



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

April 2018 Coalition Update

April 26, 2018

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CKF News

April Coalition Meeting Notes and Recording

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

Reminder: CKF Meeting Time Changed to Third Fridays

The CKF Coalition meetings are now 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, May 18, 2018.

Opportunity to Provide Feedback on the Building Better Health Conference Agenda

This year, the Building Better Health conference will be October 15 – 16, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver Conference Center. As with previous conferences, CKF developed a draft agenda and is providing the opportunity to give feedback to influence the final agenda. CKF is holding five group calls for assisters and community-based organizations and two group calls for brokers. The calls will provide the opportunity to review the draft agenda, provide feedback on individual sessions, prioritize which sessions will be offered at the conference, and influence the information and resources shared in each session. Each call is limited to 10 participants.

Please do not register for more than one call.

Calls for assisters and community-based organizations:

- Monday, May 7 from 10:00 – 12:00 ([Register here](#))
- Friday, May 11 from 10:00 – 12:00 ([Register here](#))
- Wednesday, May 16 from 1:00 – 3:00 ([Register here](#))
- Wednesday, May 23 from 1:00 – 3:00 ([Register here](#))
- Thursday, May 31 from 1:00 – 3:00 ([Register here](#))

Calls for brokers:

- Thursday, May 17 from 10:00 – 11:00 ([Register here](#))
- Monday, May 21 from 10:00 – 11:00 ([Register here](#))

Policy Updates

New Colorado Law Will Allow Brokers to Charge Fees

On April 12, Governor Hickenlooper signed a bill ([Senate Bill 136](#)) that will allow health insurance brokers to charge fees to their clients. Brokers will only be able to charge a fee if the broker is not receiving a commission from the private health insurance carrier, and no fees may be charged for helping Health First Colorado or Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) clients. Brokers will also be required to notify their clients in writing if they will charge a fee. The law is effective August 8, 2018. The Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI) will determine more details of how brokers must notify clients this summer. CKF will continue to track the rules process and analyze impact, if any, on referrals to brokers from community-based organizations. A succinct Connect for Health Colorado fact sheet on the law is available [here](#).

Health First Colorado and CHP+ 2018 Income Guidelines Updated

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) updated the monthly maximum income guidelines for Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program), and CHP+ as of April 1, 2018. The updated income charts include:

- [Health First Colorado MAGI Monthly Maximum Income Guidelines](#)
- [CHP+ Monthly Maximum Income Guidelines](#)
- [Health First Colorado Buy-in for Working Adults with Disabilities](#)
- [Health First Colorado Buy-in for Children with Disabilities](#)
- [Medicare Savings Program and Low Income Subsidy](#)

Federal Judge Rules Against Rescinding DACA

On April 24, a U.S. District Judge ordered the government to continue the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and reopen it to new applicants. However, the judge stayed his ruling for 90 days to give the Department of Homeland Security an opportunity provide their reasoning for ending the program. This means the judge's ruling will not be in effect for at least 90 days, and the future of the DACA program is still in limbo. CKF will follow this policy closely, and share timely updates as more information is made available. Click [here](#) to review a summary published by the Washington Post.

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. Click [here](#) to learn more about the PEAK Technical Support Center.

New Medicare Card

Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) started mailing new Medicare cards that include the new Medicare Beneficiary Identifier, or Medicare Number. People who recently enrolled into Medicare will be among the first to receive these cards. Current Medicare beneficiaries will receive these cards on a rolling basis over the next few months. CMS will continue to accept the Health Insurance Claim Number through the transition period. Click [here](#) to review CMS' update on the project.

Resources

Could Reinsurance Reduce Insurance Prices in Colorado? A New CHI Report

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) released a report earlier this month examining what reinsurance is and how the proposed bill in the Colorado state legislature ([House Bill 1392](#)) could impact insurance prices. Find the full report and other resources about reinsurance [here](#).

HOP Releases Guide to Outreach in an Anti-Immigrant Climate

Health Outreach Partners (HOP) announced the release of a newly updated resource, [The Silent Crisis: How to Do Outreach in an Anti-Immigrant Climate](#). This customizable booklet was updated based on HOP's 2017 Silent Crisis Convening Series. It identifies barriers that immigrants and their families may encounter when accessing health care and social services and presents solutions for addressing these challenges.

CCJRC Go Guide Now Available

The Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition (CCJRC) released the fourth edition of the Go Guide. The Go Guide is a 200-page book that provides information to help incarcerated people prepare for release and successfully reintegrate back into their families and communities. This publication is helpful for people involved in the criminal justice system, their families, community service providers and criminal justice professionals. The latest version has expanded information on healthcare and treatment resources. Order a copy [here](#). For information bulk orders email pam@ccjrc.org.

CCJRC Report on the Needs of Crime Survivors

CCJRC partners with crime survivors and organizations that provide community-based victim services in order to bridge the separation between victim's advocates and advocates who work on behalf of offenders. As part of this work, CCJRC released a new report, [Victims Speak: Better Understanding the Needs and Experiences of Crime Survivors](#), which is based on a survey of 500 Denver Metro Area crime survivors. The report includes key findings and provides several policy recommendations. To find out more about how to get involved in Crime Survivors for Health, Safety and Justice, contact CCJRC [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. The upcoming trainings will be held in Denver:

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

IEVS Reasonable Compatibility Webinar

In June 2018, the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) will implement updates and enhance the Income Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) and its use of Reasonable Compatibility for Medical Assistance categories. This will include implementing a reasonable compatibility check for Non-MAGI categories. This effort will align system functionality with policy to ensure that Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) income records are considered appropriately for both MAGI and Non-MAGI categories. This project is not changing the policy or rules for when an IEVS letter is sent. Members will still receive an IEVS letter when their self-reported income, and the amount their employer reports to CDLE, are not reasonably compatible. The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) hosted a Webinar on April 3, 2018 to discuss the updates and enhancements of this project. Click [here](#) to access the webinar.

PEAK Build Updates Webinar

PEAK was updated in March to improve its usability and align medical assistance records. PEAK now uses the new Medicare Beneficiary Identifier, instead of the Health Insurance Claim Number, to match the new Medicare Cards. The PEAK build expanded the types of documents users can submit, and enabled users to see the status of the documents they uploaded. The new build also allows users to change their password within 15 minutes of creating the account. Click [here](#) to view a webinar about these changes.

Jobs

Community Organizer (Policy Specialist) - Denver Public Health

Denver Public Health is hiring a Community Organizer for the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Chronic Disease Prevention Program within the Community Health Promotion Division. They are seeking a candidate that has a strong background in developing community leaders, advocacy campaigns, and educating partners on policy. Click [here](#) to review the full job description.

What We're Reading

Extensive Data Shows Punishing Reach of Racism for Black Boys

A study led by researchers at Stanford University, Harvard University, and the Census Bureau found that race is the biggest driver of economic disparities amongst black men. The study concluded that black boys that are raised in wealthy households are less likely to maintain their economic security in adulthood than their white peers. These findings suggest that race is a better predictor of economic security for black boys than their economic class, cognitive ability, or family structure. Click [here](#) to review a summary of this study from the New York Times.

Financial Ruin Can Be Hazardous to Your Health

A [study](#) published in JAMA earlier this month, which involved more than 8,000 Americans, found that people who lose at least 75 percent of their wealth in two years faced a 50 percent increased risk of dying over the next two decades. Researchers indicated that this finding is likely connected to participants developing conditions related to stress, and not being able to afford health care. Click [here](#) to read a summary of the study from NPR.