



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

January 27, 2020

Dear Rural Community Centered Board Partners:

I want to thank you for your collaborative efforts to date in helping the Department to understand the unique issues impacting your respective rural communities and identifying key initiatives that we can work on together to improve provider stability.

Through the 15 group and individual meetings the Department has hosted with rural providers, we have also concluded there are common issues disproportionately impacting rural communities across the state. However, there were also notable differences across geographic regions that must be considered when crafting a statewide strategy to improve rural provider stability.

Below you will find some key strategies/initiatives we have committed to working with you on for the betterment of rural long-term services and supports providers and the communities you serve:

- **Targeted Case Management- Geographic Modifier:** The proposed targeted case management rates include a rural travel add on to better address the cost of doing business in rural communities.
- **Per Capita Waiting List Management:** The Department is in process of finalizing a proposal with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that will allow the Department to authorize enrollment on a per capita basis. This proposal will be presented to stakeholders for buy-in and feedback, prior to final submission to CMS.
- **Direct Services- Geographic Modifier:** The Department is evaluating the appropriateness and feasibility of adding geographic modifiers to direct services.
- **Regulatory Efficiencies:** The Department is committed to reviewing and revising regulations to streamline and reduce administrative requirements.
- **Direct Care Workforce:** The Department's direct workforce strategy includes strategies to specifically address the unique workforce challenges faced by rural communities.

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.
www.colorado.gov/hcpf



I want to thank you for sharing your thoughts and insights, we appreciate your expert counsel and passion to serve members with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I look forward to actively working with you to achieve our shared goals.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Silva
Director
Office of Community Living

cc: Bob Arnold, Chief Executive Officer, Starpoint
Brooke Hayden, Executive Director, Blue Peaks
Dave Harbour, Executive Director, Southeastern Developmental Services
Duane Roy, Executive Director, Southern Colorado Developmental Disabilities Services
Johnnie DeLeon, Chief Executive Offices, Inspiration Field
Rhonda Roth, Executive Director, Eastern Colorado Services for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc.
Sara Sims, Executive Director, Mountain Valley Developmental Services
Tara Kiene, President/Chief Executive Officer, Community Connections
Tatum Heath, Executive Director, Horizons
Tom Turner, Executive Director, Community Options

