



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

February 11, 2010

CKF Coalition Update

The next **CKF Agency Partners Work Group** meeting is **Friday, February 26, 2010 from 9-10:30am** at our office, located 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 Community Liaison and Policy Analyst for more information (christy@cchn.org).

The next **CKF Health Policy Work Group** meeting is **Thursday, February 18, 2010 from 9-10:00am** at our office, located at 600 Grant Street, Suite 800 in Denver. A reminder and agenda will be emailed to Work Group members prior to the meeting. Please contact Brittney Petersen, CKF Project Manager for more information (brittney@cchn.org).

Check our website (www.cchn.org/ckf/) for the 2010 CKF meeting calendar.

Outreach and Enrollment Update

HCPF Outreach Conferences 2010

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) is hosting a series of conferences for individuals interested in better assisting Coloradans apply for public health insurance and for those who would like to participate in public forums about the development of the benefits packages for Medicaid expansion populations. CBMS technical training will not be offered at these conferences. There will be a separate training for CBMS users in spring 2010. Here is the schedule for the remaining outreach conferences:

February 18 and 19 - Denver
February 24 and 25 - Grand Junction
March 3 and 4 - Lamar
March 17 and 18 - Greeley
March 30 and 31 - Colorado Springs

Conference topics include:

- Department updates
- Introduction to Family Medicaid and CHP+ Policy
- Certified Application Assistance Site training
- Presumptive Eligibility (PE) and Medical Assistance (MA) site application process
- How to assist a client with the Redetermination, Recertification and Reassessment (RRR) process
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) overview, including HITECH/ARRA updates
- Family Medicaid and CHP+ for non-citizen groups overview
- Introduction to Single Purpose Application (SPA) Assistance
- Overview of Colorado's new online application and benefit tool: Colorado PEAK
- How to add a baby to a Medicaid and/or CHP+ case
- Breast Cervical Cancer Prevention (BCCP) Overview
- Public forums about the Medicaid buy-in program for people with disabilities and the adults without dependent children expansion populations. Public forum attendees will be asked to help describe the current unmet needs of potential clients, provide input on which benefits could be included in the program, and outline important principles that should guide the benefit's development.



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To register for the conferences and for specific conference locations, please go to <http://hcpftraining.gosignmeup.com>. For questions, contact HCPF at outreach@hcpf.state.co.us.

Resources for Uninsured and Underinsured People in Colorado

The new edition of the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI) Blue Guide is here! CCHI has revised and updated their guide to services for under- and uninsured persons in Colorado. The guide, officially titled "**Connecting Care and Health in Colorado: A Guide to Services for the Uninsured**," is a user-friendly resource book designed to help consumers navigate the complex maze of health and human service programs in Colorado, identify public programs that consumers may be eligible for, and locate safety net programs and resources throughout the state. This guide may be useful to those working on systems change by making clear how Colorado's health safety net systems work. CCHI also provides free trainings on how to use the guide. For more information about trainings, or to get a copy of the new Blue Guide, please email Chloe Benson at chloe@cohealthinitiative.org or call 303-839-1261. Please include your name, mailing address, and the number of copies you would like.

Maximizing Medicaid/CHP+ Outreach, Enrollment and Retention Grants

In fall 2009, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing was awarded a 5-year, \$43 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to fund the Colorado Comprehensive Health Access Modernization Program or [CO-CHAMP](#). A portion of CO-CHAMP funding will be used to implement the Maximizing Outreach, Retention and Enrollment (MORE) Grant Program to design, develop, and implement outreach for Medicaid and CHP+ expansion populations identified in the [Health Care Affordability Act](#).

The focus for the first year of funding is to provide outreach, enrollment and/or application assistance to enroll children and pregnant women qualifying for CHP+ up to 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and low-income parents qualifying for Medicaid up to 100% of the FPL. The first year of funding for the MORE Grant Program is \$640,000, with up to \$100,000 available for individual grants. If you are interested in applying for MORE Grant Program funding, please watch the "what's new" section of the HCPF website, www.colorado.gov/hcpf for the application. CKF will provide updates with additional details as they are made available. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Rieder at carol.rieder@state.co.us.

Mini-grant enrollment fair evaluation

In April and May 2009, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) awarded 23 community-based organizations a total of \$100,000 to conduct enrollment fairs for children eligible but not enrolled in Medicaid and CHP+. HCPF has now published a document summarizing the [enrollment fair mini-grant program best practices and lessons learned](#). This document may be useful for organizations considering applying for funding through the MORE Grant Program.

Citizenship Eligibility Requirements

As agencies assist an increasing number of immigrants, refugees and asylees, including Haitian earthquake evacuees, please take a moment to review the [citizenship eligibility requirements](#) for medical assistance programs from the Code of Colorado Regulations. Please remember that the following groups of non-citizens may be eligible for Family Medicaid as of the date they receive their status from U.S.C.I.S



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(they do not need to wait 5 years to be eligible):

Asylee	Honorably discharged military veteran
Refugee	Active duty U.S. Armed Forces
Deportee	Hmong/Highland Lao veteran with Legal Permanent Residence
Cuban-Haitian	Canadian born with 50% American Indian blood
Amerasian	
Victim of trafficking	
Special Immigrants (Afghan and Iraqis employed by the U.S. military as translators or interpreters for at least 12 months) and their families	

To view the complete Code of Colorado Regulations for medical programs, click [here](#). Contact Medicaid.Eligibility@hcpf.state.co.us with questions.

HCPF 2007-2009 Accomplishments

The Department of Health Care Policy and Finance (HCPF) recently posted a [fact sheet](#) highlighting their efforts to achieve the Department's mission to provide access to cost-effective, quality health care services for Coloradans over the past several years. The document includes information about recent grant awards, provider participation rates, medical homes, and Medicaid and CHP+ enrollment.

Health Policy Update

Health Care Reform Update

Both the Senate and House passed health care reform bills in late 2009. The bills have similar components but with different details – a Medicaid expansion, individual mandate, employer requirements, creation of an exchange to purchase coverage, and subsidies to help low-income families purchase coverage. The January Senate election results in Massachusetts altered the course and speed that health care reform is moving forward. Recently, the President invited Democratic and Republican leaders to participate in a televised health reform summit on February 25, 2010 to review the best ideas from both parties in order to move forward with passing reform. For more information about current bills, please visit the [Kaiser Family Foundation](#) and the [Georgetown Center for Children and Families](#).

The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA): On December 11, 2009, the Medical Services Board heard and temporarily adopted a revised rule regarding new CHIPRA citizenship documentation requirements for CHP+. The Medicaid citizenship documentation requirements now apply to CHP+ applicants beginning January 1, 2010. In February, the Board will vote to permanently adopt the revised rule. CKF will share more information, including an estimated release of an agency letter, as soon as it becomes available.

Events and Resources

New Online Resource for Planning, Implementing and Evaluating Systems Changes

Colorado LINKS for Mental Health is pleased to announce the launch of a new website: The Repository for Systems Transformation (ReST), available at <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ps/ipsp/ReST/index.html>. ReST is a new website with over 180 toolkits, templates, best practices, and other resources organized to help your community, from planning to implementation to evaluation of system changes. These resources are widely applicable, regardless of your organization's specific focus.



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Grand Opening of Health Access Express

Denver Health hosted a grand opening of the *Health Access Express* – a van to increase enrollment in publicly-funded health coverage on Thursday, February 11. The van includes computers connected to CBMS so the applicant can be enrolled into Medicaid or CHP+ on the spot. Enrollment sites include Denver Head Starts and child care centers, churches, schools, community organizations, businesses, big box stores and more. The van will be available early mornings, evenings and weekend hours and is open to residents of Denver County. To schedule an appointment for a client, find out where the van will be located on a certain date, or to request that the van come to your organization, call Andrea Lawton at 720-545-8349.

2010 Community Assets Fair

ColoradoSaves is hosting their 1st Annual Community Assets Fair on February 27th, 2010, from 9:00am-1:00pm at the Mi Casa Family Resource Center, located at 360 Acoma Street in Denver. There will be a variety of workshops and services including free health screenings, debt counseling, information about community resources and programs, affordable housing and home ownership, and activities for kids of all ages. For more information, please visit [ColoradoSaves](http://ColoradoSaves.org).

Jobs

The **Department of Health Care Policy and Financing** is hiring 52 staff to implement the CO-CHAMP grant and Medicaid and CHP+ expansions from the Health Care Affordability Act. If interested, please frequently check the [state employment website](http://stateemploymentwebsite.com) for job postings.