

WAIVERS 101

Our Mission

Improving health care access and outcomes for the **people** we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial **resources**

Purpose:

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

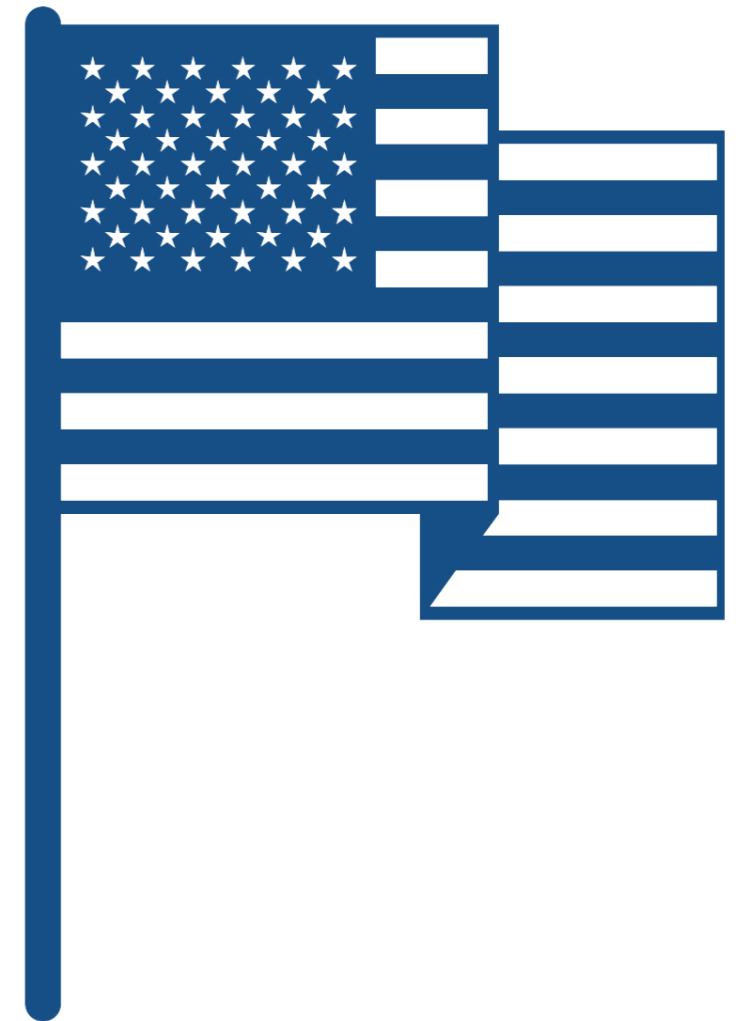
Objectives:

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

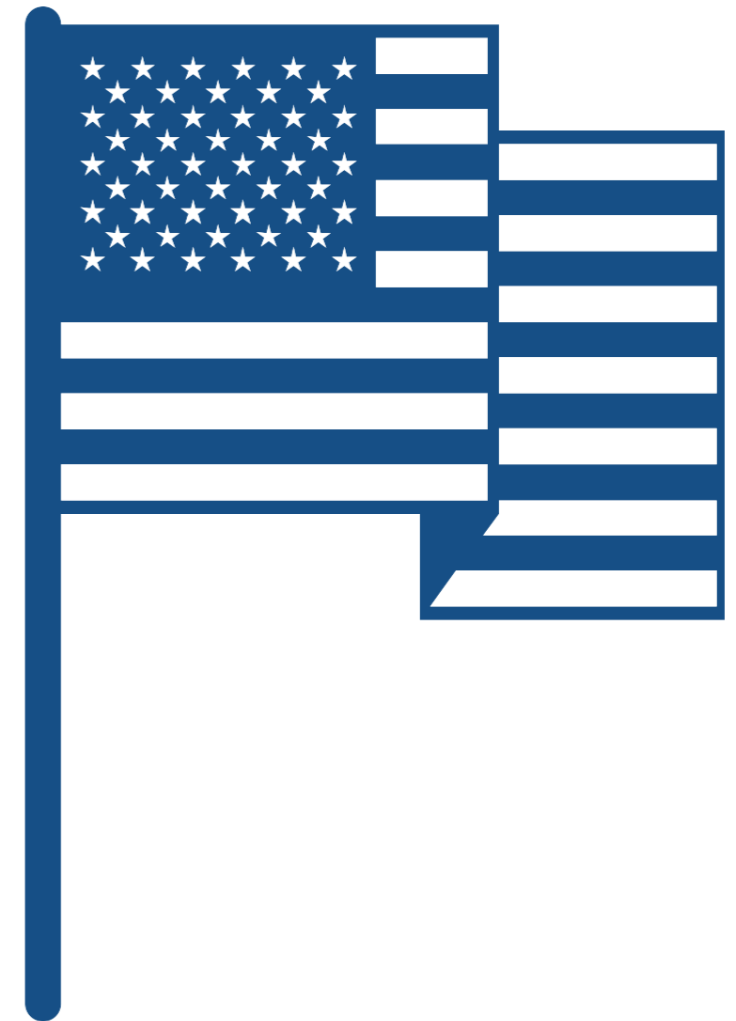
Medicaid Basics...

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



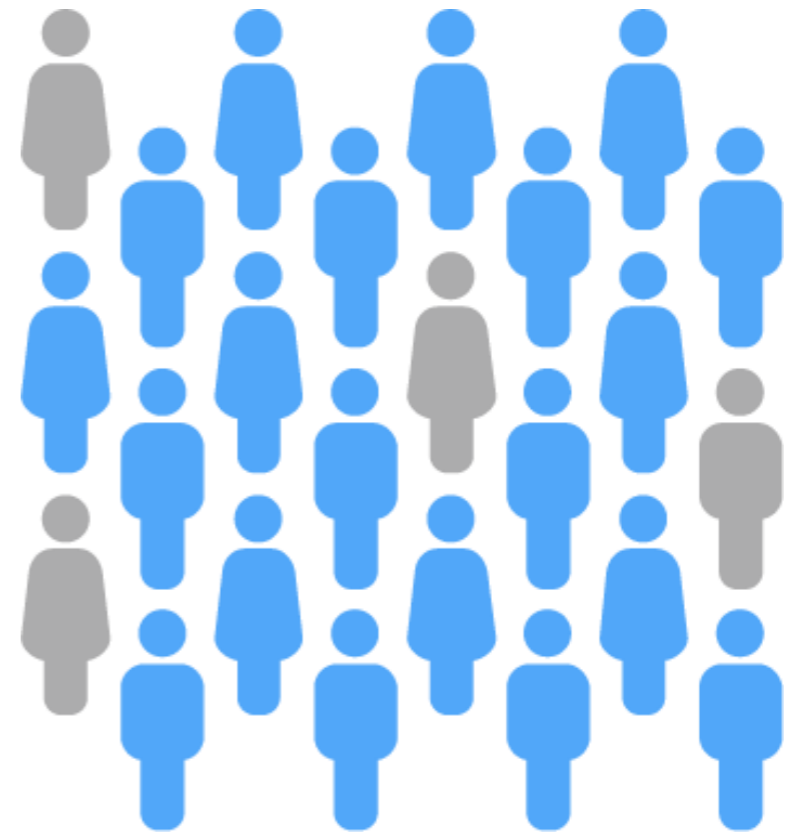
Medicaid Basics...

- 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?

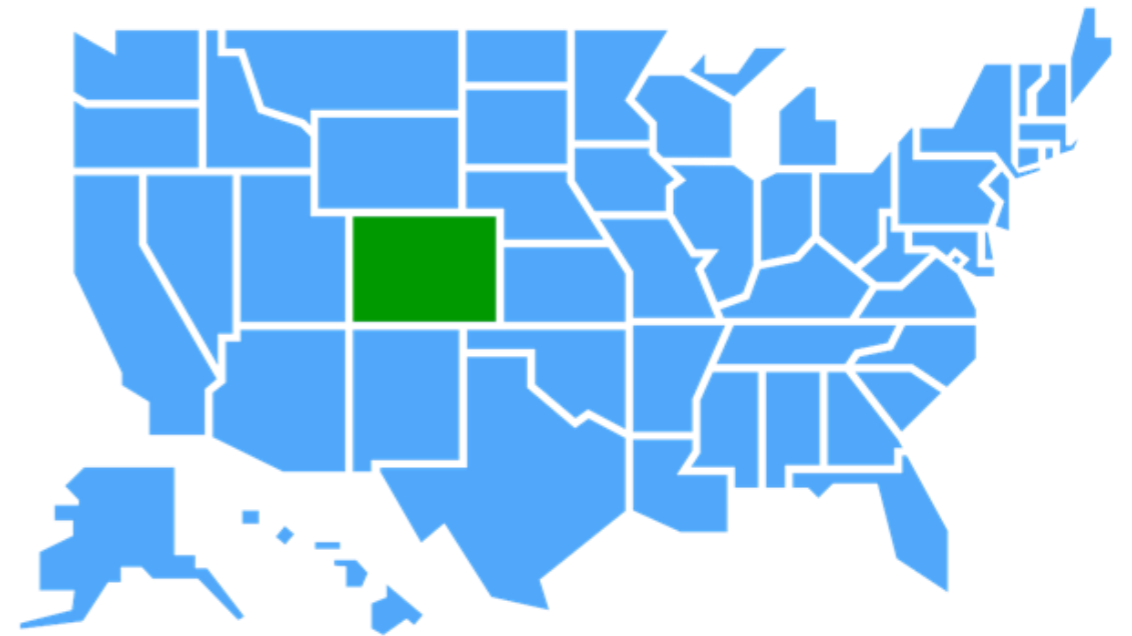
- To help people who are elderly and children and adults living with disabilities
- To provide opportunities for waiver participants to receive services in their own homes and communities rather than institutions or other isolated settings



WHAT ARE WAIVERS?

Waivers

- States can request permission to waive parts of the Social Security Act
- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers allow states to:
 - Waive certain income/eligibility criteria
 - Provide specific services to target groups
 - Provide institutional Level of Care (LOC) to individuals that live in their own home or community



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

General Eligibility Requirements

- For Medical Assistance Applicants must:
 - Submit a signed application for Health First Colorado
 - Visit our [How to Apply](#) page for the different ways someone can apply
 - Be a Colorado resident
 - Submit any additional documents that are requested to determine eligibility
 - Meet citizenship or eligible non-citizen status requirements
- Social Security Number
 - Not everyone is required to submit an SSN when applying
 - If an individual meets one of the following exceptions, they should not be required to submit an SSN
 - Non-applicant household members listed on the application
 - If the individual reports one of the following reasons for not providing an SSN:
 - Not eligible to receive an SSN
 - Only eligible to receive an SSN for a valid non-work reason
 - Refuses to obtain an SSN due to religious objection

There is a question on the application that allows an individual to report these reasons for not having an SSN. The application also allows them to report if they have applied for an SSN but have not yet received it.

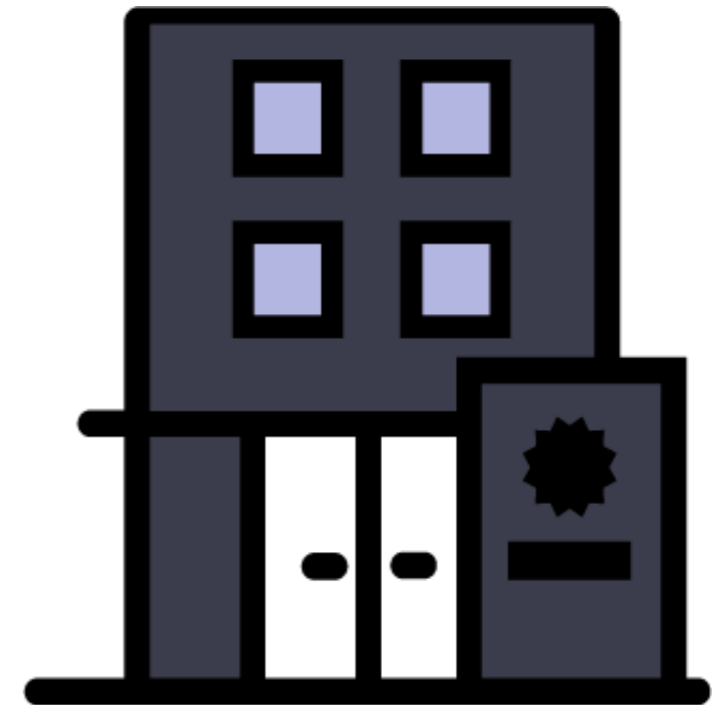
Citizens and Non-Citizens

- Citizens or non-citizens may be eligible to receive services through a waiver
 - There is a wide variety of eligible non-citizen statuses, and many do not need to meet the 5-year bar such as:
 - Refugees
 - Asylees
 - Victims of trafficking
- Lawfully present children and pregnant women are not subject to the 5-year bar
- Non-citizens may be eligible for Emergency Medical Services

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



Colorado Case Management Agencies

- Single Entry Point Agencies (24)
- Community Centered Boards (20)
- Private Case Management Agencies (3)
 - Only work with Children's HCBS Waiver (CHCBS)



SEPs are the access point for these waivers:

- Brain Injury (BI)
- Children's HCBS Waiver (CHCBS)
- Children with Life Limiting Illness (CLLI)
- Community Mental Health Supports (CMHS)
- Elderly, Blind and Disabled (EBD)
- Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/single-entry-point-agencies

CCBs are the access point for these waivers:

- Children's Extensive Support (CES)
- Children's HCBS Waiver (CHCBS)
- Developmental Disability (DD)
- Supported Living Services (SLS)

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/community-centered-boards

WAIVERS FOR ADULTS

Colorado's Adult Waivers

Brain Injury
Waiver

Community
Mental Health
Supports Waiver

Developmentally
Disabled Waiver

Elderly, Blind and
Disabled Waiver

Spinal Cord
Injury Waiver

Supported Living
Services Waiver

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

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/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

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/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)

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

Elderly, Blind and Disabled Waiver (EBD)

- For elderly persons with a functional impairment (aged 65+) or blind or physically disabled persons (ages 18-64), or persons diagnosed with HIV/AIDS
- Must meet nursing facility level of care
- Contact local Single Entry Point (SEP) Agency

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/elderly-blind-disabled-waiver-ebd

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

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/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)

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/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 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)

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

Children's HCBS Waiver (CHCBS)

- For medically fragile children 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

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

Children's Habilitation Residential Program (CHRP)

- For children and youth in foster care who have a developmental disability and very high needs
- Must be ages birth – 20 years old and meet Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) level of care
- Contact local County Department of Social/Human Services

www.colorado.gov/cdhs/contact-your-county

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

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/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:
www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-training



SCENARIOS

Scenario

Matt, who is 24 years old, recently moved to Colorado and has submitted an application for Health First Colorado.

Matt is living with a brain injury sustained at 14 years old which has limited his use of his left arm and leg. He currently lives with his older brother.

Matt utilizes a cane when walking and his brother supports him by providing transportation to medical appointments and stays with Matt during his appointments to make sure he follows through.

Matt's brother has a new job and can't drive him to his appointments or help him get ready in the morning any longer. Matt qualified for Medicaid in Alabama where he was living previously.

Would you refer Matt to the Case Management Agency?

Scenario

Joel is 38 and recently lost his job through which he had health insurance.

Joel has found a new job and is making \$10 an hour. The employer does not offer health insurance, so Joel decides to apply for Medicaid.

Joel has no children and lives in an apartment with roommates.

Joel does not have a car so he takes public transportation to and from work and to his county office to apply for Medicaid.

Is Joel a possible candidate for a waiver?

Scenario

Alexis is 10 years old and living with cerebral palsy. She uses a walker and her Mom assists her with transferring, bathing, and dressing.

Mom is divorced and does not live near family members or Alexis' father. She does not trust neighbors or friends to help when she needs it.

Mom takes care of Alexis 24 hours a day, and has difficulty getting to the grocery store on her own. Taking Alexis on shopping trips is difficult.

Alexis is having increased difficulty getting around with her walker as she gets older, and Mom is unsure of what options are available.

Is Alexis a possible candidate for a waiver?

Questions or Concerns?



Contact Information

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www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-programs

Thank You!