



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

May 2016 Coalition Update

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CKF News

Denver Outreach Partners

June 9, 2016, from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
600 Grant St., Building Conference Room (2nd floor), Denver
[April 2016 Meeting Notes](#)

- [CKF Fact Sheet](#)
- [CKF Meeting and Event Calendar](#)
- Contact [Liz Tansey](#) with questions

Health Policy

Proposed Changes to CICIP

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) is proposing key changes to the Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICIP) in 2017. The proposal would change CICIP into a grants program where clinics and hospitals would be the qualifying entities for funding instead of individuals. The change would require legislative approval and has not been finalized. For more information, see this [presentation](#) from the April CICIP Stakeholder Forum meeting.

Guidance on Helping Lawfully Present Immigrants Apply for CICIP

Lawfully present immigrants who are denied CICIP discounted services due to their immigration status may submit a waiver through the Department of Revenue (DOR) to verify their lawful

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Motivational Interviewing Training
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CKF Coalition

June 16, 2016, from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
CCHN (600 Grant St., Ste. 800, Denver)
[April 2016 Meeting Notes](#)
[April 2016 Meeting Recording](#)

presence. For more information, see page 36 of the [eligibility section](#) of the CICP manual. HCPF and the DOR are currently working to update their definitions of lawful presence and lists of acceptable documentation to prove lawful presence for CICP. More information on the changes will be available in July.

IRS Guidance on Dual Medicaid or Medicare and Marketplace Enrollment

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) revised the [Affordable Care Act Return Preparer Best Practices sheet](#) to reflect new guidance regarding those who are dually enrolled in both marketplace coverage and Medicaid or Medicare. The guidance clarifies that individuals must end marketplace coverage if eligible for Medicaid or Medicare by the fourth calendar month after becoming eligible.

IRS Guidance on Letters About Premium Tax Credits

Some taxpayers will receive a [0012C letter](#) from the IRS about the reconciliation of the advanced premium tax credit. More information and guidance for consumers about this letter is available [here](#). Please note that all consumers who receive the letter MUST respond to the IRS, even if they believe they are receiving the letter in error.

New Federal Guidance Clarifies Health Coverage Options for Criminal Justice-Involved Individuals

Federal guidance was issued earlier this month that clarifies coverage options for people who have been involved in the criminal justice system. The [letter to State Health Officials](#) from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the [Frequently Asked Questions document for marketplace coverage](#) issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services specify that people who are living in halfway houses are not considered incarcerated. This clarification means that people living in halfway houses may be eligible for Medicaid or for marketplace coverage.

HCPF and Connect for Health Colorado are still determining how these clarifications will play out in Colorado, and no systems changes have been made yet. CKF will continue to follow this issue and will provide updates as more information becomes available.

Reminders

What is the Fee for Not Having Health Insurance in 2016?

The fee for not having health insurance in 2016 is calculated as the *higher* result using two different methods:

- **2.5 percent of household income.** This method uses the modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) of the tax filer, the tax filer's spouse (if filing jointly), and any dependents who are required to file a tax return. Only the part of the household income above the yearly tax filing threshold is counted (\$10,150 for individuals, \$20,300 for couples filing jointly in 2014, the most recent year available). The maximum fee using this method cannot exceed the total yearly premium for the national average price of a bronze plan sold through the marketplace (in 2015, this was \$2,484 for an individual, and \$12,240 for a family with five or more members).
- **\$695 per adult, and \$347.50 per child under 18** (not to exceed \$2,085 for a family). The fee is only applied to the people in the household who do not have insurance coverage.

If a person has coverage for part of the year, the fee is 1/12 of the annual amount for each month the person (or his/her tax dependents) do not have coverage. If the person is uncovered

for only one or two months, they will not have to pay the fee at all. The fee is due when the person files their federal tax return for the year in which they were not covered. Learn more on the IRS website [here](#).

What is the Open Enrollment Period for 2017 Health Insurance Coverage?

Open enrollment is the yearly period when people can enroll in a private health insurance plan. For 2017 coverage, the open enrollment period is **November 1, 2016, to January 31, 2017**. Certain [qualifying life change events](#) may qualify someone for a [Special Enrollment Period](#) (SEP), which would allow them to enroll outside of the open enrollment period. Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) do not have an open enrollment period, and individuals and families can apply and enroll at any time during the year.

Outreach and Enrollment

Performing Outreach with the LGBT Community

Enroll America posted a [blog](#) about outreach in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities in advance of LGBT Pride Month in June. Top tips include finding out where community Pride events are occurring; signing up to participate in these events and networking; and using messages that resonate with LGBT individuals, including being prepared to answer LGBT-specific questions and concerns.

Funding Opportunities

Youth Funding Opportunity: Innovate for Good 2016

Rose Community Foundation's funding opportunity, Innovate for Good 2016, is accepting proposals from youth (age 13 to 18) or youth partnering with adults for projects that are innovative, empowering, and poised for impact in the Denver-metro area. Proposals are due by **May 31**. Learn more [here](#).

Resources

Healthier Colorado Launches Partnerships in Local Advocacy Program

Healthier Colorado announced a new initiative, [Partnerships in Local Advocacy](#) (PiLA), earlier this month. With the new program, interested individuals or organizations are invited to submit a letter of intent to request support for a local public policy campaign within the locality in which they reside or serve. The focus of PiLA is on campaigns to influence decisions made by city councils, county commissions, and school or special district boards that require lobbying activity. Letters of intent are due by **July 1**.

SEP Resources Available

Confused about SEPs? Several resources from Health Reform: Beyond the Basics have been updated for 2016, including a [reference chart](#) that describes which events trigger a SEP, who in the household can trigger the SEP, who is eligible to use the SEP, when the SEP applies, and what the coverage effective dates are for each type of triggering event. You may also be interested in their [SEP webinar](#) from March.

KFF Policy Insight: What to Look for in 2017 ACA Marketplace Premium Changes

This [policy insight](#) from the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) explains the key factors that will influence proposed premiums in health insurance marketplaces this year, and why premium costs are likely to increase.

Urban Institute Report: How are Moms Fairing?

The Urban Institute published a report about how the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has impacted mothers' enrollment in health coverage in 2013 and 2014. Read the report [here](#) and a Health Affairs blog [here](#).

Upcoming Calls, Trainings, and Events

Webinar on Annualized Income Scheduled

HCPF and the Colorado Program Eligibility and Application Kit (PEAK) Outreach Initiative are co-hosting a webinar on the upcoming policy change to use annualized income for certain MAGI Medicaid and CHP+ eligibility determinations and the corresponding changes to the PEAK application. The webinar is scheduled for **June 16** from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Register [here](#).

Please note that this webinar will not include training on changes to the Colorado Benefits Management System. The Health Care and Economic Security Staff Development Center will incorporate that information as part of their training on the June build.

Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care Community Forums Scheduled

The Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care will hold several regional health forums to study the problem of raising health care costs. Families, businesses, and policymakers are all invited to attend. Upcoming feedback opportunities include:

- **June 16** in Grand Junction
- **June 17** in Frisco
- **June 20** in Adams County

Please visit the [Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care Statewide Meetings](#) webpage for more information, and updates on other feedback opportunities.

DHS Offers Navigator Training

Denver Human Services (DHS) offers a navigator training for community partners. The navigator training includes an overview of the programs DHS offers, including food assistance, basic eligibility for Medicaid and cash programs, energy assistance, child support, childcare assistance program, PEAK, and a brief overview of the ACA. For more information and to register, please contact Kathy Crusan-Ford at Kathleen.Crusan-Ford@denvergov.org. The upcoming trainings will be held:

- **June 24** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1200 Federal Blvd., Room 1019, Denver
- **July 22** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1200 Federal Blvd., Room 1019, Denver

Motivational Interviewing Training

The Human Services Network of Colorado is offering a two-day, basic training about motivational interviewing on **July 6 and 13** from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Learn more about the training and register [here](#).

New to PEAK or Need a Refresher? PEAK Training Available on Demand

The Intro to PEAK and PEAK Application Walk-Through webinars on [Medical Assistance Applications](#), [Food and Medical Assistance Applications](#), and [Manage My Account](#) have been recorded and are now offered as an [On-Demand Application Walk-Through](#). Visit the PEAK Outreach Initiative [training webpage](#) to see training resources and [request PEAK training](#).