

WAIVERS 101

Presented by: Health Care Policy and Financing

October 2021



Our Mission:

Improving health care equity, access and outcomes for the people we serve while saving Coloradans money on health care and driving value for Colorado.



Purpose:

Explain and clarify what Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers are and how to refer members

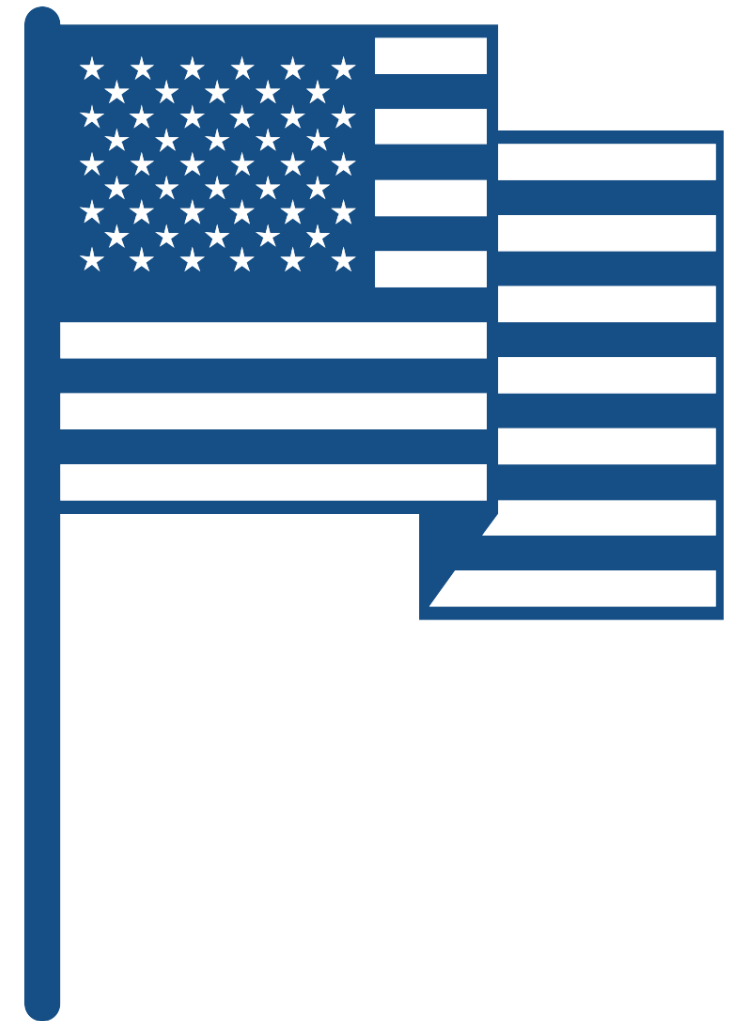
Objectives:

At the end of this presentation, you will be able to:

- Recall Waiver Basics
- Recognize Waivers available in Colorado
- Explain the Enrollment Process (Eligibility)
- Describe Case Management Agencies Responsibilities

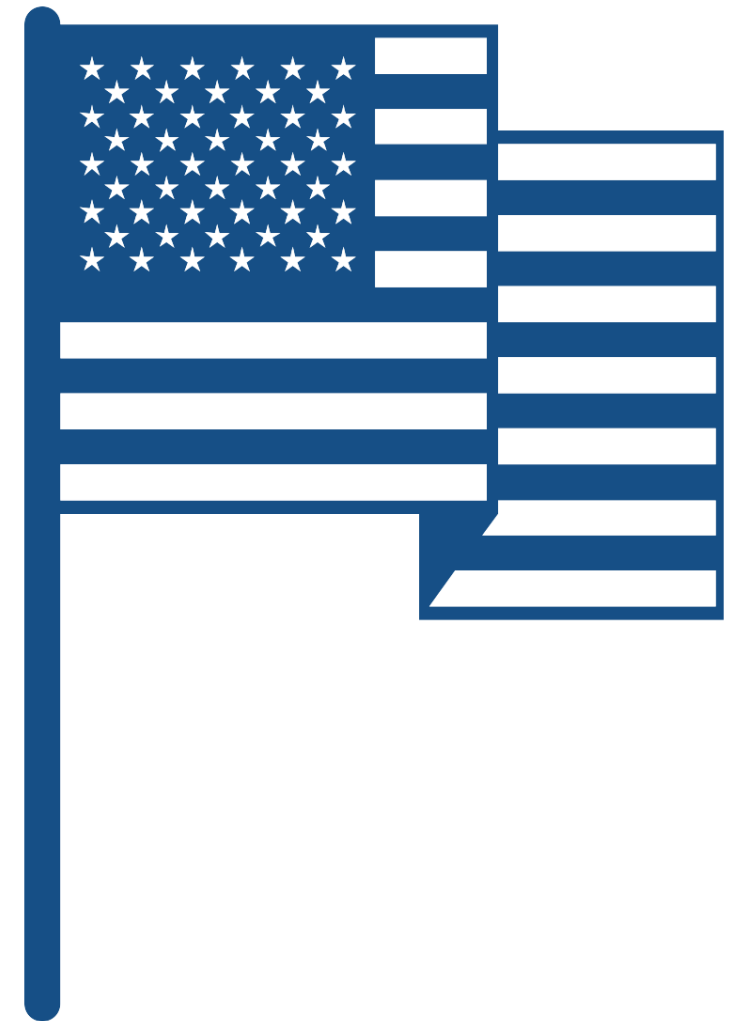
Medicaid Basics...

- Health insurance for eligible low- and moderate-income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly adults and people with disabilities
- Entitlement program currently covering over **80 million Americans** nationwide



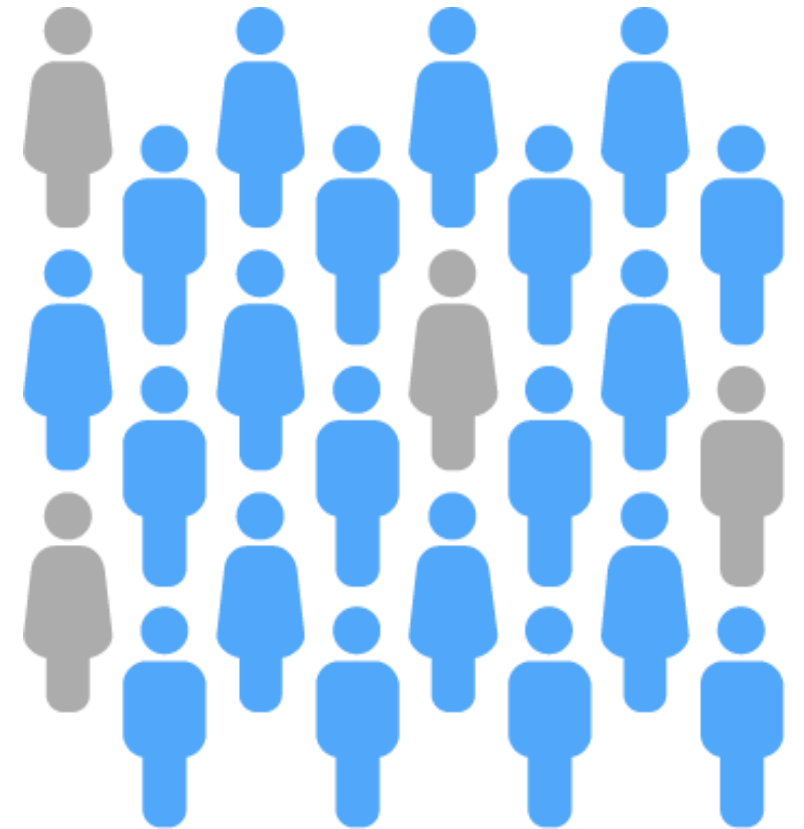
Medicaid Basics...

- Mandatory State Plan Benefits:
 - ✓ inpatient and outpatient hospital services,
 - ✓ physician services,
 - ✓ laboratory and x-ray services,
 - ✓ nursing facility services,
 - ✓ and more...
- Optional Benefits:
 - ✓ prescription drugs,
 - ✓ **case management,**
 - ✓ physical therapy,
 - ✓ occupational therapy,
 - ✓ **home and community based services,** and more...



Why HCBS?

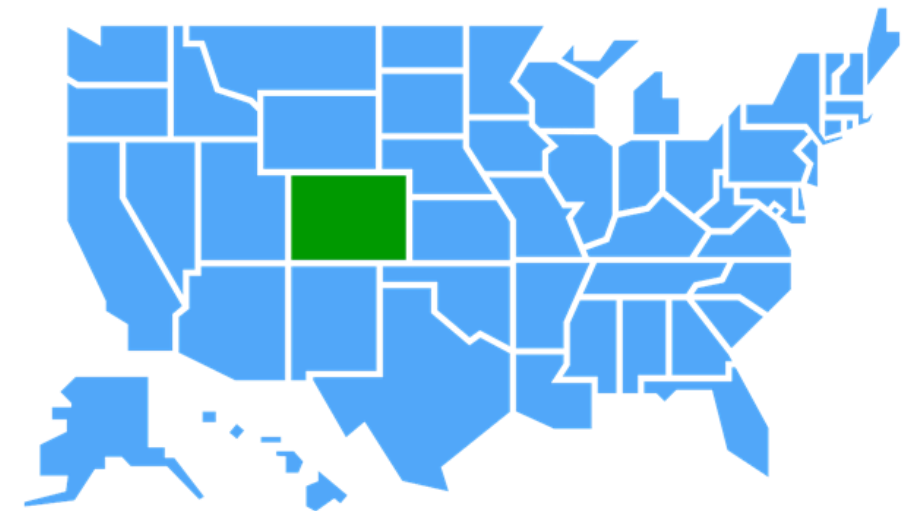
- To help people who are elderly and children and adults living with disabilities
- To provide opportunities for waiver participants to receive services in their own homes and communities rather than institutions or other isolated settings



WHAT ARE WAIVERS?

Waivers

- Alternative to institutional care
 - Provide institutional level of care to individuals who prefer to live in their home and community
- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers allow states the flexibility to:
 - Waive certain income/eligibility criteria
 - Provide specific services to target groups
 - Can have waiting lists or enrollment caps
 - Provide individuals more choice and independence



Just a Few Examples

Down Syndrome

Brain Injury

Fetal Alcohol
Syndrome

Cerebral Palsy

Spinal Cord Injury

Mental
Health/Depression

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers

- Provides all Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) State Plan benefits plus additional waiver services
- Members receive services in their homes and community
- Allows members and their families to remain integrated in the community and have decision-making power over their life and health
- Members can only be enrolled in one waiver at a time



Eligibility

- Financial
 - **County Human/Social Services Office**
 - Income and Resources
- Level of Care
 - **Case Management Agency**
 - Level of Care Assessment
- Targeting Criteria
 - **Case Management Agency**
 - Waiver Criteria

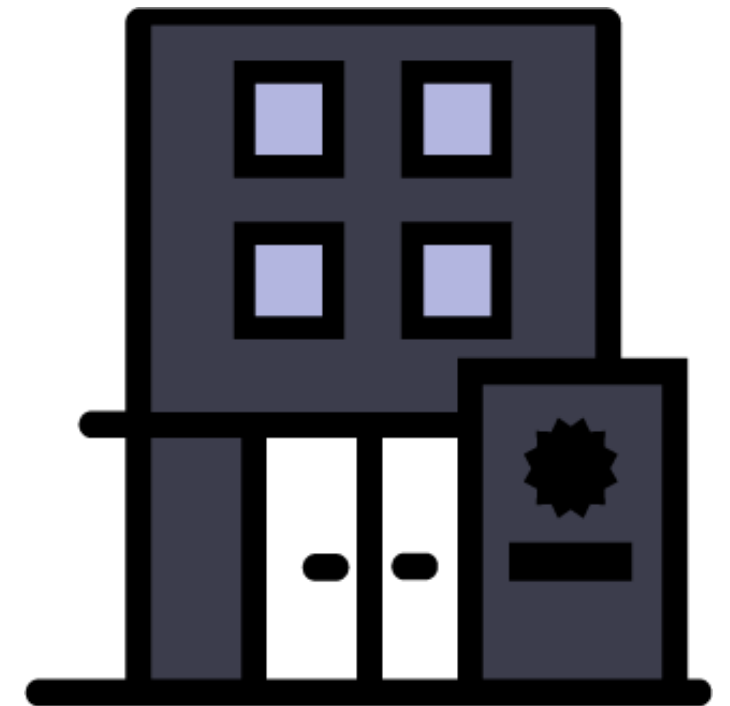
Financial Eligibility

- The applicant's or child's income must be less than 300% of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) limit
 - May be a combination of different types of income such as:
 - SSI,
 - Social Security Disability Income (SSDI),
 - Social Security Survival benefits,
 - Child support, or
 - Income from a trust
- The individual resource limit is \$2,000
- The couple resource limit is \$3,000

CASE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

What is a Case Management Agency?

- Determines if an individual meets Level of Care requirements for long-term services and supports
- Helps set up and coordinate services
- Maintains contact with participants over time and adjusts services as needed according to the participant's changing needs
- Overseen by Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF)



Case Management Agency Responsibility

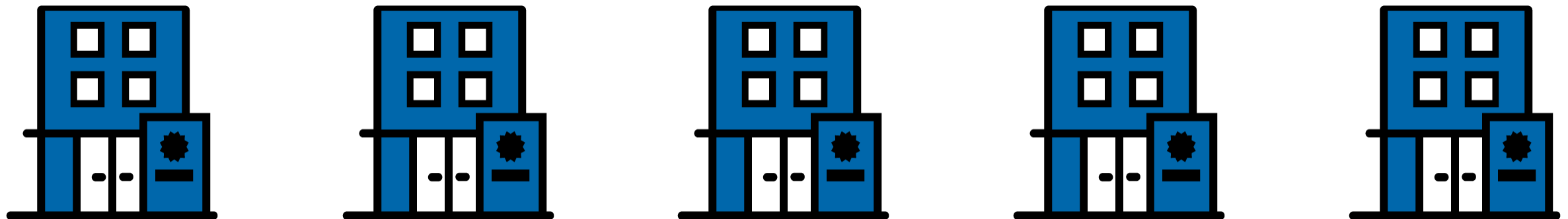
Assist waiver participants with:

- Level of Care Assessment and development of Service Plan
- Help participants navigate the system and understand all of their options
- Help connect participants with providers
- Maintains regular contact with participants and monitors and adjusts services as needed
- Works with county human/social services to determine financial eligibility



Case Management Agencies

- **24 Single Entry Point Agencies (SEP)**
 - Provides case management for BI, CLLI, CMHS, EBD, SCI waivers
 - Some SEPs provide case management for CHCBS waiver
- **20 Community Centered Boards (CCB)**
 - Provides case management for CES, CHRP, DD, SLS waivers
 - Some CCBs provide case management for CHCBS waiver
- **4 Private Case Management Agencies**
 - Provides case management for CHCBS waiver



WAIVERS FOR ADULTS

Colorado's Adult Waivers

Brain Injury
Waiver

Community
Mental Health
Supports Waiver

Developmental
Disabilities
Waiver

Elderly, Blind and
Disabled Waiver

Spinal Cord
Injury Waiver

Supported Living
Services Waiver

Level of Care

- **Hospital Level of Care**

- Participant's need are similar to that of a person in the hospital and they have acute needs or their condition is unstable or unpredictable

- **Nursing Facility Level of Care**

- Participant's needs are similar to that of a person in a nursing facility and they require regular medical care, in home services at least once every 30 days, and oversight of a physician to maintain stability

- **Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) Level of Care**

- Participants needs are similar to that of a person in an ICF-IID facility and they require regular medical care and rehabilitation

Brain Injury Waiver (BI)

- For persons living with an acquired brain injury
- Must be 16 years old or older and meet hospital or nursing facility level of care
- Contact local Single-Entry Point (SEP) Agency

hcpf.colorado.gov/brain-injury-waiver-bi

Community Mental Health Supports Waiver (CMHS)

- For persons living with a diagnosis of major mental illness
- Must be 18 years old or older and meet nursing facility level of care
- Contact local Single-Entry Point (SEP) Agency

hcpf.colorado.gov/community-mental-health-supports-waiver-cmhs

Developmental Disabilities Waiver (DD)

- For persons living with a developmental disability who need services and supports 24-hours a day
- Must be 18 years old or older and meet Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) level of care
- Contact local Community Centered Board (CCB)

hcpf.colorado.gov/developmental-disabilities-waiver-dd

Spinal Cord Injury Waiver (SCI)

- For persons living with a spinal cord injury
- Must be 18 years old or older and meet hospital or nursing facility level of care
- Services for this waiver only available in the Denver area
- Contact local Single Entry Point (SEP) Agency

hcpf.colorado.gov/spinal-cord-injury-waiver

Supported Living Services Waiver (SLS)

- For persons living with intellectual or developmental disabilities who can live independently with limited supports or who, if they need extensive supports, are already receiving a high level of support from other sources, such as family
- Must be 18 years old or older and meet Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) level of care
- Contact local Community Centered Board (CCB)

hcpf.colorado.gov/supported-living-services-waiver-sls

WAIVERS FOR CHILDREN

Colorado's Children's Waivers

Children's Extensive
Support Waiver

Children's HCBS
Waiver

Children with
Life-Limiting
Illness Waiver

Children's
Habilitation
Residential Program

Children's Extensive Support Waiver (CES)

- For children with a developmental disability, developmental delays and intensive behavioral or medical needs
- Must be ages birth - 17 years old and meet Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) level of care
- Contact local Community Centered Board (CCB)

hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-extensive-support-waiver-ces

Children's HCBS Waiver (CHCBS)

- For children with significant medical needs who are at risk for institutional care and who would otherwise be ineligible for Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) due to excess parental income and/or resources
- Must be ages birth - 17 years old and meet hospital or nursing facility level of care
- Contact local Case Management Agency

hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-home-and-community-based-services-waiver-chcbs

Children's Habilitation Residential Program (CHRP)

- For children and youth with intellectual or developmental disability and very high needs that put them at risk of, or in need of, out of home placement
- Must be ages birth - 20 years old and meet ICF-IID level of care
- Contact local Community Centered Board (CCB)

hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-habilitation-residential-program-waiver-chrp

Children with Life-Limiting Illness Waiver (CLLI)

- For children with a life-limiting diagnosis
- Must be ages birth - 18 years old and meet hospital level of care
- Contact local Single-Entry Point (SEP) Agency

hcpf.colorado.gov/children-life-limiting-illness-waiver-clli

Waiver Charts

- Side-by-side comparison of key components and eligibility requirements of each waiver
- Includes program contact information
- Download online:
<https://hcpf.colorado.gov/long-term-services-and-supports-training#Charts>



Questions or Concerns?



Case Management Contacts

- Single Entry Point Agencies
 - hcpf.colorado.gov/single-entry-point-agencies
- Community Centered Boards
 - hcpf.colorado.gov/community-centered-boards
- Private Case Management Agencies
 - hcpf.colorado.gov/single-entry-point-agencies#Private
- LTSS Programs Page
 - hcpf.colorado.gov/long-term-services-and-supports-programs

Thank You!