

CCC Health Care Wrap up

Under the umbrella of more family-centered care, we've seen a focus on kids coverage, administrative simplification, cutting waste and informing consumers about their options. This year was really about giving power back to health care consumers.

SB-160: Health Care for Kids

- Raises the income eligibility level for kids and pregnant women in the Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) from 205% of the federal poverty level to 225% FPL. 225% FPL is \$47,700 annual income for a family of four.
- Expands the mental health benefit for children in CHP+ to be equal to that for children in Medicaid.

SB-161 Administrative Verification of Income

- Eliminates the requirement for families applying for Medicaid or CHP+ to provide proof of income (pay stubs) to the state.
- Directs the state to perform "administrative verification of income," by checking its own databases (department of labor, and others)

HB-1391: Mental Health Services for victims of child abuse

- Creates the Child Welfare and Mental Health Services Pilot Program to provide mental health screenings, evaluations and services for kids ages 4-10 involved in a substantiated case of child abuse, and their siblings.
- Program shall be implemented in a minimum of three Colorado counties or regions
- The ED of the State Department of Human Services will determine the pilot sites based on applications received from departments of human or social services in conjunction with local community mental health centers.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 state budget or "Long Bill"

- Single largest investment in the improvement of children's health care in Colorado in over a decade.
- Fully funded the Colorado Immunization Information System, the registry, with \$670,000 and 10.1 FTE to expand and move CIIS to the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment.
- 4.7 million to increase reimbursements for providers who are medical homes (07-130).
- \$500,000 to the Colorado Regional Health Information Organization to develop policies and procedures for data exchange between HCPF programs and providers in CORHIO. Year one of a three year process.
- \$11,750,000 to raise all preventive and management codes to 90 percent of the equivalent Medicare rates. Overall, the increase reflects an approximate 24% rate increase for each code on average (it varies for the different rate codes).
- \$5 million toward centralized eligibility
- Increased dental provider rates
- Increased funding for CHP+ outreach and enrollment 1.6/1.7 million

HB – 1100 Full funding of the Colorado Responds to Children with Special Needs program, the Birth Defects Registry, to provide early identification and intervention for families that have children with birth defects.

SB – 217 Centennial Care Choices

- It establishes a process to gather information from health insurance carriers that may result in comprehensive health care reform.
- The bill creates a panel of experts to design an RFI to gather actuarial information and cost savings estimates.
- They will issue a final report to the senate and house health and human services committees who will then recommend to the entire general assembly whether or not to proceed with enacting the Centennial Care Choices program and/or seeking a funding source for it. They can also ok an RFP for carriers to submit VBP plans.

HB 08-FAIR Act (Fair Accountable Insurance Rates)

- This bill requires insurance companies to justify their rate increases before they take effect.

HB1385 creates user-friendly report cards with consumer information comparing health insurance companies

HB1393 publishes the cost of top 25 hospital procedures and creates a consumer's guide to those health care procedures.

SB 135 Using standardized health ID cards and claim forms, providers trim costs and focus on helping the sick.