



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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

April 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 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 January 2018, the Department has made strategic and potent progress toward implementing HB15-1318. The Department has been analyzing provider data to inform rates, provider qualifications, and quality metrics for the redesigned waiver.

The Department has been actively combing and analyzing Council input, quality improvement and cost savings strategies, and strategies for transitioning services, providers, and participants. The Department uses this work to inform the draft Service and Coverage Standards (SCS), which capture proposed service definitions, provider qualifications, and other waiver components. The Department is using the SCS and ongoing analysis to drive and inform utilization limits, transition planning, provider capacity building and training, and other remaining steps. With these elements, the Department will draft the waiver and vet the draft through statewide stakeholder engagement, and public comment.

The Department continues to benefit from the Waiver Implementation Council's (WIC) ongoing advice throughout the waiver design and implementation process. The Department met with the Waiver Implementation Council on March 22, 2018. At the meeting, the Department updated the Council on waiver redesign's progress, timeline, and next steps. The Department has scheduled to meet with the WIC over the month of April 2018 for review of the Service and Coverage Standards. The Department also maintains ongoing communication with the Council through correspondence, an online forum, and bimonthly reports on the status of waiver redesign.

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.

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Background information, meeting materials, and a complete Council membership list are available on the [Council's webpage](#).

The Department's target date for submitting a waiver to CMS remains 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 (zach.lynkiewicz@state.co.us), or Legislative Analyst, Katie Crozier (katie.crozier@state.co.us).

Sincerely,



Kim Bimestefer
Executive Director

KB/mab

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
Katie Quinn, Budget Analyst, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
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John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF
Gretchen Hammer, Medicaid Director and Office of Community Living 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
Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF
Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF

