



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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

November 1, 2019

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

Dear Senator Moreno:

Enclosed please find a legislative report to the Joint Budget Committee from the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing as directed by HB18-1326 - Support for Transition from Institutional Settings.

Section 25.5-6-1501 (8), C.R.S. states “notwithstanding the provisions of section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(i), on or before November 1, 2019, and each November 1 thereafter, the state department shall submit an annual report to the health and human services committee of the senate, the public health care and human services committee of the house of representatives, and the joint budget committee, or any successor committees, on the effectiveness of providing the services and supports required by this part 15. The report must include: (a) an evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the services; and (b) for each year of the program, the number of persons who: (i) requested services; (ii) received services; (iii) transitioned from an institutional setting to a home or community-based setting; and (iv) transitioned from an institutional setting but later returned to an institutional setting.”

Transition Services within Health First Colorado (Medicaid) have been providing community transition services and supports to persons who are in facility settings, who are eligible for Medicaid, and who desire to transition to a home- or community-based setting since January 1, 2019. Colorado is the first state in the nation to add critical services from a Money Follows the Person (MFP) demonstration grant, known in Colorado as Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT), as ongoing services in Colorado’s Medicaid program.

The implementation of and transition to ongoing services from the demonstration program proved complex. The most significant challenges centered on the timelines associated with implementation and complexities communicating changes. Due to these complications, data on new program participants is limited. To supplement the limited data available, the



Department has provided information from the Colorado Choice Transitions Legislative Request for Information requested by the Joint Budget Committee which has continued to transition individuals who were eligible for the demonstration prior to December 31, 2018.

The Department anticipates having more robust data on the new Transitions Services in the next year to share with the committees.

If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department's Legislative Liaison, Nina Schwartz, at Nina.Schwartz@state.co.us or 303-866-6912.

Sincerely,



Kim Bimestefer
Executive Director

KB/KB

Enclosure(s): HCPF 2019 Support for Transition from Institutional Setting Annual Report

- CC: Representative Daneya Esgar, Vice-chair, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Chris Hansen, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Kim Ransom, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Bob Rankin, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Rachel Zenzinger, Joint Budget Committee
Carolyn Kampman, Staff Director, JBC
Eric Kurtz, JBC Analyst
Lauren Larson, Director, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
Edmond Toy, Budget Analyst, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
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John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF
Tracy Johnson, Medicaid Director, HCPF
Bonnie Silva, Community Living Interim Office Director, HCPF
Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF



Stephanie Ziegler, Cost Control Office Director, HCPF
Parrish Steinbrecher, Health Information Office Director, HCPF
Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF
Nina Schwartz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF





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

November 1, 2019

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

Dear Senator Fields:

Enclosed please find a legislative report to the Health and Human Services Committee from the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing as directed by HB18-1326 - Support for Transition from Institutional Settings.

Section 25.5-6-1501 (8), C.R.S. states “notwithstanding the provisions of section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(i), on or before November 1, 2019, and each November 1 thereafter, the state department shall submit an annual report to the health and human services committee of the senate, the public health care and human services committee of the house of representatives, and the joint budget committee, or any successor committees, on the effectiveness of providing the services and supports required by this part 15. The report must include: (a) an evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the services; and (b) for each year of the program, the number of persons who: (i) requested services; (ii) received services; (iii) transitioned from an institutional setting to a home or community-based setting; and (iv) transitioned from an institutional setting but later returned to an institutional setting.”

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Sincerely,



Kim Bimestefer
Executive Director

KB/KB

Enclosure(s): HCPF 2019 Support for Transition from Institutional Setting Annual Report

CC: Senator Brittany Pettersen, Vice-Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Larry Crowder, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Jim Smallwood, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Faith Winter, Health and Human Services Committee
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Nina Schwartz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF





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

November 1, 2019

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

Dear Representative Singer:

Enclosed please find a legislative report to the Public Health Care and Human Services Committee from the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing as directed by HB18-1326 - Support for Transition from Institutional Settings.

Section 25.5-6-1501 (8), C.R.S. states “notwithstanding the provisions of section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(i), on or before November 1, 2019, and each November 1 thereafter, the state department shall submit an annual report to the health and human services committee of the senate, the public health care and human services committee of the house of representatives, and the joint budget committee, or any successor committees, on the effectiveness of providing the services and supports required by this part 15. The report must include: (a) an evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the services; and (b) for each year of the program, the number of persons who: (i) requested services; (ii) received services; (iii) transitioned from an institutional setting to a home or community-based setting; and (iv) transitioned from an institutional setting but later returned to an institutional setting.”

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Enclosure(s): HCPF 2019 Support for Transition from Institutional Setting Annual Report

CC: Representative Dafna Michaelson Jenet, Vice-Chair, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Yadira Caraveo, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Lisa Cutter, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Cathy Kipp, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Lois Landgraf, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Colin Larson, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Larry Liston, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Kyle Mullica, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Rod Pelton, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
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COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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

November 1, 2019

The Honorable Susan Lontine, Chair
Health and Insurance Committee
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative Lontine:

Enclosed please find a legislative report to the Health and Insurance Committee from the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing as directed by HB18-1326 - Support for Transition from Institutional Settings.

Section 25.5-6-1501 (8), C.R.S. states “notwithstanding the provisions of section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(i), on or before November 1, 2019, and each November 1 thereafter, the state department shall submit an annual report to the health and human services committee of the senate, the public health care and human services committee of the house of representatives, and the joint budget committee, or any successor committees, on the effectiveness of providing the services and supports required by this part 15. The report must include: (a) an evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the services; and (b) for each year of the program, the number of persons who: (i) requested services; (ii) received services; (iii) transitioned from an institutional setting to a home or community-based setting; and (iv) transitioned from an institutional setting but later returned to an institutional setting.”

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Sincerely,



Kim Bimestefer
Executive Director

KB/KB

Enclosure(s): HCPF 2019 Support for Transition from Institutional Setting Annual Report

CC: Representative Yadira Caraveo, Vice Chair, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Mark Baisley, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Susan Beckman, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Janet P. Buckner, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Dominique Jackson, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Sonya Jaquez Lewis, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Kyle Mullica, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Matt Soper, Health and Insurance Committee
Representative Brianna Titone, Health and Insurance Committee
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Support for Transition from Institutional Settings Annual Report

November 1, 2019

Submitted to: Health and Human Services Committee of the
Senate, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee of
the House of Representatives, Joint Budget Committee



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I. Introduction

Transition Services within Health First Colorado (Medicaid) were established April 30, 2018 by House Bill 18-1326, Support For Transition From Institutional Settings. This bill directed the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (the Department) to provide community transition services and supports to persons who are in facility settings, who are eligible for Medicaid, and who desire to transition to a home- or community-based setting. The program officially began enrolling Medicaid members on January 1, 2019.

A. Implementation

Money Follows the Person (MFP) is a federal grant program that Colorado implemented as the Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT) demonstration to assist people to transition from facility-based settings to a home in the community. Colorado is on the forefront of continuing these important services beyond the demonstration program. Enrollment in the grant program ended December 31, 2018 and the grant ends December 31, 2020. House Bill 18-1326 authorized certain transition services from the CCT demonstration to be added as ongoing services in Colorado's Medicaid program, the first state in the nation to do so. Added services include Transition Coordination made available under the Medicaid State Plan, and Peer Mentorship, Home Delivered Meals, Life Skills Training and Transition Setup made available under the adult Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers.

The implementation of and transition to ongoing services from the demonstration program proved complex. The most significant challenges centered on the timelines associated with implementation and complexities communicating changes.

HB 18-1326 mandated implementation of transition services into existing Medicaid benefits effective January 1, 2019. Rules went into effect December 31, 2018, but due to significant stakeholder feedback, this was accomplished through execution of an Emergency Rule. Final rules and regulations were not adopted until April 30, 2019. The shift from a demonstration program to ongoing services included complex systems changes that required technical assistance for billing and provider



enrollment beyond what was expected to support community providers. The Department developed and provided trainings targeted to providers, including Case Management Agencies (CMA), Transition Coordination Agencies (TCA), Options Counselors, and Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) staff and continues to troubleshoot issues.

Due to these issues and consistent barriers to finding community housing, enrollment into the implemented ongoing services has been slow. However, members continued to transition to the community using the CCT demonstration program.

B. Colorado Choice Transitions Legislative Request for Information

The Joint Budget Committee (JBC) requested the Department to submit a report by November 1, 2019, concerning the savings related to transitioning clients out of facilities into the community through the Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT) demonstration program. The Department is including the requested data from the Legislative Request for Information as part of this report for information about transitions in FY 2018-19.

a. Number of CCT Clients Who Transitioned or Were in the Process of Transitioning to the Community in FY 2018-2019

	FY 18-19
Total Clients Enrolled in CCT	259
Total Clients Who Transitioned	173

b. Number of CCT Clients Who Returned to a Facility in FY 2018-2019 After Transitioning to the Community in FY 2018-2019

Numbers of 30 or less cannot be reported to protect confidentiality in compliance with HIPAA Safe Harbor requirements. For this reason, the Department is unable to share data for only FY 2018-19. Data below reflect the timespan of the entire CCT demonstration program from 2013 to 2019.

	Entire CCT Program
Total CCT Members Re-institutionalized	61



Total CCT Members Re-institutionalized within 1 year of Transition	39
Total CCT Members Who Transitioned	569

c. Expenditures of State and Federal Funds for Transition Services Provided to CCT Clients in FY 2018-19

	FY 18-19
Total CCT Expenditures	\$3,916,175*
Per Member Per Month CCT Expenditures	\$2,199

*Of the \$3,916,175, \$1,958,088 (50%) is General Fund and \$1,958,087 (50%) is federal grant funds.

d. Average Per Person Expenditure of State and Federal Funds for Medical and Home and Community Based Services Provided to CCT Clients in FY 2018-19

	FY 18-19
State Plan Services (Medical) (Per Member Per Month)	\$2,545
HCBS Waiver Services (Non-CCT) (Per Member Per Month)	\$1,086

e. Average Per Person Expenditures of State and Federal Funds for Comparable Institutional Services for CCT Clients in FY 2018-2019

	FY 18-19
Nursing Facility (Per Member Per Month)	\$6,201

II. Evaluation of the Cost-Effectiveness of the Services

Individuals who have successfully transitioned using the new Transition Coordination benefit have only been in the community for a month, utilizing the additional Transition Services. Transition Services are available for up to 365 days after transitioning. Therefore, the Department cannot make an accurate calculation of cost of the new program until individuals have completed 365 days of services in the community.

A. Number of Persons Who Requested Services

Since January 1, 2019, 203 Medicaid Members have received Options Counseling visits by Department contracted Aging and Disability Resources for Colorado (ADRCs) across the state authorized through HB 18-1326. This is the first step for members residing in facilities in the transition process. Separately, there are also individuals who enrolled in CCT prior to December 31, 2018 who are transitioning during 2019 under the grant program.

B. Number of Persons Who Received Services

Since January 1, 2019, 203 members have received Transition Coordination services.

C. Number of Persons Who Transitioned from a Facility Setting to a Home or Community - Based Setting

Medicaid members have used this program to transition to the community since the benefit went into effect in January 1, 2019. However, numbers of 30 or less cannot be reported to protect confidentiality in compliance with HIPAA Safe Harbor requirements.

D. Number of Persons Who Transitioned from a Facility Setting but Later Returned to a Facility Setting

At this time, no individuals participating in the new transition benefits have returned to a facility setting.

