



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

December 9, 2009

CKF Coalition Update

CKF Staffing

Dear Coalition Members,
Stacey Moody started her new position at the Colorado Association for School-Based Health Care (CASBHC) at the beginning of the month. Staffing transitions for CKF continue – I am excited to announce that Brittney Peterson has been promoted to CKF's new Project Manager, and that Christy Trimmer, Field Coordinator, has been promoted to CKF Analyst (final title TBD). As the lead entity for the CKF Project, CCHN is so excited to have such talented individuals on staff and ready to continue to lead CKF forward. I hope you will join me in congratulating Brittney and Christy on their promotions!

Sincerely,
-Polly Anderson CCHN Policy Manager and CKF Advisory Board member.

Upcoming CKF Meetings

CKF Quarterly Coalition Meeting: The next CKF Coalition meeting is **Wednesday, January 13, 2010 from 10:00am to noon** in a location TBA. Conference call-in will be available.

The next **CKF Agency Partners Work Group** meeting will be **Friday, December 11, 2009 from 9-10:30am** at our office at 600 Grant Street, Suite 800 in Denver. A reminder and agenda will be emailed to the Work Group prior to the meeting. Please contact Christy Trimmer, CKF Analyst for more information (christy@cchn.org).

The **CKF Health Policy Work Group** will meet on **Thursday, December 17, from 9-10am** at CCHN. A reminder and agenda will be emailed to Work Group members prior to the meeting. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Brittney Petersen, CKF Project Manager for more information (brittney@cchn.org).

Please be sure to check our website (www.cchn.org/ckf/) for the 2010 CKF meeting calendar.

Outreach and Enrollment Update

Looking for Outreach Materials for Colorado PEAK?

There are now [English](#) and [Spanish](#) posters available to describe to clients what's available in phase 1 of Colorado PEAK (program eligibility and application kit). PEAK is the new online tool that enables applicants to screen to see if they are potentially eligible for medical, food or cash assistance programs, and for current clients to check the status of their benefits. The web address for PEAK is www.colorado.gov/benefits. Applicants will be able to apply for medical, cash and food assistance benefits online using PEAK when phase 2 is implemented in spring 2010.

RRR Packet Changes

Do you help clients submit their Medicaid and CHP+ redetermination (RRR) packets? The State has revised the RRR packet contents, effective with the December mailings. A detailed breakdown



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

December 9, 2009

of the changes to the RRR packet is listed [here](#). Contact Jackie McKernan at Jackie.McKernan@state.co.us with questions.

Health Policy Update

Federal Health Care Reform Update

Congress continues to move health care reform forward. The House passed H.R. 3962, the Affordable Health Care for America Act, at the beginning of November. The bill expands Medicaid to 150% of the federal poverty level (FPL) for adults and children and terminates CHIP on 12/31/13 (children will be moved into Medicaid, exchange plans, or employer-based coverage depending on income). In addition, the bill imposes an individual mandate and employer requirements, creates an exchange to purchase coverage, and offers subsidies to help low-income families (between 100-400% FPL) purchase health insurance in the exchange.

The Senate is working to pass a bill before Christmas. Numerous amendments are expected to be offered and debated in the coming weeks. Currently, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590) proposes to expand Medicaid to 133% FPL for adults and children, extend CHIP to 2019, impose an individual mandate and employer requirements, create an exchange to purchase coverage, and offer subsidies to help low-income families (between 100-400% FPL) purchase health insurance in the exchange.

The bills contain common components but differ in details. Next steps include passage of a merged bill by the Senate and then the two houses will work to merge their bills into one. For more information, including summaries and side-by-side comparisons of the bills, please visit the [Kaiser Family Foundation](#) and the [Georgetown Center for Children and Families](#).

Events

The Family Leadership Training Institute is now accepting applications for January 2010. This training will be available in 5 areas throughout Colorado: Adams County, Arapahoe/Douglas County, Denver County, Larimer County and Dolores/Montezuma County. Individuals who are passionate about leading social change for Colorado families are encouraged to apply for this **FREE** 20-week course that includes meals and child care. More information can be found at www.ColoradoFamilyLeadership.com.

Reports

The University of Denver's Center for Colorado's Economic Future and the New America Foundation have collaborated on **a report analyzing the economic impact of health care reform** and its impact on Colorado's economy. Read a preview of the forthcoming report, "[The Future of Colorado Health Care](#)" which provides evidence that without health reform, Colorado business will face climbing costs over the next 10 years.

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) sponsored by the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing and funded by the Colorado Trust, conducted the 2008-2009 Colorado Household Survey. The purpose of the survey was to help assess the issues surrounding Colorado health insurance coverage and provide a baseline about health care coverage and access in anticipation of national health reform efforts. CHI released one of four planned briefs summarizing key aspects



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

December 9, 2009

of survey findings. "[A Profile of Colorado's Uninsured Population](#)" provides a summary of uninsured Coloradoans, including work status, length of time uninsured, and annual income.

Jobs

The **Colorado Community Health Network** is hiring a **Director of Finance**. The deadline to apply is December 21, 2009. For more information and the job description, please click [here](#).