



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING

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John W. Hickenlooper, Governor • Susan E. Birch MBA, BSN, RN, Executive Director

September 23, 2014

The Honorable Dianne Primavera, Chair
Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
200 E. Colfax Avenue, Room 271
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative Primavera:

Pursuant to Section 25.5-10-203 (5) (a), C.R.S., the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department) must provide a quarterly status of the transition of the Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, formerly the Division for Developmental Disabilities, from the Department of Human Services to the Department. As there are no substantive changes or updates to the information provided in the June report, this letter serves as the quarterly update for September. Communication from a provider agency and an advocacy group responsible for advocating for adults and children with developmental disabilities will be sent under separate cover.

Effective July 1, 2014, the Long Term Services and Supports Division joined the Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities as business units under the Office of Community Living. Interviews for the Director for the Office of Community Living were completed in early September and final considerations are underway.

Staff in the Office of Community Living are continuing to effectively integrate with other work units in the Department and collaborate regularly on a number of initiatives that have strengthened Medicaid. Specifically, staff have been able to build relationships that have advanced the roll out of the Full Benefit Medicaid-Medicare Beneficiary project, the addition of Personal Care in the State Plan, and the newly implemented Dental Benefit in the State Plan. Staff report that their general understanding of the service continuum available to Coloradans across all of Medicaid has been enhanced. For example, staff have been able to better coordinate behavioral services across waivers, Behavioral Health Organizations and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) services. Such understanding has helped staff more effectively manage programs and think strategically about benefit management and implementation.

If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department's Legislative Liaison, Zach Lynkiewicz at Zach.Lynkiewicz@state.co.us or 303-866-2031.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Susan E. Birch', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN
Executive Director

Cc: Representative Dave Young, Vice Chair, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Joann Ginal, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Beth McCann, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Sue Schafer, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Jonathan Singer, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Max Tyler, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Amy Stephens, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Kathleen Conti, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Janak Joshi, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Lois Landgraf, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Justin Everett, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Jim Wilson, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Katherine Blair Mulready, Health Policy Advisor, Governor's Office
Legislative Council Library
State Library
John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF
Suzanne Brennan, Health Programs Office Director, HCPF
Dr. Judy Zerzan, Client and Clinical Care Office Director, HCPF
Chris Underwood, Health Information Office Director, HCPF
Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF
Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF
Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF
