



**BREAKING NEWS!**

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**CHP+ 12-Month Guarantee Update**

As of January 19, 2008, children who become eligible for Medicaid while on CHP+ will be enrolled in Medicaid. The enrollment change from CHP+ to Medicaid takes place the first of the following month. If a family's income goes up, the children will continue their 12 month enrollment span in CHP+. This change is due to direction from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). If you have any questions, please contact Kristy Wilson at [kristy.wilson@state.co.us](mailto:kristy.wilson@state.co.us).

**Special Feature: Introducing Dr. Sandeep Wadhwa**

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is proud to announce that Sandeep Wadhwa, M.D., M.B.A., is the new Medicaid director.

Beginning March 3rd, Dr. Wadhwa will oversee public health insurance programs that deliver care to the low-income, elderly, persons with disabilities and children in Colorado – Medicaid and CHP+.



*Dr. Sandeep Wadhwa*

“Dr. Wadhwa comes to the Department with extensive clinical, health policy and management experience,” says Joan Henneberry, executive director. “He is nationally known in the fields of disease management and innovative health care reform. Dr. Wadhwa will assist the Department in reaching a higher level of excellence in providing access to quality and cost-effective health care services to Coloradans.”

Dr. Wadhwa will remain on the faculty at the University of Colorado Denver as a clinical assistant professor in the seniors clinic. He will continue to serve on the Chronic Care Workgroup of the American Health Information Community that is involved in making recommendations for the adoption of health information technology nationwide.

Prior to joining the Department, Dr. Wadhwa was the vice president of care management services at McKesson Health Solutions, a unit of McKesson Corporation. He was responsible for a full suite of care management services for state Medicaid programs, Medicare and commercial plans.

Dr. Wadhwa was recently interviewed by The Denver Post and answered several questions about his new role.

**Q: Why did you take on this new challenge?**

**A:** I have dedicated my career to improving the health of populations, particularly vulnerable populations. While I'm a physician, I have always been interested in health systems and how health systems can be used and structured to improve the health of populations.

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**RESOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION**

*If you are interested in learning more about CHP+, please contact one of our Regional Outreach Coordinators to set up a presentation or training session, or to invite CHP+ to participate in a special event in your community. Any media calls should be directed to Joanne Lindsay.*

*\*\*Indicates the person is fluent in Spanish or the organization has Spanish-speaking customer service representatives.*

It's a thrilling opportunity to be part of a team at a time when there are so many exciting changes going on.

**Q: What sort of changes?**

**A:** Several things are going on in terms of the Department's interest in expanding coverage and developing innovative solutions to improving health through quality and disease management. I'm really excited to explore ways to engage providers to participate in serving Colorado's vulnerable populations.

**Q: Colorado's Medicaid program was recently ranked 43rd among states in the richness of benefits it offers and the limited number of people it serves. What are some of the greatest challenges Colorado Medicaid faces today?**

**A:** Three things. One is provider participation. The providers are our clients as well as the beneficiaries, and strategies could include expansion of programs and (addressing) some satisfaction issues, the functioning of administration and support.

Another is how we expand coverage while being extremely customer-centric. We want there to be a perception and reality that this is the highest-quality program.

Third is how do we cost-effectively maximize the health and well-being of this population within the money we have. This may be disease management programs, care coordination, establishing a medical home for everyone.

**Q: Tell me a bit about how your own background will help you in this new work.**

**A:** I have a real interest in the needs of the disabled and long-term-care populations. I'm a geriatrician by training. I'm very excited to see how a big public payer can help improve the well-being and quality of life of those beneficiaries.

The needs of the low-income and the disabled and the elderly, that could be any of us, any one of our family members. How we serve that population says a lot about who we are.

**CHP+ News**

**Change in income levels using income disregards**

Effective March 1, 2008, a 2.5 percent income disregard will be applied to those clients whose net income is more than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This means that 2.5 percent of the applicants' monthly income will be subtracted from the total. If a CHP+ or CHP+ Prenatal Care Program applicant has net income greater than 200 percent of the FPL then CBMS will subtract 2.5 percent of the income to determine if the amount is less than or equal to 200 percent of the FPL. If after the 2.5 percent disregard is applied and the net income is greater than 200 percent then the client will be DENIED enrollment in CHP+ or the CHP+ Prenatal Care Program for being over income. The CHP+ enrollment fee and co-payments will apply for these members. For example a family of 4 can make a maximum of \$3,622 a month or approximately \$43,464 a year.

**Presumptive Eligibility (PE) – Questions and Answers**

**Q. What does PE stand for?**

**A.** PE stands for Presumptive Eligibility.

**Q. What is PE?**

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**CHP+ Customer Service**

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**CHP+ HMO**

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*CHP+ State Managed Care Network – Anthem\*\**

A. PE is temporary medical coverage for children 18 and under and pregnant women of any age that have applied for Medicaid or CHP+ and appear eligible. PE sites can issue PE cards after a client has completed an application and the PE Site has determined that the client is eligible for either CHP+ or Medicaid. A PE site list can be found at [www.CHPplus.org](http://www.CHPplus.org).

**Q. Are children eligible for PE?**

A. Yes, PE is now available for both eligible pregnant women and eligible children.

**Q. If a client's Colorado Public Health Insurance for Families Application is denied will their PE be revoked?**

A. No the PE will not be revoked if the Colorado Public Health Insurance for Families Application is denied.

**Q. How long does PE last?**

A. PE is issued for no less than 45 days. It will start the day the client applies and go to the end of the next month. Some members may have 45 days and others may have up to 60 days.

**Q. Do children on PE have dental coverage?**

A. Only the children who have been approved for Medicaid PE have dental coverage. The children placed on CHP+ PE do not have dental and backdated dental claims will not be paid until the application is processed.

**Q. What if the Colorado Public Health Insurance for Families Application is not processed within the PE period? Are there extensions for PE?**

A. No, there are no extensions issued for PE.

**Q. How does a PE client find out the status of their application?**

A. They can call their County Department of Human Services or CHP+ customer service 1-800-359-1991.

**Q. Will clients receive information on the program before their PE expires?**

A. Yes, clients will receive correspondence in the mail before their application expires, they are welcome to call and check on the status at any time.

**Q. Will PE clients still be covered by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield?**

A. No, only clients eligible for CHP+ will be covered by Anthem, the clients who are Medicaid eligible will be covered by Medicaid.

**Q. Will medical providers be able to access clients PE information through the Web portal?**

A. Yes, they will be able to access the information through the portal. Typically it takes 72 hours for information to be seen in the State's Managed Care Network/Anthem system or the Medicaid system.

**Q. How many PE cards can a member receive?**

A. Children are eligible to apply for PE one time per year. Pregnant women are

1-877-523-8171

**Colorado Access\*\***

1-888-214-1101

**Denver Health Medical Plan\*\***

720-956-2100

**Kaiser Permanente\*\***

1-800-632-9700

**Rocky Mountain Health Plans\*\***

1-800-346-4643

**Delta Dental\*\***

303-741-9300

or

1-800-610-0201

**Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing Contact:**

Public Information Officer

\*Contact for all CHP+ and Department media calls

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**MAXIMUS Contacts:**

CHP+ marketing and outreach operated by MAXIMUS

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eligible to apply for PE one time per pregnancy.

**Q. What happens after my PE coverage ends and I'm still not approved for either program?**

A. You can call either your county or CHP+ customer service and inquire on the status of your application.

**Q. Can a member choose any doctor for PE coverage?**

A. If a member is eligible for Medicaid, a list of participating providers can be found by logging on to: <https://spo.hcpf.state.co.us/mercury/ProviderSpecialtyLookupCriteria.aspx>. If a member is eligible for CHP+ PE, a list of participating providers can be found at [www.CHPplusProviders.com](http://www.CHPplusProviders.com).

**Another new face at the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing**

Lindy Wallace is the Department's new and first-time project management director. The new Project Management Office (PMO) was created to provide support and oversight for all Department projects. Lindy and her staff will work closely with other staff who are responsible for the implementation of legislation, meeting deliverables for grants and internal projects developed by the Department's management. The PMO will also have oversight for all health care reform activities.



Lindy Wallace

Lindy has her Masters in public health and was most recently the director of health programs for Boulder County Public Health. Prior to that she served as the section chief for Rural and Primary Health at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

The Department values Lindy's experience and knows she will be an integral part of Colorado's health care reform.

**Colorado Cares Rx**

The Department has teamed with Rx Outreach – a mail order patient assistance program – to offer the Colorado Cares Rx program. Through the partnership with Rx Outreach, individuals and families are offered a convenient way to order and receive generic prescription medicines at a discount.

Individuals may be of any age and qualify for the program based on family size and income. Income cannot exceed 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. For example, a single adult can earn up to \$31,200 while a family of four qualifies with an income of up to \$63,600. Individuals may have other health insurance coverage and all information is self-declared.

Colorado Cares Rx offers more than 125 different medications in more than 45 different therapeutic categories.

There is a cost of \$20, \$30 or \$40 per prescription, for a three-month supply depending on the medicine. There are no enrollment fees or shipping costs.

For more information and to download an application, please visit [www.coloradocaresrx.com](http://www.coloradocaresrx.com). To download a fact sheet about Colorado Cares Rx, [click here](#).

**The Bawmann Group**

**Contact:**

Media relations and advertising services for CHP+

*Vice President of Client Services*

Tammy Stratton

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*Your feedback is important to us. If you have any suggestions for upcoming newsletters, please [email Tammy Stratton](#).*



### CHP+ newsletter articles

Does your organization have a newsletter or other way to communicate with your staff and clients? Consider including an article about CHP+ so they are familiar with the program – what it is, how it works and how to apply. It is also available in Spanish. You may call your CHP+ ROC to request it.

### The Civics and Citizenship Toolkit

The Civics and Citizenship Toolkit contains a range of useful materials to help organizations begin or enhance a collection of resources for immigrants. It includes immigration and civics publications, handbooks and guidance on product usage and multimedia tools and is now available to all immigrant-serving organizations.

You may order a toolkit directly by registering at [www.citizenshiptoolkit.gov](http://www.citizenshiptoolkit.gov). Community and faith-based organizations can register on a first come, first serve basis for one free toolkit.

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### Test Your CHP+ Knowledge

Are you a CHP+ expert? Here are a few questions to put your CHP+ knowledge to the test. The answers can be found near the bottom of the newsletter.

1. When would a child move from CHP+ to Medicaid?
2. True or False – children 18 and under who are approved at a Presumptive Eligibility site can receive immediate medical coverage through CHP+ or Medicaid.
3. What two new key positions were announced at the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing?

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### Community and Training Events

For more information about community and CHP+ training events or to share news of a community event, contact the Regional Outreach Coordinator in your area.

#### **Denver Metro Region – Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties**

*March 1, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

America on the Move FREE Health Fair

Peace with Christ Lutheran Church

Arapahoe County

#### **North Central Region**

*March 5, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

Colorado Children's Day

Loveland Museum/Gallery

Loveland

*March 27, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.*

Thompson School District Health Fair

Lincoln Elementary

Larimer County

#### **Northeast Region**

*March 7*

Child Find Health Clinic

Yuma Preschool  
Yuma

*March 10*  
Child Find Health Clinic  
Wray Preschool  
Wray

*March 20*  
Child Find Health Clinic  
Peetz Preschool  
Logan County

*March 20*  
Child Find Health Clinic  
Merino Preschool  
Logan County

*March 31*  
Child Find Health Clinic  
Haxtun Preschool  
Haxtun

**Southwest Region:**

*March 13, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.*  
School Nurse Regional Workshop  
Durango 9-R Administration Building  
Durango

*March 13, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.*  
Salida Health Fair  
Salida High School  
Salida

**Southeast Region:**

*March 14, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.*  
It Takes a Health Village to Raise a Healthy Child Consortium  
John Mall High School  
Walsenburg

*March 20, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.*  
SET Immunization Clinic  
SET Family Clinic  
Colorado Springs

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**CHP+ Spotlight**

We would like your help! If you know of community organizations or individuals doing great things for CHP+, please nominate them to be featured in the CHP+ Spotlight section. To submit a nomination today, simply email [chpplushighlights@morethanpr.com](mailto:chpplushighlights@morethanpr.com). Please include your contact information, the name of the organization(s) or person(s) you are nominating and the contact information for each, if available. Thank you!

**Tussey & Associates**

Patti Tussey is a self-employed insurance broker in Louisville. She has worked

with her husband, Eric, at Tussey & Associates since 1995. Tussey & Associates helps businesses and individuals procure health, life and disability insurance. Patti has been providing information about CHP+ to families since April 2007.

Patti has been selling health insurance to small businesses and individuals for the past 12 years. She understands the health insurance industry, legislation and the process of obtaining coverage from all levels. Through her job, she comes across families who may qualify for CHP+. She finds it very rewarding to find solutions through CHP+ for families who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford coverage.

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## Get to know the CHP+ Regional Outreach Coordinator Team

CHP+ would like to take the opportunity to help you get to know our outreach team. The ROCs are based throughout the state and work with community partners to promote CHP+ education, outreach and application assistance services. Serving as liaisons to our community partners, the ROCs are a great resource, helping to educate and communicate with eligible families and professional groups throughout Colorado. For the next few months we will highlight one of the ROCs.

### Ileana Perez, Denver metro region serving Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties

*"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."*  
– Sir Winston Churchill

Ileana's passion for children and helping those in need is what drives her both personally and in her career.

As the CHP+ Denver metro Regional Outreach Coordinator, Ileana serves Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas counties. As a program liaison for community partners and stakeholders such as school, health clinics, faith-based organizations, and community agencies that assist underserved populations, Ileana works to promote CHP+ education, outreach and application assistance services.



*Ileana and her sons, Dani and Alec*

"This job gives me the opportunity to spread the word about CHP+ - a great program that we know so many children can benefit from," said Ileana. "For me this job is like going to school. I learn something new everyday. I love that I get to meet and work with such wonderful people that do such amazing work in our community. I am lucky to be able to learn from them while doing my job."

Ileana speaks Spanish and as a ROC she is able to use her native language almost every day. "I love my culture and my language," explains Ileana. "I appreciate that I can use it in my job to reach out and communicate with people."

According to Ileana, a big part of her job is listening and learning. For her, success is directing families to appropriate community partners with services and resources and being able to answer their questions and address their issues.

Helping families is nothing new for Ileana. Prior to joining the CHP+ team, Ileana served as executive director of Adams County Early Childhood Connections, a nonprofit organization serving infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities.

Ileana's commitment to helping those in need doesn't end here. She loves to spend time volunteering in the community with her two sons – Dani, 14 and Alec, 8. Together they donate, wrap and deliver toys during the holidays and they also deliver Thanksgiving dinners to those in need every year. When the family isn't volunteering, they enjoy going to movies and being with friends.

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**Test Your CHP+ Knowledge – Check Your Answers:**

1. Since January 19, 2008, children whose families report a lower income which makes them eligible for Medicaid will be moved from CHP+ to Medicaid.
2. True – Children 18 and under who are approved at a Presumptive Eligibility site can receive immediate medical coverage through CHP+ or Medicaid.
3. The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing recently announced the hiring of Medicaid Director, Sandeep Wadhwa, M.D., M.B.A. and Program Management Director, Lindy Wallace.

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