



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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

June 29, 2016

The Honorable Beth McCann, Chair
Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative McCann:

Below please find a letter from the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to the House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee regarding Home- and Community-based Services Provided to Children with Autism.

Section 25.5-6-806 (2)(c), C.R.S., states that "on or before June 1, 2015, and every June 1 thereafter, the state department's evaluation shall include an evaluation of eligible children's care plans and evaluations conducted at the beginning and ending of services, as well as ongoing evaluations during the course of services, to determine whether home- and community-based services provided are effective in meeting the goals of the waiver program" pursuant to Section 25.5-6-804, C.R.S.

The General Assembly passed House Bill 15-1186 to allow the expansion of the Children with Autism (CWA) Waiver. The expansion increased the age limit, length of stay on the waiver, and included a requirement to provide annual program evaluation.

On September 14, 2015 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) sent a notice of disapproval for the Department's proposed expansion of the Children with Autism Waiver. CMS denied the proposed waiver expansion because they believe the services provided in the Children with Autism Waiver should be covered in our Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Program. Since the direction from CMS, the Department has been working on providing behavioral therapy services in the EPSDT Program.

After the Department did not receive federal approval for the Children with Autism Waiver expansion, the Legislature directed the Department to adjust the intent and scope of the program evaluation in Colorado Revised Statute, 25.5-6-802 (2) (c) to the services provided in the EPSDT Program (House Bill 16-1405 "FY 2016-17 Long Appropriation Bill," Health Care Policy and Financing Footnote 11). While services are currently being provided to children through the EPSDT Program, the Department does not have enough data to conduct a full evaluation of the services this fiscal year for two reasons. First, the number of clients receiving services through the EPSDT this fiscal year is too small for a thorough analysis of the program. After more clients enroll in the program, the Department will be able to analyze a large enough sample. Second,



the Department needs at least six months plus 120 days after the services were provided to ensure providers can collect program data on the client as well as to ensure provider billing is finished. Provider billing needs to be complete in order for the program data to be accurate. The Department is working on designing a program evaluation to review the services received in the EPSDT Program. The Department will provide a full report on the services June 1, 2017.

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 720-854-9882.

Sincerely,



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

SEB/ljr

Cc: Representative Joann Ginal, Vice Chair, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative J. Paul Brown, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Janet Buckner, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Daneya Esgar, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Steve Humphrey, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Janak Joshi, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Gordon Klingenschmitt, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Lois Landgraf, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Susan Lontine, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Dianne Primavera, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Kim Ransom, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Su Ryden, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
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John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF
Gretchen Hammer, Health Programs Office Director, HCPF
Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF
Chris Underwood, Health Information Office Director, HCPF
Dr. Judy Zerzan, Client and Clinical Care Office Director, HCPF
Jed Ziegenhagen, Community Living Office Director, HCPF
Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF
Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF





COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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

June 29, 2016

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

Dear Representative Primavera:

Below please find a letter from the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to the House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee regarding Home- and Community-based Services Provided to Children with Autism.

Section 25.5-6-806 (2)(c), C.R.S., states that "on or before June 1, 2015, and every June 1 thereafter, the state department's evaluation shall include an evaluation of eligible children's care plans and evaluations conducted at the beginning and ending of services, as well as ongoing evaluations during the course of services, to determine whether home- and community-based services provided are effective in meeting the goals of the waiver program" pursuant to Section 25.5-6-804, C.R.S.

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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 720-854-9882.

Sincerely,



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

SEB/ljr

Cc: Representative Jonathan Singer, Vice-Chair, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Kathleen Conti, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Jessie Danielson, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Justin Everett, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Joann Ginal, 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 Timothy Leonard, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Dominick Moreno, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Brittany Pettersen, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Max Tyler, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative JoAnn Windholz, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
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Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF





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

June 29, 2016

The Honorable Kevin Lundberg, Chair
Health and Human Services Committee
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Senator Lundberg:

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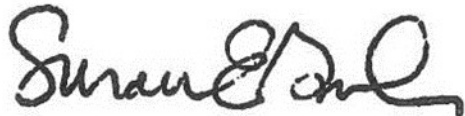
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Sincerely,



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

SEB/ljr

Cc: Senator Larry Crowder, Vice-Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Irene Aguilar, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Beth Martinez Humenik, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Linda Newell, Health and Human Services Committee
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Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF

