

AGING STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT PROJECT

State Profile for

COLORADO

Home- and Community-based Services for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities

Background

- Colorado's 60+ population was 748,420 in 2008 (15.2% of the state's total population), with 8.4% below the federal poverty level.¹
- The 60+ population is projected to be 1,157,300 in 2025 (21.0% of the state's total population).²
- About 18.4% of all households in 2007 had one or more persons age 65 years and older and 36.7% of persons age 65 years and older had a disability.³
- Of the 459,207 Medicaid beneficiaries in the state in 2003, 9.3% were aged, 13.4% were blind and disabled, 15.1% were Dual Eligible, and 5.9% were HCBS waiver beneficiaries.⁴
- Medicaid expenditures for institutional long-term care were 48.4% of total long-term-care expenditures, compared to 51.6% for HCBS in fiscal year 2007.⁵

Abbreviations

AAA	Area Agency on Aging
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
AoA	Administration on Aging
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
HCBS	Home- and Community-based Services
IADL	Instrumental Activities of Daily Living
MRDD	Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
OAA	Older Americans Act
PACE	Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly
SUA	State Unit on Aging

¹ Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing Integrated Database (AGID): American Community Survey (ACS) demographic data 2004-2007 and state-level population estimates data 2000-2008* [Data files]. Available from <http://198.136.163.234/default.asp>

² Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing statistics: Projected future growth of the Older population; By state: 2005-2030; Aged 60 and above* [Data files]. Available from http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/future_growth/future_growth.aspx.

³ Reimbursement and Research Department, American Health Care Association. (2006, August 29). *The state long-term health care sector 2005: Characteristics, utilization, and government funding*. Washington, DC: Author.

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey, United States and States. *Percent of households with one or more people 65 years and over (R1104) and Percent of people 65 years and over with a disability (R1803)*.

⁵ Burwell, B., Sredl, K., & Eiken. S. (2008, September 26). *Medicaid long term care expenditures FY 2007*. Eagan, MN: Thomson Reuters.

Government Structure to Manage HCBS

- **SUA:** Colorado Department of Human Services, Aging and Adult Services.
www.cdhs.state.co.us/aas/
- **State Medicaid Agency:** Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.
www.colorado.gov
- Colorado does not have a consolidated agency for long-term-care programs. The Department of Health-care Policy and Financing administers Medicaid programs and the Department of Human Services administers the aging and adult programs.
- The director of Colorado's SUA reports to the director of the Department of Human Services, who reports to the executive director, who is the Governor's appointee.

Single Point of Entry (SPE)/Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

- Colorado has both an ADRC and an SPE. The ADRC is not statewide.
- Colorado's ADRC is connected to the state's AAAs; the SPE is connected to the Medicaid agency. The ADRCs are sometimes, but not always, a part of the SPE. If the ADRCs are separate from the SPE, they are housed in a separate county agency or with an AAA.
- All ADRC and SPE sites operate under a virtual model.
- In addition to serving older adults, Colorado's ADRC serves individuals who have physical disabilities or cognitive impairment, including Alzheimer's and related diseases; veterans; and families not including children.
- Colorado is working with Tapestry and the United Way model, providing ADRC services to about 20% of the state's counties. Virtual infrastructures may vary from county to county but all have cross training activities to determine eligibility for multiple benefits. At

least one county employs a resource coordinator to provide short-term case management, while other counties have formed community networking and coordination systems to assist people.

- HCBS case management is provided by the SPE.

Assessment Process

Medicaid

- For Medicaid applicants, in determining functional eligibility for nursing home pre-admission, Colorado requires an in-person assessment by someone other than nursing home staff. The assessment is conducted by ADRC or SPE staff.

Non-Medicaid

- For non-Medicaid applicants in Colorado, pre-admission nursing home assessments are completed by hospital discharge planners or nursing facility staff using the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR). The same process is used for both non-Medicaid and Medicaid nursing home admissions; however, the person responsible for the assessment and screening may vary.

State Medicaid Plan

- Colorado provides HCBS through the state Medicaid plan.
- Refer to Table 1 for specific services provided.
- **PACE:** Colorado has three certified PACE sites serving Denver Metro area, Colorado Springs, Montrose and Delta counties.

Medicaid Waivers

- Colorado has one waiver that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. This is: Home and Community Based Services for the Elderly, Blind and Disabled.

- **Home and Community Based Services for the Elderly, Blind and Disabled:** This program serves those 18 years of age or older if blind or disabled and those 65 years of age or older. The Uniform Level of Care Assessment is used for all long-term-care functional assessments, which are shared among different entities. A Single Purpose Application is used to determine financial eligibility. Individual applicants must have incomes no greater than 300% of the federal poverty level and assets no greater than \$2,000. Case management services are available through the SPE.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered under each program.

CMS-funded Programs and Grants

- Colorado does not have CMS-funded programs and grants that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

State-funded HCBS Programs

- Colorado has three state-funded programs that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: Home Care Allowance, State Foster Care, and State Funding for Senior Services.
- **Home Care Allowance** provides an allowance to the participant to pay a caregiver. Participants must be eligible for an old age pension or aid for the needy disabled. The payment is based on the standard of need minus the participant's income (e.g., if their need is \$900 and their Social Security is \$700, they would receive \$200). The Single Purpose Application tool is used to determine financial eligibility. It is the applicant's responsibility to demonstrate, based on income, that he or she has a need for this payment. Clinical and functional assessments are used to determine ADL and IADL needs. Consumer-directed options in this program include a money payment; clients may use these funds to hire anyone they choose.
- **State Foster Care** serves individuals with income levels comparable to Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The program supplements income for participants residing in adult assisted living residences and in need of

supervision and medication monitoring. Participants generally have a mental health diagnosis and require monitoring to remain in the community. Financial assessments are completed to determine the amount of supplemental income provided to the caregiver. Participants are allowed to retain \$50 of their income with the remainder paid to the residential facility. This program has a consumer-directed option, including the option of choosing cash or a voucher for which the participant may select a non-skilled service provider in the community. Providers may be a spouse or guardian. The participant has a contract with a case manager provided by the SPE Medicaid agency. The fiscal intermediary is the county office. This program is being phased out due to lack of demand and the provision of similar services through other funding streams.

- **State Funding for Senior Services** mirrors the requirements for OAA and targets participants who are frail, minority or low income. Clinical and functional assessments are used only to verify the need for home-delivered meals. Some AAAs may complete a very small number of assessments for this program. This program provides supplemental services to OAA; however, all services are not available in all parts of the state.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

Locally Funded HCBS Programs

- Colorado uses local funds for HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.
- Adult Foster Care and Home Care Allowance programs require a 5% county match of the General Funds.

OAA-funded Programs and Grants

- Refer to Table 1 for services provided through Title III of the OAA.
- Colorado does not use cost-sharing mechanisms or sliding fee scales in the delivery of Title III services.

- Colorado has two OAA-funded programs and grants that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: Chronic Disease Self Management; and Healthy Aging and Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration.

Social Service Block Grants (SSBG) and Community Service Block Grants (CSBG) for HCBS

- Colorado does not use SSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.
- Colorado does not use CSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

Consumer Direction

- Colorado offers consumer-directed options. The HCBS programs in the state that offer consumer direction are: State Funding for Senior Services, HCBS for the Elderly, Blind and Disabled, and Home Care Allowance.
- Models of consumer direction available in the state include: voucher options and cash options (available through HCBS for the Elderly, Blind and Disabled Medicaid Waiver Program, Home Care Allowance, and State Funding for Senior Services state-funded programs).

- Those permitted to provide services under consumer direction in Colorado are: provider agencies, spouses, adult children of the consumer, other family, and friends.
- Colorado uses fiscal intermediary services in connection with consumer direction.

Managed Care

- Colorado does not have HCBS programs run by managed care health plans.

Major Accomplishments and Initiatives

- ADRCs are instrumental in breaking down barriers and confusion regarding programs and services, and directing participants to the appropriate agency and resources.

Table 1: Types of Home- and Community-based Services Provided Under Colorado’s Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities

Types of Services	Program Type / Funding Source					
	Medicaid Waivers	State-funded Programs			State Medicaid Plan	OAA Title III
	HCBS for the Elderly Blind Disabled	Home Care Allowance	State Foster Care	State Funding for Senior Services		
Adult Day Care / Adult Day Health	X			X		X
Assisted Living	X		X			
Caregiver Services / Respite / Education	X	X		X		
Case Management / Care Coordination	X	X	X	X		X
Chore / Homemaking	X	X		X		X
Companion Services / Socialization Activities				X		
Employment						
Equipment / Supplies / Modifications / Assistive Technology	X	X			X	
Health Promotion Activities				X		
Home Health / Personal Care	X	X	X	X	X	X
Information / Assistance / Referral	X	X	X	X		X
Legal Assistance / Financial Advice				X		X
Medical / Dental / Medication Care	X				X	
Mental and Behavioral Health Services				X	X	
Nursing					X	
Nutrition / Meals			X	X		X
Personal Supports for Community Living / Transitioning	X			X		
Rehabilitation / Therapy					X	
Residential Services	X					
Transportation	X			X	X	X
Other/Unspecified HCBS				X		

Table 2: Selected HCBS Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities in Colorado

Program Type / Funding Source	Program Name	Ages Served	Nursing Home Level of Care Required	Entity Responsible for Functional Assessment	Entity Responsible for Financial Assessment	Entity Responsible for Case Management	Waiting List (Number)	Consumer Direction Option
Medicaid Waivers	HCBS for the Elderly Blind Disabled	18+ for blind or disabled otherwise 65+	Yes	State agency: Department of Health Care Policy and Financing	County	Single Point of Entry	No	Yes
State-funded Programs	Home Care Allowance	0+	No	State agency: Department of Health Care Policy and Financing	County	Single Point of Entry	No	Yes
	State Foster Care	Information not reported	Information not reported	State agency: Department of Health Care and Policy and Financing	County	Single Point of Entry	No	No
	State Funding for Senior Services	60+	No	Area Agency on Aging or the Provider Entity	No financial assessment	Area Agency on Aging, County, Municipality, Non-profit Organizations other than AAA or CIL, Single Point of Entry, Provider Entity	Yes (Prioritized based on need)	Yes