



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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

January 1, 2018

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

Dear Representative Hamner:

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department) provides the following update to the Joint Budget Committee regarding the development of a consolidated or redesigned Medicaid waiver for Home and Community-Based-Services (HCBS) for adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) per 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 October 2017, the Department has been working strategically on its redesigning of a consolidated waiver for adults with IDD.

Under the new office structure, the waiver redesign effort is positioned to work more fluidly and strategically with related initiatives. The Department has been synchronizing waiver redesign work with the development of related initiatives, including a Single Assessment Tool, Conflict Free Case Management, Colorado Choice Transitions, and others.

The Department continues to analyze the breadth of fiscal, operational, and programmatic impacts of a consolidated waiver. The Department is determining strategies for improving quality and saving costs across each proposed waiver service. The Department has been finalizing drafts of proposed waiver service definitions, specifications, and provider qualifications. At this stage of drafting, the Department has been applying internal analysis, FY 2016-2017 contract deliverables, and feedback from the Waiver Implementation Council.

The Department maintains ongoing communication with the Waiver Implementation Council through correspondence, an online forum, and bimonthly reports on the status of waiver redesign. The Department is planning on meeting with the Council, in early 2018, for further consultation.

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



The Department's target date for submitting a waiver to CMS is July 1, 2019 with an anticipated effective date of July 1, 2020.

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,



Tom Massey,
Interim Executive Director

cc: Senator Kent Lambert, Vice Chair, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Kevin Lundberg, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Dominick Moreno, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Bob Rankin, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Dave Young, Joint Budget Committee
Robin Smart, Joint Budget Committee Analyst
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