



STATE OF COLORADO

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TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Jean G. McAllister, Facilitator on behalf of the Conflict of Interest Task Force, Colorado Departments of Human Services and Health Care Policy and Financing

SUBJECT: Forum to Provide Public Comment Regarding the Redesign of the System for Developmental Disabilities in Colorado

DATE: May 18, 2010

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) and the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) has assembled a Task Force of stakeholders from the developmental disabilities system to develop recommendations for a resolution to the conflict of interest issues inherent in the Developmental Disabilities system.

Results of the State Auditor's Office 2009 Audit of the Home and Community Based Services waiver for People with Developmental Disabilities indicated that the potential for conflict of interest initially raised by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and further examined in a December 2007 study by the University of Southern Maine (USM), Muskie School of Government titled "Addressing Potential Conflicts of Interest Arising from the Multiple Roles of Colorado's Community Centered Boards" had not been resolved or sufficiently addressed. The 2009 Audit referenced above categorized those potential conflicts in seven areas on pages 43 and 44 of the Audit: Information and Referral, Eligibility Determination, Administration of the Waiting List, Service Planning, Provider Selection, Rate Negotiation and Monitoring Services.

Consequently, the charge of the COI Task Force is to evaluate options to resolve conflict of interest issues and to make recommendations to CDHS and HCPF. The task force is to recommend new statutory requirements for C.R.S. 27-10.5, if necessary. The Task Force will evaluate all options presented to them or

developed by the Task Force, as well as the system options identified in the USM report, and recommend the best option for the system that resolves the conflict of interest issues.

The Task Force is interested in hearing public comment regarding options that will resolve conflict of interest issues inherent in the developmental disabilities system. It has set aside the following date and time for any interested persons to provide comment to the Task Force.

**Tuesday, June 1, 2010
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

Please save this date and time. In the interest of allowing as many stakeholders as possible access to provide input, the Task Force will be taking comment through a video teleconference with multiple sites throughout the State. Sites are confirmed in four areas of the State at the following locations.

Denver: The Auditorium at Fort Logan Campus
3520 W. Oxford Ave.
Denver, CO 80236

Grand Junction: The Facilities Conference Room at Grand Junction
Regional Center
2800 Riverside Parkway
Grand Junction, CO 80501

Pueblo: The Colorado Mental Health Institute, Conference Room A
1600 W. 24th Street
Pueblo, CO 81003

Sterling: Logan County Human Services
508 S. 10th Avenue
Sterling, CO 80715

The University of Southern Maine (USM), Muskie School of Government report, "Addressing Potential Conflicts of Interest Arising from the Multiple Roles of Colorado's Community Centered Boards" and the State Auditor's Office 2009 Audit of the Home and Community Based Services Waiver for People with Developmental Disabilities are attached to this email. These reports identify potential conflicts of interest that must be addressed by this Task Force.

If there are any specifically identified options being considered prior to the Public Comment Meeting, they will be sent in a separate memo.

Time to speak may be limited, so that all parties wishing to provide comment to the Task Force will have time to do so. It would be helpful if a written version of the testimony could be provided at the time comments are made. The Task Force will also take written comment from anyone who is not able to attend the public

forum on June 1st. Written comment will be accepted through May 31st (or at the meeting on June 1st) and should be directed to:

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Ms McAllister will distribute all comments to the Task Force. If there is time, written comments will be read into the record on June 1st.

If anyone needs special accommodations for the public forum (e.g., interpreter services), please contact Roberta Aceves at 303-866-7030 or Roberta.Aceves@state.co.us