



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

## March 2018 Coalition Update

March 22, 2018

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### **CKF News**

#### **March Coalition Meeting**

Click [here](#) to listen to a recording of the meeting, and [here](#) to review the meeting notes.

#### **CKF Meeting Time Changing to Third Fridays**

The CKF Coalition meetings will now be held on the third Friday of every month from 9:00a.m.-10:30a.m. The next CKF Coalition meeting will take place on Friday, April 20, 2018.

### **Policy Updates**

#### **Connect for Health Colorado's New Eligibility System**

Connect for Health Colorado recently announced that they are developing a new eligibility system. The new system will create a path for accessing financial assistance through the marketplace, outside of the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) or PEAK. Connect for Health Colorado predicts that the new system will lead to an increase in Connect for Health

Colorado enrollments, and increased utilization of financial assistance. They are working closely with the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), and the Governor's Office of Information and Technology (OIT) to ensure pathways are in place for customers to the right program regardless of whether they begin at Connect for Health Colorado's site, PEAK. The new eligibility system will be in place for the next Open Enrollment Period and Connect for Health Colorado will provide regular updates to prepare stakeholders for this change. Click [here](#) to review the press release, and [here](#) to review a fact sheet about the new eligibility system . CKF will continue to monitor this progress, and provide updates to coalition members.

### **Connect for Health Colorado's New Address**

Connect for Health Colorado is moving to a new office on April 1, 2018. Their new address is 4600 S. Ulster St., Suite 300, Denver.

### **Colorado Insurance Commissioner Expresses Concerns on Proposal for Association Health Plans**

Early this month, Colorado's Insurance Commissioner submitted official comments on a federal proposed rule about Association Health Plans (AHPs). The rule, proposed by the U.S. Department of Labor, would broaden the ability of employers to unite as associations to offer health insurance. The commissioner's comments expressed concerns about AHPs being exempt from certain state insurance requirements, and urged the Department to clarify states' regulatory authority over AHPs. Click [here](#) to read the Commissioner's comment letter, and [here](#) to review the proposed rule.

### **Where does DACA stand?**

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program was established in 2012 and granted eligible individuals who arrived in the U.S. before the age of 16 with a temporary, renewable two-year work permit and protection from deportation. In September 2017, the federal government announced that it was ending DACA on March 5, 2018 and stopped accepting new applications. The administration's efforts to end the program were disrupted in January 2018 when a federal court issued a temporary order blocking the termination of DACA. This order means that United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) could begin accepting and processing applications again. Congress was not able to negotiate DACA's renewal by March 5, but this does not currently prevent USCIS from processing applications. It is unclear how long this window to apply for renewals will remain open. Click [here](#) to read an overview by Informed Immigrant, and [here](#) to access their resources for individuals and service providers. Additional resources on DACA are also available from the National Immigration Law Center, [here](#).

### **Outreach and Enrollment**

#### **PEAK Technical Support Center**

The PEAK Technical Support Center offers support to clients and assisters who are experiencing technical difficulties with the PEAK website including password resets. Users can contact the support call center at 1-800-250-7741, or message the help desk at [CBMS.Help@state.co.us](mailto:CBMS.Help@state.co.us). Click [here](#) to learn more about the PEAK Technical Support Center.

### **Resources**

#### **The Colorado Health Foundation Unveils Updated Strategic Vision and Focus Areas**

The Colorado Health Foundation shared its updated framework focused on strengthening bodies, minds, and communities in the fight for health equity. With the refreshed vision, the

Foundation shared the three cornerstones which ensure that each opportunity they engage in has the intended impact. Along with these cornerstones, the Foundation offers four refreshed focus areas which include maintaining healthy bodies, nurturing healthy minds, strengthening community health, and championing health equity. See more on the cornerstones [here](#), and the refreshed focus areas [here](#). The Foundation also created a FAQ on the updated strategy [here](#).

### **Connect for Health Colorado's End of Open Enrollment Report**

Connect for Health Colorado recently published their annual Open Enrollment Report for plan year 2018. The report highlights customers' increased utilization of assisters, brokers, and financial assistance from the previous open enrollment period. Connect for Health Colorado's report also describes improvements in customer satisfaction rates. Click [here](#) to learn more about the successes and challenges identified during open enrollment.

### **Human Services Map Shows Gaps in Basic Needs**

Human service programs ensure that Coloradans' basic needs are met by providing access to essentials such as food, health care, child care, and financial assistance. While these services are available throughout the state, access to these programs varies by county. The Colorado Center on Law and Policy (CCLP) and Hunger Free Colorado used county enrollment data to create a visual representation of these discrepancies, called the Gap Map. This tool is meant to spark conversations about strategies that can be used to close gaps in enrollment and improve the efficiency of Colorado's limited resources. Click [here](#) to view the Gap Map.

### **New Food Assistance Benefit Calculator**

A new tool is available to help Coloradans estimate how much monthly Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit they may be eligible for. Developed by CCLP and Hunger Free Colorado as part of the Human Services Gap Map, the new tool asks fewer questions than the full SNAP application and provides an estimate of the amount of SNAP benefits the household may be eligible for if they apply. Access the new tool [here](#).

### **ACC Phase II Key Concepts**

Have you been wondering what the goals are for the second phase of the Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC)? HCPF published a fact sheet that outlines the key concepts that will be used to help improve Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) members' health, and the efficiency of their care during phase two. Click [here](#) to review the key concepts that inform this effort.

### **Updated County Health Rankings Released**

Through a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, the annual County Health Rankings provide a snapshot of how health is influenced by region. Colorado's county health ranking report is available [here](#). The Colorado Health Institute is also analyzing the county health ranking data and publishing a series of blog posts examining the data from the rankings. Read CHI's first blog post in the series [here](#).

### **Upcoming Calls, Trainings, and Events**

#### **DHS Health 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](mailto:Kathleen.Crusan-Ford@denvergov.org). The upcoming trainings will be held in Denver:

- **Wednesday, April 18** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 1200 Federal Blvd. Room 1056.
- **Friday, April 20** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 1200 Federal Blvd. Room 1019.
- **Wednesday, April 25** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 1200 Federal Blvd. Room 1056.
- **Friday, April 27** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 1200 Federal Blvd. Room 1019.

### **HCPF Webinars on ACC Phase II Changes**

The ACC will be entering its next iteration (Phase II) beginning July 1, 2018. With the next phase, HCPF is hosting and recording several webinars with corresponding fact sheets. Please visit the HCPF ACC Phase II website, [here](#), to access these recorded and upcoming webinars:

- Key Concepts
- Implementation Process Overview
- Provider Contracting (What Providers Need to Know)
- Attribution
- Behavioral Health Services in the Primary Care Setting
- Performance Management

### **Symposium Unplugged: Poverty's Impact on Colorado's Health**

The Colorado Health Foundation is hosting an event that examines the impact of poverty on individuals' and families' health in Colorado. Poverty impacts all aspects of individuals' health and well-being, including access to health care. During Symposium Unplugged: Poverty's Impact on Colorado's Health, the Foundation will highlight how poverty acts as a barrier to Coloradans' health and wellness needs. Click [here](#) to register.

- **Thursday, April 26** from 9:00a.m.- 3:15p.m., The Abbey, 2951 East US Highway 50, Cañon City

### **Jobs**

#### **CCHI Hiring a Health Insurance Consumer Advocacy Program Manager**

Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI) is hiring a Health Insurance Consumer Advocacy Program Manager. The deadline to apply is March 30, 2018. Learn more and apply [here](#).

### **What We're Reading**

#### **Our Children's Fears: Immigration Policy's Effects on Young Children**

The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) published a study about the impact of the current administration's immigration policy priorities on children and families. The study found that anxiety related to immigration policy reform is impacting children's development, and access to services. Click [here](#) to learn more about how these priorities are impacting children and families.

#### **Amazon Offers Prime Discount for Medicaid Recipients**

Amazon has begun offering Medicaid recipients a discount for their subscription to Amazon Prime. The company now allows Medicaid recipients to pay \$5.99 a month for their subscription, while other subscribers pay \$12.99 a month for the same plan. A subscription to Amazon Prime includes free two-day shipping, video streaming, and music streaming services. This discount program may be especially helpful for Medicaid recipients with limited mobility since many currently rely on Amazon to deliver essential items. Click [here](#) to learn more about the discount.

