



**COLORADO**  
Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

Office of Community Living  
1570 Grant Street  
Denver, CO 80203

October 1, 2016

Colorado General Assembly  
201 E. Colfax Ave.  
Denver, CO 80203

Honorable Members of the Colorado General Assembly:

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department) provides the following update in order to comply with the requirements of HB15-1318 as stipulated in Section 25.5-6-409.3(4), C.R.S.:

*The state department shall notify the joint budget committee no later than June 1, 2016, if the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has not approved a single consolidated Medicaid waiver for home and community-based services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. If the state department has not received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services by July 1, 2016, the joint budget committee shall establish a notification and review process relating to the status of the pending waiver consolidation process.*

Since the update submitted in June 2016, the Department continues to evaluate and plan for the implementation of the Waiver Redesign Workgroup's recommendations. Analyses of the fiscal, programmatic and operational impacts of a redesigned waiver are also in progress. The attachment to this letter provides a high level summary of the phases for HCBS waiver redesign and shows the Department's progress within that phasing.

On August 1, 2016, the Department distributed an invitation for any interested stakeholders to join its Waiver Implementation Council. Members were selected to ensure a diverse group of perspectives, including individuals who receive services, family members, professional advocates, and representatives from provider agencies and the Community Centered Boards. Background information, meeting materials, and a complete membership list are available on the [Council's webpage](#). The Department will benefit from the Council's ongoing consultation and advice throughout the waiver design and implementation process.

Draft service and coverage standards are in development. These standards are developed in collaboration with the Council and other stakeholders and will define the waiver service specifications, provider qualifications, and conditions of coverage.

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.  
[www.colorado.gov/hcpf](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf)

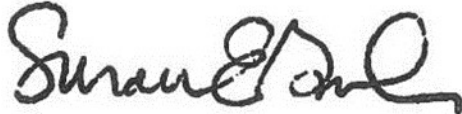


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The Department's target date for waiver submission to CMS remains July 1, 2017 with an anticipated effective date of July 1, 2018.

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/tbd

cc: Senator Kent Lambert, 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  
Megan Davisson, 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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John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF  
Gretchen Hammer, Health Programs Office Director, HCPF  
Dr. Judy Zerzan, Client and Clinical Care Office Director, HCPF  
Chris Underwood, Health Information Office Director, HCPF  
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



# *HCBS Waiver Redesign Phases*

## Phase I: Current System Assessment & Recommendation Development (Complete)

- Community Living Advisory Group Participation
- Waiver Redesign Workgroup
- Current System Analysis
- Identification of Priorities & Opportunities for Improvement
- Submit Recommendations to the Department

## Phase II: System Design & Implementation Planning (In Progress)

- Service & Delivery System Design
- Financial Impact Analysis & Budgeting Process
- Reimbursement Methodology Development
- Regulatory Review & Drafting
- Waiver Application Drafting
- Contract Procurement & Administrative Planning

## Phase III: Implementation

- Waiver Submission & CMS Approval
- Regulatory Changes
- Information System Changes
- Provider Recruitment, Credentialing, Training, & Monitoring
- Person-Centered Planning & Service Delivery

