



## Colorado Covering Kids and Families

**August 2010**

### **CKF Coalition Update**

The next **CKF Health Policy Work Group** meeting is **Thursday, Aug. 19, 2010, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.** at CCHN (600 Grant St., Ste. 800, Denver). For more information, contact Brittney Petersen, CKF Project Manager, at [brittney@cchn.org](mailto:brittney@cchn.org).

The next **CKF Agency Partners Work Group** meeting is **Friday, Aug. 27, 2010 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.** at CCHN (600 Grant St., Ste. 800, Denver). A reminder and agenda will be e-mailed to the Work Group prior to the meeting. For more information, contact Christy Trimmer, CKF Community Liaison and Policy Analyst, at [christy@cchn.org](mailto:christy@cchn.org).

The next **CKF Quarterly Coalition** meeting on **Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** (location TBD). For more information, contact Brittney Petersen at [brittney@cchn.org](mailto:brittney@cchn.org).

### **The Maze One Year Later**

CKF released *The Maze One Year Later: An Update on the Progress to Create a Direct Path to Enrollment for Colorado's Eligible Children and Families in Medicaid and CHP+* on July 20, 2010. This update provides a snapshot in time of the progress made on the specific recommendations from the original *Maze* report and offers opportunities for stakeholders to become part of the effort to eliminate the barriers that keep so many of Colorado's kids and families uninsured. The update is an interactive document that allows the reader to hone in on areas of interest by clicking on a specific recommendation. To explore the interactive update, please visit the [new landing page](#) on CKF's Web site for all resources related to the *Maze*, including a [one-page summary](#) with ideas for CKF partners to get involved.

Check the CKF Web site at [www.cchn.org/ckf](http://www.cchn.org/ckf) for the [2010 CKF meeting calendar](#).

### **Outreach and Enrollment Update**

#### ***Get Covered. Get in the Game.* Campaign**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is launching the [Get Covered. Get in the Game.](#) outreach campaign in seven pilot states, one of which is Colorado. This outreach initiative is designed to bring coaches, schools, families and communities together to raise awareness about the importance of health coverage and to enroll eligible children into public programs. The outreach materials will be specific to Colorado and will not be tied to a particular time of year, so they can be used beyond back-to-school time. The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) and CKF are partnering with CMS to distribute flyers, which will be in English on one side and Spanish on the other. Stay tuned for more information on how to request these flyers.



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### **Issues with Medicaid Parent Expansion Fixed in CBMS**

The Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) has been fixed with regard to the 1931 Parents Medicaid Expansion to 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). It is no longer a requirement for all household members to request assistance to be covered by the Medicaid Parents Expansion. New applicants are no longer improperly denied if not all household members request assistance. CBMS will run a mass update that will re-open eligibility for all cases that were improperly denied or terminated on Aug. 14, 2010. After the mass update, all parents who had their coverage denied or terminated will have their case re-opened. Until Aug. 14, contact Patricia Garcia who can assist impacted clients by re-running their eligibility to open their case. Patricia can be reached at (303) 866-5928 or [patricia.gracia@state.co.us](mailto:patricia.gracia@state.co.us).

HCPF communicated about their response to the 1931 Parents issue in the July issue of [At a Glance](#). A communication about the Aug. 14, 2010 fix will go out in the provider bulletin, CMBS listserv, and in the August *At A Glance* publication. CKF will also send out an update.

### **HCPF Announces Medicaid Expansion Stakeholder Conferences**

HCPF is hosting seven conferences around the state that will provide an overview of the Medicaid expansion programs and the status of their development. The expansion populations that will be discussed are adults without dependent children up to 100% FPL and adults and children with disabilities. Registration is now open [here](#). Conference calling will be available. Click [here](#) for more information and to see the conference dates and locations.

### **Community Forums to Help Shape Colorado's Health Insurance Exchange**

The Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved (CCMU), the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, and the Health Reform Implementation Board are working together to host a series of community forums to discuss Colorado's options for developing health insurance exchanges under health care reform. The forums will collect input from stakeholders and consumers. The next health exchange forum will be held on **Aug. 12, 2010 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.** in the Molly Blank Conference Center at National Jewish Hospital. Additional community forums will be held in the Denver-metro area and around the state. Click [here](#) for upcoming dates and more information about the community forums and the Health Reform Implementation Board.

### **New Application for All Medical Programs Now Available**

HCPF has developed a new application for all Medical Assistance Programs. This application has been available as of July 1, 2010. The new Colorado Medical Assistance Application can be used to apply for the following programs:

- Family Medicaid
- Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+)
- Adult Medicaid



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- Long-Term Care
- Home and Community-Based Waivers for Adults and Children
- Medicare Savings Program
- Emergency Medicaid

Applications can be downloaded from [HCPF's Web site](#). The Spanish translation of the application and a "type-able" version on the English application will be posted soon. Bulk orders can be placed online at [www.chpplus.org](http://www.chpplus.org).

Please continue to use the Single Purpose Application (SPA) for applicants needing both medical assistance and cash or food assistance. County and medical assistance (MA) sites will continue to accept the old application for Family Medical and CHP+ at this time, but the old application will eventually be phased out. If you have any questions, please e-mail [Medicaid.Eligibility@hcpf.state.co.us](mailto:Medicaid.Eligibility@hcpf.state.co.us).

#### **List of Certified Application Assistance and Presumptive Eligibility Sites Updated**

The list of organizations that are Certified Application Assistance (CAA) and Presumptive Eligibility (PE) sites was updated on Aug. 6, 2010. Click [here](#) for the updated list. These sites can verify citizenship and identity documents for Medicaid and CHP+ applicants.

#### **Health Policy Update**

##### **Congress Extends Enhanced Medicaid Reimbursement Rate**

On Aug. 10, 2010, President Obama signed into law a six-month extension of the enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rate to states. States will receive an enhanced Medicaid rate until June 30, 2011. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities estimates that Colorado will receive an additional \$159 million in federal reimbursement for Medicaid during the first six months of 2011.

##### **Renewal Rules Adopted by the Medical Services Board**

On July 9, 2010, the Medical Services Board (MSB) passed two rules that impact Medicaid and CHP+ renewals:

Ex Parte Renewal Allowed for CHP+: This rule states that "A redetermination form is not required to be sent to the client if all current eligibility requirements can be verified by reviewing information from another assistance program, verification system and/or CBMS." This information can be from any of the three months prior to the redetermination month. Eligibility sites are to request only the minimum verification necessary from the client. If the redetermination is done over the phone and no documentation is required, a verbal statement from the clients is sufficient verification for redetermination and should be documented in CBMS. This revision can be found in the CHP+ rules at [140.1](#).



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Phone and Electronic Renewal Allowed for Medicaid: This rule states that “An eligibility site may redetermine eligibility through telephone, mail, or electronic means.” If the redetermination is done by phone and no documentation is required, a verbal statement from the client is sufficient verification from the client. This revision can be found in the Medicaid rules at [8.100.3.Q.1](#).

Click [here](#) to read the communication sent to CBMS users about these rule changes.

Self Declaration of Earned Income: The MSB heard two additional rules at the July 9 meeting that will impact income documentation requirements for Medicaid and CHP+. These rules will allow for earned income to be self declared by Medicaid and CHP+ applicants and verified by the Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS). If the applicant does not self declare their income, income will be verified using wage stubs, written documentation from the employers, or through a phone call to the employer, if authorized by the applicant. The proposed rule change for [Medicaid](#) and [CHP+](#) can be read here. These rules will likely be permanently adopted at the next MSB meeting on Sept. 10, 2010. The proposed effective date for the approved rules is Sept. 30, 2010, and CBMS is scheduled to be ready to accept self-declared income at that time. Stay tuned to CKF for more information as it becomes available.

### Resources

#### CDPHE’s 2010 MCH Health Status Report Now Available

The 2010 Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Health Status Report, *The Health Status of Colorado’s Maternal and Child Health Population*, published by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), is posted on the CDPHE MCH [Web site](#). The report looks at the health of reproductive-age women, infants, children, adolescents, and children with special health care needs in Colorado.

### Upcoming Events

#### Social Media Training Registration Information

Colorado nonprofit organizations and funders are encouraged to attend a social media training on **Aug. 24, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at the University of Denver. The one-day interactive training costs \$30 for members of the Colorado Association of Funders or the Colorado Nonprofit Association and \$50 for non-members. Registration is recommended as space is limited. Click [here](#) for more information. To register, click [here](#).

#### Save the Date: AKC Policy Forum on Culture and Coverage

All Kids Covered (AKC) will host their next policy forum, Culture and Coverage, on **Sept. 17, 2010**. Time, location, and agenda to be announced.



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### **Job Opportunities**

Click [here](#) to see a list of The Colorado Health Foundation's (TCHF) current job openings.

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) is looking for a Research Associate. Click [here](#) to read the job description.

The Colorado Association for School-Based Health Care (CASBHC) is hiring a Director of Policy and Communication. Click [here](#) to read the job description.

In the coming months, MAXIMUS will be hiring up to 80 employees to provide eligibility and enrollment services for Medicaid and CHP+. New employment opportunities will be posted weekly at [www.maximus.com](http://www.maximus.com). Candidates must apply online.