



MONTHLY MEETING NOTES

August 20, 2021

Connect for Health Colorado Updates

Bailey Dvorak, Connect for Health Colorado, shared that there are just over 215,000 enrollees in the Marketplace, which is the highest enrollment to date. About 34,000 customers enrolled during the Special Enrollment Period. Connect for Health Colorado is now getting ready for regular open enrollment, which will start November 1.

[Registration is now open for CoverCO](#), which will be held remotely on October 5-7.

CoverCO is open to advocates, assisters, people who work with providers, and more - not just those certified by Connect for Health Colorado.

Connect for Health Colorado now requires that customers have a Qualifying Life Change Event to enroll in dental plans. Previously, customers were able to enroll in dental plans at any time throughout the year.

Training for certified assisters and brokers went live on September 1. Applications to work as a Certified Application Counselor (CAC) or assister with Connect for Health Colorado are open year-round. CACs generally do not receive grant funding.

Health First Colorado Updates

Shoshi Preuss, Covering Kids and Families, shared updates about Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program).

With partnership from community organizations and feedback from many assisters, CKF has been leading the efforts to improve access to Emergency Medicaid. On August 8, the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) removed the requirement for applicants to submit a physician's statement. This statement is often called a 'life or limb threatening letter' attests to the nature of the emergency. Instead, HCPF will use back-end physician coding to determine services for Emergency Medicaid. It is recommended that applicants write 'Emergency Medicaid' on the application to help ensure that the application is screened properly. CKF also worked alongside HCPF to publish a webpage on Emergency Medicaid (available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)) with a program overview and frequently asked questions. Reach out to Shoshi, spreuss@cchn.org, with any questions or comments about Emergency Medicaid.

Currently people with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) are not eligible for regular Medicaid. Adults with DACA status are only eligible for Emergency Medicaid. Information about all of the programs that immigrants are eligible for is available on the [CKF website](#).

On December 27, 2020, Congress restored Medicaid eligibility for COFA (Compact of Free Association) migrants, or people from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. COFA migrants are classified as non-citizens and do not need a visa to enter the U.S. On August 9, HCPF implemented a Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) build that redetermined eligibility for all COFA migrants who applied for Medical Assistance between December 27, 2020, and

August 9, 2021. Eligible applicants received a notice of action informing them of their updated coverage status. Applicants were also screened for a 90-day retroactive eligibility period from their application date, up to December 27, 2020. COFA migrants who have not applied previously are encouraged to apply for health coverage. More information is available in [HCPF OM 21-058, Compact of Free Association \(COFA\) Migrants](#).

On August 1, IntelliRide, the Non-Emergent Medical Transportation (NEMT) administrator, reduced its service area to the following nine counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson, Larimer, and Weld. This change occurred due to Health First Colorado member feedback. IntelliRide previously administered NEMT services statewide. The remaining 55 counties are being served by local transportation providers. More information is available in [HCPF OM 21-055, Operational Changes To Non-Emergent Medical Transportation \(NEMT\)](#).

Meeting attendees discussed recent changes to Certified Application Assistance Site (CAAS) access to the Liaison Line and provided questions for CKF to share in a future meeting with HCPF.

Member Sharing

Kathy Crusan-Ford, Denver Human Services (DHS), shared about the DHS community digest and community network meetings.

- DHS Weekly Community Network Digest- spotlights any program changes and events happening within DHS. [Sign up for the digest](#).
- Community Connections listserv – an email list for partners to share resources with each other. [Sign up for the listserv](#).
- Services now offered at all three DHS branch offices:
 - Document runner Service: 720-944-1520
 - EBT card appointments: 720-944-4DHS (4347)

Stephanie Arenales, Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI), shared information on the CCHI Consumer Assistance Partner's meeting. The meeting is held every other month, and focuses on assisting clients with post-enrollment needs. The meetings offer trainings and resources, and offer space for organizations to connect with one-another.

Next meeting: September 17, 2021