

Policy & Operations Committee Minutes
May 28, 2026
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Board Members Present: Jennifer Brooks, Chris duGruy Kennedy, Adam Fox and Toni Sarge

Staff Present: Justin Brandon, Brian Braun, Destiny Carter, Kelly Davies, Kelly Guthner, Brian Lidiak, Daniel O’Neil, Dr. Renata Robinson, Geraldine Ruiz, Nina Schwartz, and Anneliese Steel

I. Welcome & Introductions

Adam Fox called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m., welcoming everyone in attendance. The April meeting minutes were approved.

II. HCPF Update

Staff from the Colorado Department of Healthcare Policy & Financing (HCPF) provided an update on changes to the Cover All Coloradans program passed during the legislative session, which were driven by a billion-dollar budget shortfall. Key changes include capping dental services at \$750 per year starting July 1, 2026, transitioning the program from managed care to fee-for-service beginning January 1, 2027, eliminating long-term care services for new eligible children starting January 1, 2027, implementing a 25,000-child enrollment cap for fiscal year 26-27, and repealing the statutory requirement for outreach and enrollment strategy. The current enrollment stands at approximately 22,000 children, with projections indicating the cap may be reached soon.

III. DOI Update

Staff from the Division of Insurance (DOI) provided updates on two legislative priorities, including SB178 which creates new funding revenue streams for health insurance affordability programs, and SB167 which allows direct-to-consumer drug purchases to count towards out-of-pocket maximums and deductibles. DOI plans to hold community engagement forums between June and July to gather feedback on program changes, with board votes scheduled for June 12th and mid-July regarding premium assistance subsidies.

IV. Legislative Update

Staff provided an update on the health insurance affordability bill (SB-26178) noting Connect for Health Colorado will no longer receive approximately \$9 million in issuer tax credit sales that were previously allocated for operations. Funding distributions will be: 50% reinsurance, 25% premium affordability programs on the exchange, 20% OmniSalud and 5% admin/other.

V. Monthly Operations Update

Staff presented the statistics for April, noting operations performed well with 90%

completion on the exchange side and 87% on the MA side, noting a decrease in volume for the first time in 18 months. The team is caught up on applications, documents, and change reports, running about one to two days behind, and maintaining solid CSAT survey results above 85%. Staff set a goal to reach 90% CSAT consistently by 2027-2028 and mentioned plans to maintain a lean contract staff through summer before starting training in September.

VI. NBPP Final Rule

Staff presented the 2027 payment notice rule finalized in May, highlighting provisions with significant impact on Connect for Health Colorado, including changes to failure to file and reconcile rules, increased income verification requirements, implementation of an improper payment measurement program, and limitations on APTC eligibility for certain non-citizens. The rule may reduce marketplace enrollment by 2 million people in 2027 and potentially increase premiums by up to 2.4%.

VII. Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Fox
Committee Chair