Medicaid State Plan services. In addition, eligibility includes access to the following 1915(c) HCBS waivers*:

- Elderly, Blind and Disabled Waiver
- Brain Injury Waiver
- Spinal Cord Injury Waiver
- Community Mental Health Supports Waiver
- Supported Living Services Waiver

* *1915(c) HCBS enrollees must meet level of care requirements*

Adding the 65 & Older Population

Adding workers with disabilities age 65 & older to Buy-In includes:

- Health First Colorado Buy-In enrollees turning 65
 - Medicaid only, Medicaid as a supplemental payer to employer sponsored insurance and/or Medicare, managed care, fee for service, 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver participants
- Medicaid beneficiaries with disabilities who may transition to Health First Colorado Buy-In
- New applicants age 65 & older who meet eligibility criteria
 - Including those who may have had previous Medicaid enrollment & those without previous Medicaid enrollment

Adding the 65 & Older Population

Policy Goals and Expectations:

- Increase of workers with disabilities remaining in the workforce
 - Medicaid employment & earnings-friendly messaging will encourage employment for individuals with disabilities of all ages
 - May increase interest in employment support services
 - Increase in Medicaid enrollment
 - Increase in 1915(c) HCBS waiver enrollment for some programs
 - Increase opportunities for successful community living for individuals with disabilities
 - Increase long-term services & supports State plan service utilization
 - Added option for facility transition activities
 - More options for case managers

Steps to 7/1/22 Implementation

- **Identify and Prepare Operational Elements:**
 - Eligibility, Medicaid Management Information System, modify existing programmatic materials (FAQs), member services, web-based systems, contracts.
- **Conduct Data Analysis:**
 - Determine programmatic impact.
- **Determine Fiscal Impact:**
 - Quantify administrative costs, including IT, operations and expected increase in Medicaid enrollment and utilization.
- **Conduct Education and Outreach:**
 - Prioritize impacted members, identify most effective interface with public health emergency (PHE) enrollment and coordinate implementation with PHE unwind.
 - Create outreach and educational materials and identify audience specific strategies - including blogs, presentations, and social media.
- **Federal:**
 - Submit request for federal resources to support administrative changes.
 - Submit State Plan Amendment request to CMS.
 - Submit 1915 (c) waiver amendments for impacted HCBS programs.
 - Will be opportunity for public comment on these changes

Stakeholder Engagement

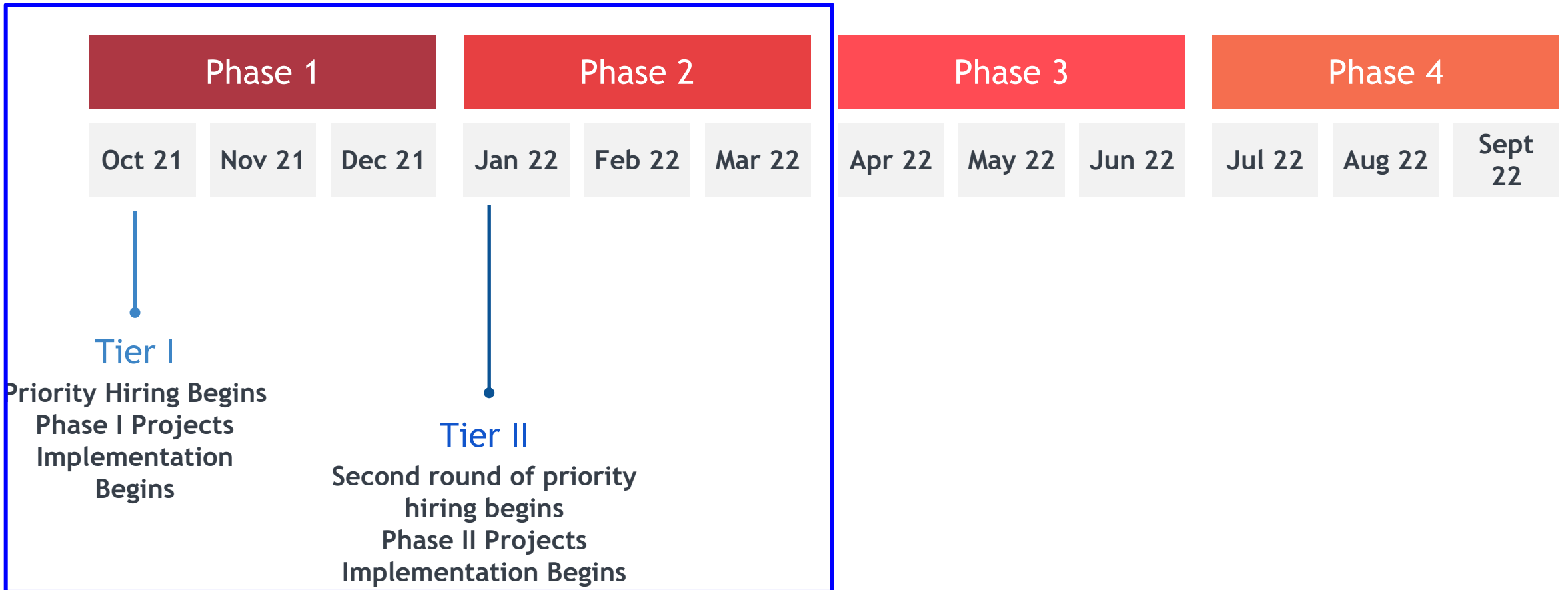
Are you interested in getting involved or staying informed?

- Put your email to the chat and we'll add you to the mailing list to be informed about upcoming opportunities to share feedback and ideas

ARPA Updates

ARPA Project Phasing

Project Phasing



Where we are today

- Projects
 - 40 projects are now active
 - 22 phase 1- Launched Oct 2021
 - 18 phase 2- Launched Jan 2022
 - Have continued to build out our [ARPA Webpage](#)
 - This will be the primary location for all project-specific information, including engagement opportunities
- Stakeholder Engagement
 - ARPA Calendar will include Project-specific engagement- Workgroups, webinars, focus groups, surveys, etc
 - First ARPA Newsletter went out last week! [Join the mailing list](#)

Other ARPA News

- Reporting
 - Second quarterly reports to CMS and JBC due today!
 - Updates on project implementation and spending to date
 - Will be posted on the ARPA Webpage
- First ARPA-focused webinar in 2022
 - Thursday, February 17th
 - 9:30am-11:00am Disability, Older Adult, and Advocacy Communities
 - 3:30pm-5:00pm Provider Community
 - For more information, visit our [OCCL Stakeholder Calendar!](#)

Project-Specific Advisory Role

New Systems of Care

- Identify & pilot innovative systems of care that recognize & leverage the needs & capabilities of various populations
- Create a grant program to support innovative models of care

Residential Innovation

- Develop & pilot continuum models of care that incent the creation of financially viable small residential programs that are person-centered, with a focus on rural communities

Promote Single Occupancy

- Will support assisted living facilities & group homes in creating more single occupancy rooms- will offer incentive payments for providers
- The Department will research current practice & what it would take for these providers to offer more single occupancy rooms

Other Updates

Money Follows the Person Funding

- ★ OCL has been awarded a \$5 million Money Follows the Person (MFP) Capacity Building grant made available by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as a result of the Public Health Emergency (PHE)
- ★ Opportunity to evaluate and build upon the Transition Services programs that emerged from Colorado's demonstration of MFP--Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT)
- ★ Outcomes will ultimately offer strategies and local resources to drive the sustainability and evolution of the State's transition services and supports.
- ★ Project will run through September 2024
- ★ For additional information, contact Matt Bohanan, Access Unit Manager at matthew.bohanan@state.co.us



Questions?



Thank you!