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**Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing**

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
Community Living Office
1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

December 30, 2014

The Honorable Kent Lambert, Chair
Joint Budget Committee
200 East 14th Avenue, Third Floor
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Senator Lambert:

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 December. 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.

As reported in September, 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. On October 1, 2014, the Department announced the selection of Jed Ziegenhagen as the Office's Director. Mr. Ziegenhagen has been with the Department for 15 years, serving as Deputy Director of the Health Programs Office, which included oversight for the Long Term Services and Supports Division, and also as Director of the Rates and Analysis Division. Mr. Ziegenhagen will retain his title and the associated responsibilities of Deputy Medicaid Director within the Department. In this new role, Mr. Ziegenhagen will leverage the experience he's gained overseeing the Long Term Services and Supports Division and his extensive data analytics expertise to help guide the long-range strategic vision of the Office of Community Living.

In October, the Community Living Advisory Group final report was delivered to the Governor and the Executive Directors of the Departments of Health Care Policy and Financing and Human Services. With the final recommendations in place, staff across the Office of Community Living now have a framework to guide the work necessary to transform the long term services and supports continuum of care. To that end, and under the direction of Mr. Ziegenhagen, staff are working on a Project Plan to facilitate the implementation of the Community Living Advisory Group final recommendations.

With the anniversary of the physical move a little less than two months away, staff continue to benefit from the integration of the Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities under the umbrella of the Department. Staff have not only increased their understanding of long term services and supports and the full scope of Medicaid services, but have more fully contributed to



the work in a wide variety of projects at the Department. For example, at the recommendation of the Community Living Advisory Group, staff are working to create a re-designed Home and Community Based Services waiver serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that will serve as a model for other waivers to incorporate self-direction and a person centered approach. Staff have also collaborated closely with other staff within the Office of Community Living on grant proposals and responses to the Department's federal partners on policy initiatives like the federal home and community based settings final rule. Such collaboration has maximized staff efficiency and improved understanding of core issues and challenges.

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,



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

Cc: Representative Millie Hamner, Vice-chair, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Bob Rankin, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Dave Young, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Kevin Grantham, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Pat Steadman, Joint Budget Committee
John Ziegler, Staff Director, JBC
Eric Kurtz, JBC Analyst
Henry Sobanet, Director, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
Bettina Schneider, Budget Analyst, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
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Jed Ziegenhagen, Community Living Office Director, HCPF
Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF
Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF
Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF

