

# Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

## Stakeholder Engagement Forum

Presented by: Behavioral Health Benefits  
Team

05/22/2025



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

# Agenda

- Introductions
- SMI/SED Presentation
  - Background
  - Overview
  - Implementation
  - Upcoming Forums
- Open Discussion

# Background

- In 2022, HCPF worked with Health Management Associates to conduct a stakeholder surveys and research within the national landscape to identify and explore factors creating barriers to care at Colorado's privately run IMDs.
- As a result of these survey efforts, HCPF moved forward with 3 recommended actions:
  - 1) **Pursue authorization for expanded IMD reimbursement eligibility through an amendment to the 1115 SUD waiver, submitted in Spring of 2024**
  - 2) Launch of additional stakeholder forum opportunities to explore ways to mitigate current IMD risk and determine ways to expand access across the Behavioral Health care continuum in Colorado
  - 3) Develop the Behavioral Health Campus Policy, effective January 1 2024



# SMI/SED 1115 Demonstration

- CMS Approval on January 13, 2025
- Eligible Individuals:
  - 21-64 years in age
- Eligible Settings:
  - SMI/SED services in the following Institutions for Mental Disease (IMDs)
    - CSU/ATUs
    - Free Standing Psych Hospitals
- Covered Services:
  - Allow reimbursement for members who meet medical necessity of up to 60 days while maintaining an average length of stay of 30 days for each member



# Implementation Timeline

2024

April 1

Demonstration  
application  
submitted to CMS

2025

January 13

CMS Approval of  
1115 Demonstration

2025

April-September

Negotiations with  
CMS on  
implementation plan

Selection of  
Assessment Tool

Training on  
Assessment tool use

2025

October 1

Go-Live



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# Standardized Tool

## Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment ([ANSA](#))

- Free for providers
- ANSA has demonstrated reliability and validity
- Similar to CANS used in youth space for CO
- Partnering with BHA on comprehensive assessment overlap
- Multi-purpose tool for decision making
- You do not need to be a Clinician to administer

# Engagement Opportunities

## Update on Comprehensive Care for Colorado

- [Registration Link](#)
- May 29, 2025 10-11:30am

## Quarterly

- Behavioral Health Hospital and Residential Facility Forum
  - July 17th 12-1pm
- SMI/SED Stakeholder Engagement forum
  - June 26th 12-12:50 pm
    - Monthly, third Thursday



# Open Discussion



# Contact Info

## Behavioral Health Benefits Shared Inbox

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# Thank you!

