

## Agenda Item 1.4.1

### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BRIEFING PAPER

#### **Topic: Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Finance County Grant Program Funding**

**Presented by: Jesi Antonucci, Community Assistance Division Director**

**Date: 6/10/2025**

☐ For Information

☒ For Discussion/Board Direction

☐ Consent to  
Place on Business/  
Hearing Agenda

**Issue:** Jefferson County Human Services (JCHS) seeks approval to apply for and, if awarded, accept up to \$40,000 in County Grant Program funding from the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Finance (HCPF).

**Background:** JCHS administers the Medicaid Assistance (MA) program through the Community Assistance Division (CAD). During the State Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025, the MA caseload averages 49,929 cases for 79,241 individuals monthly.

The FY 2025-26 HCPF R-07 Decision Item, requested \$21 million in new funding for counties. Through the rule revision process, HCPF aims to improve member experience, address Federal non-compliance, incorporate lessons from the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and improve State compliance and oversight. HCPF has made targeted grant funding available to county departments through the FY 2025-2026 County Grant Program to aid in implementing the 2025 changes to HCPF's county administration rules.

**Discussion:** JCHS is seeking up to \$40,000 in funding through the County Grant Program to aid in implementation of rule 1.020.9.4 that requires the creation of a Customer Relations Process (CRP) for Applicants, Members, families, advocacy groups and providers. This request is also aligned with HCPF rule 1.020.11.1.b to facilitate timely enrollment of Medical Assistance Applicants and ensure coordination between entities for ongoing eligibility and case maintenance.

The proposed project objective is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Long-Term Care (LTC) eligibility process by establishing a Lead Eligibility Specialist position specializing in cross agency communication. This

role would serve as a centralized point of communication between the LTC team, Case Management Agency (CMA) staff, providers, and other stakeholders. This position will help reduce the number of case touches by identifying duplicative outreach, assisting Case Managers in navigating complex cases, providing timely information and being a primary point of contact for providers facing issues with eligibility. This grant fund request is to supplement partial wages of the position while the project is in its pilot phase with plans to utilize a combination of Medicaid Incentive Funding and CMA funds for long term sustainability. An existing vacant position will be utilized for this pilot.

**Fiscal Impact:** ☒ yes ☐ no

- Year(s) of impact: 2025 - 2026
- Existing grant or project: No
- New grant or project: Yes, this is a new initiative
- Requested in adopted budget: No
- Ongoing or one-time: One-time, this will be a short-term initiative that will be completed by 6/30/2026
- General Fund impact: None
- Staffing impact: None
- Match requirements: None
- Mandate/Contractual obligation: None

**SPA Review:** Support with no concerns, Sherry Wilger, 6/2/25

**County Attorney Review:** Support with no concerns, Jean Biondi, 6/2/25

**Facilities Review:** No fiscal impact, Tim Doiel, 6/3/25

**BIT Review:** No fiscal impact, Andy Corbett, 5/30/25

**Fleet Review:** No fiscal impact, Bryan Johnson, 6/2/25

**County Human Resources Review (new FTE only):** N/A

**Recommendations:** That the Board of County Commissioners (a) authorizes Jefferson County Human Services to apply for and accept up to \$40,000 in County Grant Program funds from the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing; and (b) if awarded, staff recommends this item be included in a future supplemental appropriation to the Human Services' budget.

**Originator:** Jesi Antonucci, Community Assistance Division Director (x4350)

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