



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

January 2017 Coalition Update

Health Policy

ACA FAQs from HCPF
Health First Colorado Clients Receiving IRS
1095-B Forms

Outreach and Enrollment

SEP for Customers with Plans Not Offered in
2017
Ten Things Assistants Can Do Before the End
of Open Enrollment

Funding Opportunities

The Colorado Health Foundation Announces
Open Funding Opportunities

Resources

Health First Colorado Member Newsletter
Available
In the Loop Fact Sheet: Reconciliation of
APTCs
Navigator Resource Guide Available
NILC Fact Sheet for Undocumented
Immigrants: Know Your Rights
Latino Children's Coverage Report Shows
Historic High
Findings from Medicaid and CHIP 50-state
Survey Released

Upcoming Calls, Trainings, and Events

Attend Families USA Health Action 2017
Conference
CCHI's Health Care Day of Action
Attend Hunger Free Colorado's Hungry for
Change: Day at the Capitol
DHS Offers Navigator Training

CKF News

CKF Coalition

February 16, 2017, from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
CCHN (600 Grant St., Ste. 800, Denver)
[December 2016 Meeting Notes](#)
[December 2016 Meeting Recording](#)

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

CKF Signs-on to Shared Principles for Federal Health Care Reform

A large coalition of over 100 diverse health care organizations have signed on to [shared principles](#) for federal health care reform that was sent to the Governor, Commissioner Salazar, all members of the Colorado congressional delegation and to state legislators. This group is referring to themselves as the Colorado Health Policy Coalition. CKF signed on as a supporter.

Health Policy

ACA FAQs from HCPF

In response to questions about the status of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) following the election, The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) posted answers to [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) on its website. HCPF will provide updates as new information and details become available.

Health First Colorado Clients Receiving IRS 1095-B Forms

HCPF began sending Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) members Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Tax Form 1095-B as proof of health insurance for the 2016 tax year on January 12, 2017. IRS Tax Form 1095-B is a federal tax document that includes information about the months during 2016 in which Health First Colorado clients, and others in their household, were enrolled in qualifying health coverage as required under the ACA. Health First Colorado and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) members are not required to include the 1095-B form with their tax return, but should keep it with their tax records to verify coverage. See HCPF's [FAQ](#) document regarding the 1095-B Form for more information, including who should expect to receive the forms, how they can be used, and how to file a 2016 tax return with or without the forms.

Outreach and Enrollment

SEP for Customers with Plans Not Offered in 2017

Connect for Health Colorado customers who were enrolled in a health plan in 2016 that is not offered in 2017 are eligible for a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for 60 days beginning January 1, 2017. The rule still applies that customers must enroll by the 15th of the month for coverage to begin on the first of the next month. If customers delayed in enrolling for 2017 coverage, they can use the established attestation process to request an alternative coverage start date by checking the box that says "I wish to request an alternative start date" in the "Purchase & Enroll User Agreement" section of the application. If a coverage start date is needed sooner due to a medical need, contact the Connect for Health Colorado Customer Service center at 1-855- 752-6749.

Ten Things Assisters Can Do Before the End of Open Enrollment

Enroll America created [a list of 10 activities](#) that assisters can do to spur outreach and enrollment efforts. The list includes suggestions that are relevant for assisters to do before the end of open enrollment such as: tips related to social media (including the best times to post and tweet), techniques that work (like reaching out to clients to confirm appointments), and information on texting clients.

Funding Opportunities

The Colorado Health Foundation Announces Open Funding Opportunities

The Colorado Health Foundation announced [open funding opportunities](#) for the Feb. 15, 2017, grant deadline. To be considered for funding, applicants must meet specific criteria. Contact the Foundation's program officers if you have questions. View the full [funding calendar](#) for more detail.

Resources

Health First Colorado Member Newsletter Available

The [December Health First Colorado Member Newsletter](#) is now available. This newsletter provides Health First Colorado members with information about benefits and health tips, and serves as a customer friendly information source from HCPF. Anyone can sign up to receive the newsletter at HealthFirstColorado.com.

In the Loop Fact Sheet: Reconciliation of APTCs

The amount of Advance Premium Tax Credits (APTCs) customers receive is based on information they provide in their applications; this APTC amount is reconciled with the amount of APTC they should have received based on their actual household size and annual income when they file their taxes. In the Loop created a [fact sheet](#) for assisters to about reconciliation of APTCs.

Navigator Resource Guide Available

Georgetown University Health Policy Institute's Center on Health Insurance Reform in collaboration with the staff at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families, and the Kaiser Family Foundation created a [Navigators Resource Guide](#) for assisters. The guide is organized into sections that address how individuals may present themselves to assisters based on their insurance status and coverage options, as well as a questions and answers section.

NILC Fact Sheet for Undocumented Immigrants: Know Your Rights

Since the 2016 presidential election, questions arose about whether it is safe for families with undocumented members to apply for health coverage through ACA Marketplaces, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Some individuals and families have decided not to seek health coverage and care because they fear their immigration status might be discovered or shared with immigration enforcement agents. The National Immigration Law Center (NILC) put together a [fact sheet](#) that provides information that families should have when they apply for and enroll in health coverage programs or seek health care services. The factsheet advises that the ACA is still law and those who are eligible should apply, not to provide immigration status if not applying for coverage oneself, and resources for the uninsured regardless of immigration status.

Latino Children's Coverage Report Shows Historic High

The Georgetown University Health Policy Institute Center for Children and Families, together with the National Council of La Raza, released the report, [Latino Children's Coverage Reaches Historic High, But Too Many Remain Uninsured](#) in December 2016. The report shows that the percent of uninsured Latino children in the U.S. dropped sharply from 11.5 percent in 2013 to 7.5 percent in 2015, however the rate of Latino children who remain uninsured, continues to be higher than the rate of all children who are uninsured (4.8 percent).

Findings from Medicaid and CHIP 50-state Survey Released

The Kaiser Family Foundation's 15th annual report on the 50-state Medicaid and CHIP survey was released earlier this month. The report, [Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility, Enrollment, Renewal, and Cost Sharing Policies as of January 2017: Findings from a 50-State Survey](#), provides data on Medicaid and CHIP eligibility, enrollment, renewal and cost sharing policies as of January 2017 in all 50 states, and identifies changes in these policies in the past year.

Upcoming Calls, Trainings, and Events

Attend Families USA Health Action 2017 Conference

Join Families USA in Washington, D.C., **February 16 – 18, 2017**, for their Health Action 2017 conference. Health Action is a gathering of hundreds of health care advocacy, policy, outreach, and enrollment professionals working to improve access to and delivery of health care across the country. This year's conference includes a track of workshops dedicated to enrollment topics. Learn more and register [here](#).

Attend CCHI's Health Care Day of Action

Join the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI) on **February 23, 2017**, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for their Health Care Day of Action. Health Care Day of Action is an annual event that is an opportunity for consumers and advocates from all over Colorado to discuss important health policy issues and engage with legislators on current health policy. Learn more and register [here](#).

Attend Hunger Free Colorado's Hungry for Change: Day at the Capitol

Join Hunger Free Colorado on **February 7, 2017**, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Colorado State Capitol for their Hungry for Change: Day at the Capitol to raise awareness about the prevalence and impacts of hunger across Colorado. Learn more and register [here](#).

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 Health First Colorado 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, Agency Trainer for SNAP Into Health, at Kathleen.Crusan-Ford@denvergov.org. The upcoming trainings will be held:

- **February 17, 2017**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
1200 Federal Blvd., Room 1019, Denver
- **February 24, 2017**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
1200 Federal Blvd., Room 1019, Denver