



HB26-1429 Overview

Colorado Commission on Medicaid | October 7, 2026



Panelists

Shelley Banker, Director of the Office of Economic Security, Colorado Department of Human Services (representing HCPF, CDHS and CDEC) IWG* Member

Jamie Ulrich, Weld County Human Services Director, IWG Member

Deb Ruttenberg, Grand and Jackson Counties Human Services Director and CHSDA* President

Tamara Pogue, Summit County Commissioner, IWG Member

Sarah Barnes, Colorado Children's Campaign, IWG Member

*Implementation Working Group

*Colorado Human Services Directors Association



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Sustainability: County Administration Cost Growth Across Agencies

Core Principles: Cost Mitigation • Program Delivery and Efficiency • Consistent Client Experience

HCPF (Medical Assistance)

Enrolled: 1.2 million

Current Allocation: \$134,990,813

Growth/Change (5 yrs): FY 2020-21 approp was: \$88.2M. Total funds grew by about 53.1% over five years, equivalent to an average compounded annual growth rate of about 8.9%

Automation Rates: ~75% MAGI, ~60% Non-MAGI

CDHS (SNAP, TANF, AF)

Enrolled:

574,156 - SNAP

13,582 - TANF Basic Cash Assistance (BCA)

Current Allocation:

\$140 million - SNAP

\$135.6 million - TANF

Growth/Change (5 yrs): after continued growth of about 6% year over year, this year SNAP is experiencing a decline of about 5% between July 2025 and 2026. TANF BCA caseloads are also declining.

CDEC (CCAP)

Enrolled: 21,410

Current Allocation: \$186,257,773

Growth/Change (5 yrs): administration costs have stayed around 10% of total expenditures. Caseload had declined significantly, 6,188 fewer children were served in SFY 2025-26

1429 Considerations: Ability to share work can address backlogs; standard business processes can mitigate errors; shared services maximize the available resources to minimize benefit cuts and disruption to Coloradans

Additional Investments & Cross-Agency Opportunities:

Shared technology infrastructure, centralized fraud investigations, and joint agency interoperability to maximize ROI across programs



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HB26-1429: Implementation Timeline

	2026			2027				2028			
	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Cohort-based Public Benefits Delivery Model	Bill was signed by the Governor 6/4/26	By July 1, 2026 – • Select & contract 3rd-party • Stand up IWG		By January 1, 2027— Transition Plan for the administration of public assistance programs is due to the JBC				Beginning July 1, 2028 – Launch the streamlined public benefits delivery model (≤12 cohorts)			
		July 1, 2026 → January 1, 2027 – Monthly progress reports to the legislature									
Statewide Centralized Member Integrity Service (Fraud)				By January 1, 2027— Transition Plan for Centralized Member Integrity Service Due		By July 1, 2027 – Centralized Member Integrity Service operational. July 1, 2027 → July 1, 2028 – Phased county transition into centralized integrity service				Effective July 1, 2028 – Recovery distributions and fund credits shift to the state cash fund	
				January 1, 2027 → July 1, 2028 – Quarterly progress reports to the legislature							
CQI Process		By September 1, 2026 – CDHS/HCPF/CDEC shall establish a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) process		By January 1, 2027 – Annual CQI report due to the Legislature				By January 1, 2027 – Annual CQI report due to the Legislature			
Data & Dashboard		Beginning September 2026 – Counties submit monthly data to the state		By January 1, 2027 – Begin publishing performance data on a public dashboard online (monthly)							
Performance-Based Contracts		Prior to February 1, 2027 – The state departments must share draft templates of the PBC with the county departments for review and comment.		By February 1, 2027 – Align minimum requirements for performance-based contracts with each county		By July 1, 2027 – Execute performance-based contracts with each county department				Beginning July 1, 2028 – State departments enter PBCs with cohorts with the launch the streamlined public benefits delivery model	
Cohort-based Shared Services				By January 1, 2027– The transition Plan must include recommendations for establishing a cohort or statewide shared services model for key functions, inc. a call center, quality assurance, & security administration services							
Policy-Alignment Team	A state cross-departmental policy alignment team is created to focus on alignment of public assistance program policies. The team consists of staff designated by the EDs of the state departments. Submit quarterly reports to relevant state boards and EDs.										

Keeping You Updated

Recent Updates:

- North Highland (third party vendor) presented [key deliverables](#) — including Cohort Models, Minimum System Expectations (MSE) framework, Staffing and Payroll Methodology, and Governance Model—and surveyed members on the Cohort Operating Model. A Performance-Based Contracts (PBC) subgroup was also established.
- Colorado Human Services Directors Association (CHSDA) and Colorado Counties Incorporated (CCI) presented a proposal for cohort makeup, provided [follow up materials and detailed presentation](#).
- For more information, please see the [HB26-1429 IWG Legislative Report - August 2026](#)

Ongoing updates available at [Colorado.gov/hcpf/county-resource-center](https://colorado.gov/hcpf/county-resource-center)

- Monthly Legislative Reports & Meeting Information on County Resource Center
- Monthly Executive Summaries of Workstreams
- Implementation Plan submitted by January 2027



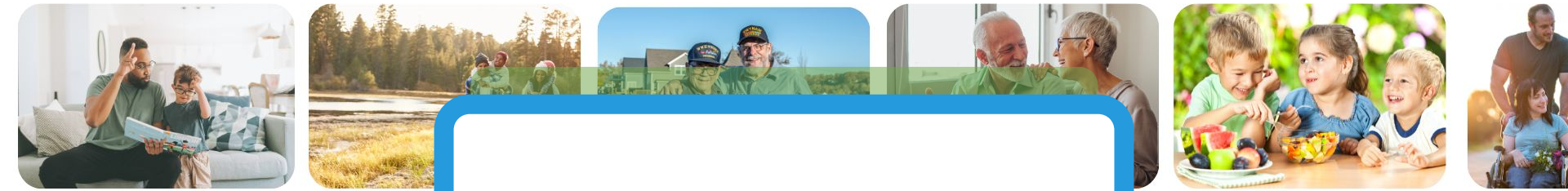
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Thank you!
Questions?

