



Appendix A: Other specific-to-CDHS programmatic updates required by statute

OFFICE OF ADULT, AGING, AND DISABILITY SERVICES

SMART Act Requirement Name: Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Program

Statutory Requirement: 26-11-208 (3)(b), C.R.S.

(3)(b) Beginning in January 2023, and every January thereafter, the state department shall include in its report to the committees of reference pursuant to the “State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act” hearing required by section 2-7-203 information from the state office regarding the grant program, as set forth in this subsection (3), including information on the type of projects financed by grant awards, the amount of money awarded to each project, and where those projects were conducted and the program’s impact on the health, equity, well-being, and security of older Coloradans.

Response:

Senate Bill 21-290 created the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) grant program within the Colorado Department of Human Services (Department). The purpose of the grant program is “to provide state assistance received in the form of grant awards to finance various projects across the state that are intended to assist and support older Coloradans.” (Section 26-11-208(2), C.R.S.) In 2022, Senate Bill 22-185 extended the grant program indefinitely, renamed the grant program to be the Strategic Investments in Aging grant program, and expanded the definition of eligible organizations beyond the 16 AAAs to include other entities the Department determines appropriate to achieve the purpose of the grant program.

SB 21-290 appropriated \$15 million to the Department for use by the grant program, which included funding to support administration of the program. Since that time, the Department has awarded \$14,550,000 in grants for 65 projects in 15 of the 16 Area Agencies on Aging Regions across the state. The projects impacted the health, equity, well-being, and security of older Coloradans by supporting a variety of needs of the AAAs and their service providers. The projects are categorized into the following project types:

- **New construction** - For senior centers, AAA administration buildings and outdoor space for congregate meals;



- **Renovation of existing buildings** - Replacing doors with ADA compliant doors, re-painting, new flooring, new lighting, etc.;
- **Kitchen equipment** - Commercial equipment: stoves, sinks, freezers and refrigerators;
- **Programmatic projects** - Fall prevention projects, expansion of meal sites and statewide assessment of the older adult community;
- **New vehicle(s)** - To support meal deliveries;
- **Technology upgrades** - New computers or new database management systems; and
- **Material aid vouchers** - Including home modifications, hearing aids, other material aid.

Table A below shows the type of projects funded, amount of funding awarded to projects in each project type, and status of the projects.

Table A: Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Fund Projects Funded by Type including Amount Granted and Status - as of January 1, 2025

Project Type	# of Projects Funded	Funding Amount Granted	Status of Projects	
			In Progress	Completed
Renovation of Building	22	\$5,801,999	1	21
New Construction	6	\$4,946,141	3	3
Programmatic	11	\$1,566,028	0	11
Kitchen Equipment	10	\$1,265,792	1	9
New Vehicle	7	\$412,669	0	7
Technology Upgrades	5	\$396,190	0	5
Material Aid Vouchers	4	\$161,180	2	2
TOTAL	65	\$14,550,000	7	58

Table B shows the AAA Regions and counties in which one or more projects were funded.

Table B: Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Fund Projects by Region

AAA Region	Counties Included	# of Projects
1	Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, Yuma	4
2A	Larimer	4
2B	Weld	1
3A	Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, Jefferson	6
3B	Boulder	5
4	El Paso, Park, Teller	1
5	Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, Lincoln	5
6	Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers	14
7	Pueblo	2
8	Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache	2
10	Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, San Miguel	2
11	Garfield, Mesa, Moffat, Rio Blanco	9
12	Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, Summit, Routt	8
13	Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Lake	1
14	Huérfano, Las Animas	1
Total	59 of 64 Counties	65

SMART Act Requirement Name: State Funding for Senior Services Adequacy Review

Statutory Requirement: 26-11-210, C.R.S.

(1) No later than August 2024, and each August every three years thereafter, the state department, the office of state planning and budgeting, and representatives from area agencies on aging shall review the adequacy of the appropriation for state funding for senior services for the prior three fiscal years to address the needs of senior citizens who request services pursuant to this article 11.

(3) At the state department's "SMART Act" hearing required by section 2-7-203 following the adequacy review conducted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the state department shall include as part of its presentation information concerning the findings of the adequacy review conducted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.

Response:

In compliance with Section 26-11-210, C.R.S., the Department's State Unit on Aging (SUA) worked collaboratively with the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) and representatives from Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) to compile a [report](#) on the adequacy of the appropriation for State Funding for Senior Services (SFSS) from FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24.

This inaugural report identified the following key findings and recommendations related to funding adequacy and sustainability for older adults:

- Continued investment in SFSS funding will be critical to supporting the quality of life for older Coloradans
- Current funding strategies do not adequately project the growing demand for services
- Meeting community needs requires collaboration and advocacy at the local, state, and federal levels. The Aging network should work in partnership to identify methods to support funding adequacy, including:
 - Options to eliminate the current AAA waiting list
 - Funding model adjustments
 - Diversification and expansion of funding sources
 - Infrastructure development opportunities
 - Revisions to funding formula methodology

The Department will use these recommendations to inform our work in the next three years ahead of our next report required on this issue.

SMART Act Requirement Name: Alternative Response Pilot

Statutory Requirement: 26-3.1-103.3. C.R.S.

(7)(c) In January 2025 and January 2026, the state department shall report on the implementation and effect of the pilot to the health and human services committee of the senate and the public and behavioral health and human services committee of the house of representatives, or any successor committees, as part of its “State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act” presentation required by section 2-7-203. The report must include, at a minimum:

(I) A description of any specific problems that the state department or any participating county department encountered during the administration of the pilot, along with recommendations that the state department has for legislation to address such problems; and

(II) A recommendation by the state department regarding whether the general assembly should repeal the pilot, continue the pilot for a specified time period, or establish the pilot statewide on a permanent basis.

Response:

In compliance with Section 26-3.1-103.3, C.R.S., the Department’s Adult Protective Services (APS) program contracted with the University of Denver’s Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab (CO Lab) to complete the statutorily required evaluation of the Alternative Response (AR) pilot. The APS AR pilot evaluation focuses on a two-year implementation period (January 1, 2023-December 2024). Evaluation analysis includes six months of post case-closure monitoring. The CO Lab compiled a comprehensive [Policy Brief](#) entitled “Effectiveness of the Alternative Response Pilot: Initial Outcomes” which provides analysis from the first year of implementation (January-December 2023), including post-case closure monitoring through June 2024.

The Department has not identified any problems prohibiting or impeding implementation of the pilot. As anticipated with any pilot project, the Department has worked collaboratively with the CO Lab and County Departments of Human and Social Services to identify and

respond to opportunities for clarity and technical assistance during the first year to ensure the effective implementation of the pilot.

As highlighted in the Policy Brief, evaluation data to date indicates the AR Pilot is having a positive impact on at-risk adults in Colorado, specifically by reducing repeat involvement and case length. The CO Lab's qualitative and quantitative data analysis indicates the AR practice is a viable and favorable approach for responding to reports of low-risk mistreatment and self-neglect. Assuming causal evidence continues to remain favorable in the full two-year outcomes study, the Department and the CO Lab would likely support a recommendation for statewide expansion of the AR pilot.

The 2026 report will address the full two years of implementation and related post-closure data analysis.

OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

SMART Act Requirement Name: Residential Treatment Rate Setting

Statutory Requirement: Section 26-1-132, C.R.S

Department of Human Services - rate setting - residential treatment service providers - monitoring and auditing - report. (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, SHALL DEVELOP A CAPACITY PLAN FOR WHENEVER A RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH THAT IS LICENSED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT CLOSES OR HAS A SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE IN OPERATION. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE UPDATES ON THE CAPACITY PLAN DURING THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S "SMART ACT" HEARING.

RESPONSE:

The Colorado Department of Human Services, in collaboration with the Behavioral Health Administration and Health Care Policy and Financing, has developed a provider capacity development plan through the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Implementation Plan led by the Behavioral Health Administration. The plan includes goals and deadlines, many of which coincide with the implementation of HB 24-1038 and expanding the capacity of out-of-home placement settings. A copy of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Implementation Plan can be found [here](#). Details about efforts to build provider capacity will be a focus of the Department's upcoming SMART Act Hearing, which includes a review of our Wildly Important Goal of decreasing waiting lists for children and youth needing residential treatment and our plans to continually increase high acuity beds throughout Colorado.

SMART Act Requirement Name: Child Welfare Hotline

Statutory Requirement: Section 26-5-111, C.R.S.

(5) The state department shall submit periodic reports to the appropriate legislative committee pursuant to the requirements of part 2 of article 7 of title 2, C.R.S., pertaining to the implementation or operation of the hotline system, the progress of implementing the hotline system, the outcomes from the operation of the hotline system, and the outcomes from the adoption of rules and practices for consistent screening, assessment, and decision-making for reports of known or suspected child abuse and neglect and for inquiries.

RESPONSE:

The statewide child abuse and neglect reporting hotline system was implemented in 2015, including the promotion of a centralized phone number 1-844-CO-4-KIDS through an ongoing awareness campaign. In 2024, the hotline system upgraded from a telephonically-based platform to a cloud-based platform, providing a much more efficient, secure environment and improved call quality for workers and reporters. Hotline workers log into a new application that provides instant access to call data, recordings, and can easily view the status of other hotline staff who are logged on to receive calls with concerns about children and families.

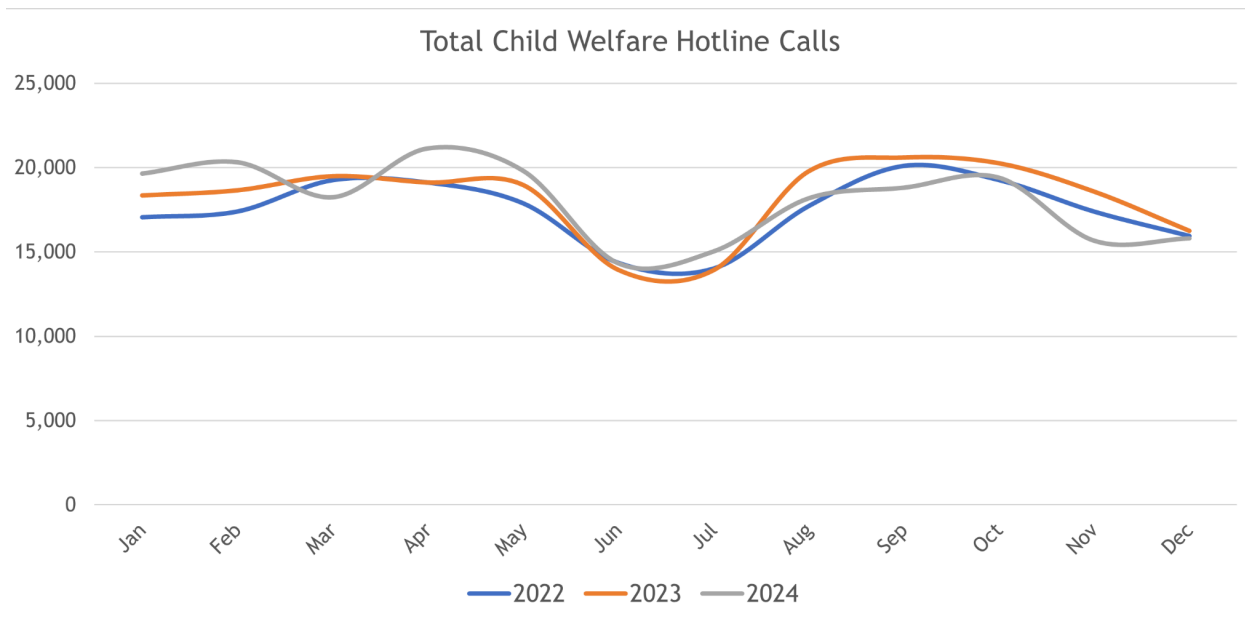
In cooperation with the sixty-four (64) counties that provide child welfare services, the Hotline County Connection Center (HCCC) has ensured people across Colorado and beyond have 24-hour access to report known or suspected child abuse and neglect. Forty-five (45) counties utilize the HCCC's services for full-time call coverage and an additional ten (10) for after-hours call coverage.

In late 2023, a statewide review of screened-out referrals was conducted in partnership with the CDHS' Administrative Review Division and county staff volunteers. The review indicated a 97.3% agreement with statewide screening practices. The review was utilized to identify opportunities for improving consistency in referral disposition practices which were then subsequently addressed through guidance developed and issued through an Agency Response Guide.

The modernization of Assessment functionality in Trails (Colorado's Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System) during the summer of 2023 substantially enhanced functionality that provides greater awareness of federal and statutory requirements for caseworkers. This functionality includes a dynamic assessment closure checklist that updates as new information is added to an assessment; this dynamic checklist ensures all caseworkers complete important work consistently, as the checklist ensures workers cannot move on from an assessment until these federal and statutory requirements are all met.

Colorado enhanced safety practice by prioritizing a consistent assessment and decision-making approach throughout the life of a case supported by the Colorado Family Safety and Risk Assessment tools. A Safety Assessment Workgroup was convened as part of Colorado's federal Child and Family Services Review Round 3 Performance Improvement Plan, and the workgroup conducted fidelity reviews of its Safety Assessments. While no changes were made to the Safety Assessment tool, the fidelity review identified areas in which caseworkers and other practitioners could improve the documentation of formal Safety Assessments. In response, DCW created supplemental materials and updated the Safety Assessment instructions, which were issued through CDHS' memo series. Additionally, the Supervisor's Learning Exchange which originated from Colorado's CFSR Round 3 PIP implementation scheduled sessions to provide a platform for supervisors across the state to discuss best practices for supervising safety and risk throughout the life of an assessment or case.

In 2024, the hotline system received 216,353 calls and has averaged 211,436 calls per year since its implementation in 2015. In 2024, 118,318 reports resulted in referrals for further review of child protection or youth in conflict needs. County departments then reviewed the referrals to determine if assignment criteria was met per the Code of Colorado Regulations [Volume 7.103.6](#). This can include assigning the referral to a caseworker for further assessment or not assigning it to a caseworker, but offering the family voluntary prevention services.



Data current as of 1/3/2025, Genesys.

SMART Act Requirement Name: Colorado State Youth Development Plan
Statutory Requirement: Section 26-1-111.3, C.R.S.

RESPONSE:

Statute calls for the Statewide Youth Development Plan (SYDP or the Plan) to identify successful and replicable youth development strategies nationally and in Colorado. The Plan identifies five key domains impacting youth: behavioral health, social connectedness, youth and family economic mobility, safety and physical wellbeing, and multi-system involvement. The Plan is available on the [Statewide Youth Development website](#).

In July 2024, Colorado was one of five states selected to be part of the three-year Building Ecosystems Statewide for Thriving (BEST) Youth Initiative, administered by the Forum for Youth Investment (the Forum). As part of this project, youth and adults with lived experience - diverse people who are/were directly involved with state systems - work alongside state agencies to increase youth thriving in Colorado. CDHS is the lead state agency for the initiative, partnering with the Colorado Departments of Education (CDE), Labor and Employment (CDLE), and Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and with the support of the Attorney General and Governor’s Office.

The BEST Initiative’s priorities are closely aligned with the SYDP goals around building statewide infrastructure. Over the next three years, Colorado will leverage the BEST

Initiative and support from the Forum to help accelerate the implementation of goals and strategies laid out in the Plan. The BEST Initiative will serve as an “activator” to bring key partners together, provide additional capacity and resources, and elevate best practices and innovation in the youth thriving field.

Over the next two years, the plan aims to achieve the following goals:

1. Promote alignment across state agencies/systems with a shared vision, goals, and sustainable governance structure.
2. Increase saturation of the Positive Youth Development (PYD) approach across state agencies and community-based organizations.
3. Understand the current landscape of youth-serving programs and leverage existing data to identify opportunities and gaps.

SMART Act Requirement Name: Prenatal Substance Exposure

Statutory Requirement: Section 19-1-129, C.R.S.

(1) The state department of human services may conduct research as related to the definition of “abuse” in section 19-1-103 concerning the incidence of prenatal substance exposure and related newborn and family health and human services outcomes as the result of a mother’s lawful and unlawful intake of controlled substances. (2) Beginning in January 2021 and every two years thereafter, the state department of human services shall report the outcomes of any research conducted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to the joint health committees of the general assembly as part of its “State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act” presentation required by section 2-7-203.

RESPONSE:

The Colorado Department of Human Services’ Division of Child Welfare (DCW) continues to resource and collaborate in research projects to better understand, prevent, and address prenatal substance use among Colorado families. Two projects and related outcomes are highlighted below:

- In 2022, DCW awarded funding for a multi-year pilot in the San Luis Valley to ensure the Colorado Plan of Safe Care can be developed at multiple entry points, incentivize cross-system collaboration, and develop a comprehensive data collection system to address the health, safety, and well-being of an infant reported with prenatal substance exposure, and substance use treatment needs of the affected family or caregiver(s). The pilot goal is to create a data-informed strategic framework for coordinated Plans of Safe Care (POSC) that, if successful, can be scaled and replicated across Colorado communities. The pilot ended the first year of implementation in 2024, during which there have been three successes:
 1. The POSC Framework was translated and adopted by the local community to promote the development of policies and procedures in place for the maternal-infant dyad to be offered a POSC at multiple entry points beyond the birthing hospital or child welfare and connected to resources and providers through warm handoff. This includes identifying, referring, tracking, and follow-up for care coordination.

2. Development and utilization of tools to ensure sustainability of POSC work in the community. This includes training and communication tools, POSC templates, and a HIPAA-secure Social Health Information Exchange platform to enhance capacity for care coordination and referral.
3. The development of a fidelity monitoring and pilot evaluation plan to build evidence on what works for POSC-coordinated service delivery and tracking, under what conditions, and for whom.

Interest regarding the implementation of the POSC program continues to grow across Colorado prenatal, community, health care, and child welfare spaces. Alignment is critical to advancing equity and achieving outcomes, as it is critical to minimize confusion and duplication. In 2025, DCW will lead a coordination effort of all POSC pilots across the state in collaboration with the Colorado Action Lab, Illuminate Colorado, SuPPoRT Colorado, the CHoSEN Collaborative, the Kempe Center, hospital systems, and prenatal care collaborative.

- In 2024, CDHS also partnered with the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab to complete a [qualitative companion study](#) to better understand the lived experiences of families. The purpose of this study was to identify risk and protective factors impacting service navigation and well-being for families affected by prenatal substance use in Colorado. The study spoke with 25 birthing individuals in recovery or actively in treatment. Three locales were targeted: Denver-metro area, Pueblo and Colorado Springs, and San Luis Valley. About half the sample included pregnant people of color. About one-third of the participants were part of the immigrant or refugee community. 55% of the sample had child welfare involvement. Polysubstance use during pregnancy was common (84%). Nine recommendations were identified to help reduce access barriers, improve service engagement, and promote healthy outcomes for the parent-infant dyad:
 1. Prioritize rapport-building and empathetic care
 2. Expand opportunities for peer support, including investing in doulas and recovery coaches
 3. Support scaling of Plans of Safe Care in voluntary, community-based spaces during pregnancy
 4. Promote more respectful, person-centered healthcare
 5. Promote anti-stigma initiatives and elevate spaces for storytelling and story-sharing
 6. Promote financial well-being for childbearing families and co-locate concrete supports
 7. Invest in regional systems-building to improve collaboration across services and supports
 8. Require procedural transparency and clear communication about child welfare
 9. Develop accountable standards for respectful care of incarcerated individuals

The Office did not have any specific-to-CDHS programmatic updates required by statute for January 2025.

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

SMART Act Requirement Name: Community Food Assistance Provider Grant Program
Statutory Requirement: 26-2-145(5) C.R.S

(5) Beginning in state fiscal year 2024-25, and each state fiscal year thereafter, the state department shall include as part of its "SMART act" hearing required by section 2-7-203 a report that includes, at a minimum: (a) the total number of eligible entities that applied for grants pursuant to this section; (b) the total number of eligible entities that received a grant pursuant to this section; (c) the total amount of money awarded to each eligible entity that received a grant pursuant to this section; (d) the geographic locations of the eligible entities that received a grant pursuant to this section; and (e) the estimated amount of food purchased and distributed to clientele for each eligible entity that received a grant pursuant to this section. (6) this section is repealed, effective September 1, 2029

Background:

This report came out of HB24-1407 Community Food Assistance Provider Grant Program

Response:

In compliance with the statutory requirements regarding implementation of the Community Food Assistance Provider Grant Program, per Section 26-2-145(5) C.R.S., the Department has compiled the following information:

- a. 242 food pantries and food banks applied for grant funds.
- b. 85 eligible organizations received grant funds, as presented in Table C.
- c. Table C presents the total funds awarded to each entity.
- d. Table C presents the counties served by each organization who received grant funds.
- e. Information regarding the amount of food purchased and distributed by each grantee will be available at the end of FY 2024-25. Grantees’ capacity to distribute food varies based on the organization’s operation and population served. Data on distribution poundage are collected at the end of the grant period (June 30, 2025). Based on recent data from the previous Food Pantry Assistance Grant program, the average annual pounds of food reported by grantees is 18,006 lbs. Among this food, the top five Colorado-produced foods purchased by grantees were meat, eggs, fresh vegetables, fresh fruits, and breads and/or tortillas.

Table C: CSFP Grantees, FY 2024-25

Food Banks	Amount Awarded	Service Area
Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado	\$342,090	Alamosa; Archuleta; Baca; Bent; Chaffee; Cheyenne; Conejos; Costilla; Crowley; Custer; Dolores; El Paso; Fremont;

		Hinsdale; Huerfano; Gunnison; Kiowa; La Plata; Las Animas; Lincoln; Mineral; Montezuma; Otero; Prowers; Pueblo; Rio Grande; Saguache; San Juan; Teller
Community Food Share	\$167,370	Boulder; Broomfield
Food Bank for Larimer County	\$160,302	Larimer
Food Bank of the Rockies	\$781,436	Adams; Arapahoe; Clear Creek; Delta; Denver; Douglas; Eagle; Elbert; Garfield; Gilpin; Grand; Jackson; Jefferson; Kit Carson; Lake; Lincoln; Logan; Mesa; Moffat; Montrose; Morgan; Ouray; Park; Phillips; Pitkin; Rio Blanco; Routt; San Miguel; Sedgwick; Summit; Washington; Yuma
Weld Food Bank	\$160,302	Weld
Sub-Total	\$1,611,500	
Food Pantries	Amount Awarded	Location
Amigos de Mexico	\$11,000	Aurora
Andrea's No Cost Farmers Market	\$5,000	Denver
Ann K. Heiman Elementary Weld County District 6	\$5,000	Evans
Archway Communities	\$10,000	Lakewood
Boulder County AIDS Project (BCAP)	\$10,000	Boulder
Boulder Food Rescue	\$10,000	Boulder
Break Bread	\$10,500	littleton

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado	\$10,000	Colorado Springs
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo, Inc. dba Catholic Charities of Southern Colorado	\$5,000	Pueblo
Cherry Creek School District #5	\$6,000	Greenwood Village
Chinook Center	\$15,000	Colorado Springs
Colorado Health Network, Inc.	\$10,000	Denver
Commún	\$20,000	Denver
Community Care Collective	\$25,000	Crestone
Community Coalition for Children & Families dba Community Partnership Family Resource Center	\$5,000	Woodland Park
Community Food Bank of Grand Junction	\$25,000	Grand Junction
Community of Caring's Aspen Mine Center	\$5,000	Cripple Creek
Community Services of Broomfield, dba Broomfield FISH	\$10,000	Broomfield
Crosses For Losses	\$10,000	Penrose
Daddy Bruce Randolph Legacy Foundation (DBRLF)	\$10,000	Denver
Denver Inner City Parish	\$10,000	Denver

Denver South Giving Grocery	\$5,000	Denver
Dorcas Circle	\$15,000	Walsenburg
Food for Hope	\$10,000	Eastlake
Food to Power	\$22,500	Colorado Springs
Fort Lewis College Grub Hub	\$18,000	Durango, Colorado
Fresh Foundation, DBA Norwood Food Pantry	\$5,000	Norwood
Good Samaritan Center	\$9,000	Cortez
Greater Park Hill Community, Inc.	\$10,000	Denver
Gunnison Country Food Pantry	\$10,000	Gunnison
Heart & Hand Center	\$10,000	Denver
Help for Abused Partners	\$7,000	Sterling
Homeward Alliance	\$10,500	Fort Collins
Hope Communities	\$10,000	Denver
Integrated Family Community Services	\$22,500	Englewood
Kaizen Food Rescue	\$13,700	Englewood
Kids At Their Best	\$10,000	Fort Morgan
La Puente Home, Inc.	\$40,000	Alamosa
La Raza Services, Inc. dba Servicios de La Raza	\$15,000	Denver
Las Animas School District RE-1	\$15,000	Las Animas
Lift Up of Routt County	\$40,000	Steamboat Springs

Light of the World Catholic Church, Food Pantry	\$5,000	Littleton
Loaves & Fishes	\$5,000	Idaho Springs
Loaves and Fishes Ministries of Fremont County	\$5,000	Canon City
Longmont Food Rescue	\$10,000	Lyons
Lord's Daily Bread	\$15,000	Denver
Manna - The Durango Soup Kitchen	\$18,000	Durango
Mountain Family Center	\$20,000	Granby
Mountain Resource Center	\$5,000	Conifer
Mountain Roots Food Project	\$10,000	Gunnison
Movement 5280	\$10,000	Englewood
Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center	\$16,700	Colorado Springs
Mt. Carmel Wellness and Community Center	\$20,000	Trinidad
North 40 Mountain Alliance Inc	\$5,000	Red Feather Lakes
Our Community Eats	\$10,000	Cortez
Prairie Family Center	\$10,000	Burlington
Pueblo Food Project	\$11,000	Denver
Re:Vision	\$10,000	Denver
Restoration Outreach Programs	\$12,000	Aurora

Rocky Mountain SER / Jobs For Progress, Inc. (RMSER)	\$16,700	Denver
Rural Communities Resource Center	\$12,000	Yuma
SANA Safe and Abundant Nutrition Alliance	\$20,000	Denver
Second Chance Center, Inc	\$9,400	Aurora
SECOR	\$10,000	Parker
Sister Carmen Community Center	\$10,000	Lafayette
Small Town Project	\$45,000	Rocky Ford
Smart Bellies	\$7,000	Breckenridge
St. George Episcopal Mission Community Meals and Food Pantry	\$8,000	Leadville
St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church Conference, Society of St. Vincent de Paul	\$7,500	Loveland
Success Foundation Serving Greeley-Evans Schools	\$5,000	Greeley
Summit County Family Resource Center DBA Family & Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC)	\$8,000	Breckenridge
Sun Valley Kitchen + Community Center	\$10,000	Denver

TARA Food Pantry	\$5,000	ARBOLES
Teller Senior Coalition	\$7,000	Divide
The Community Kitchen	\$10,000	Loveland
The GrowHaus	\$25,000	Denver
The Shepherd's Hand Inc	\$5,000	Montrose
The Urban Farm	\$8,000	Denver
The Vegetable Connection	\$8,000	Fort Collins
The Village at CLA within Denver Public Schools (W9 Name: School District 1 in the City and County of Denver and the State of Colorado)	\$5,000	Denver
Village Exchange Center	\$18,000	Aurora
We Don't Waste	\$12,000	Denver
West End Family Link Center	\$5,000	Nucla
Sub-Total	\$1,000,000	
TOTAL	\$2,611,500	

SMART Act Requirement Name: Diaper Distribution Program

Statutory Requirement: Section 26-2-140(5), C.R.S.

(5) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, the state department shall submit a preliminary report, and beginning in state fiscal year 2022-23, and each fiscal year thereafter, the state department shall report to the public through the annual hearing, pursuant to the "State measurement for accountable, responsive, and transparent (smart)government act", part 2 of article 7 of title 2. At a minimum, the report must include:

- (a) The total number of diaper distribution centers contracted with the state department pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, including any subcontractors;
- (b) The total amount of money awarded to each diaper distribution center;
- (c) The location of each diaper distribution center and the counties served; and
- (d) The total number of eligible individuals who received diapering essentials each year, disaggregated by each month.

Response:

In compliance with the statutory requirements regarding implementation of the Diaper Distribution Program, per Section 26-2-140, C.R.S., the Department has compiled the following information:

- a. In FY 2023-24 the Department contracted with 11 diaper distribution centers to implement the Diaper Distribution Program, as detailed in Table D. Some of these distribution sites have expanded their reach by implementing mobile distribution to underserved areas and developing informal partnerships with other local agencies to support distribution efforts.
- b. A total of \$1,851,068 was distributed to provide diapering essentials across Colorado. Table D presents the total funds awarded to each diaper distribution center. An additional \$499,999 was distributed through an interagency agreement with the Colorado Department of Law (DOL) settlement with Walmart. Those funds were amended into vendors’ contracts and presented in an additional column in Table D.
- c. Services were provided statewide. Table D provides information regarding the locations of the distribution centers and counties served.

Table D: Diaper Distribution Program Vendors, FY 2023-24

Vendor	# of Distribution Facilities	Location of Distribution Facilities	Counties Served	Amount Awarded (State Funds)	Additional Amount Awarded (DOL Funds)
A Precious Child	1	Broomfield, CO	Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson, Weld	\$276,144	\$74,552
Catholic Charities Marisol Family	10 (+2 mobile events)	Aurora (2), Boulder (1), Denver (2), Eagle (1), Ft. Morgan (1), Lakewood (1), Ft. Collins (1), and Dillion (1), CO. Mobile events take place in Denver, Commerce City,	Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, El Paso, Jackson, Jefferson, Lake, Larimer, Lincoln, Morgan, Park, Pueblo, Summit, Weld	\$283,570	\$76,557

		Montbello, and Byers, CO.			
Dolores County	1 (also delivers via UPS)	Dove Creek, CO	Dolores	\$21,127	\$5,704
Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley	1	Alamosa, CO	Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache	\$137,317	\$37,073
Food Bank for Larimer County	2	Fort Collins and Loveland, CO	Larimer	\$60,945	\$16,454
Full Circle of Lake County	1	Leadville, CO	Lake	\$18,735	\$5,058
Gunnison County	1	Gunnison, CO	Gunnison	\$6,955	\$1,881
Hilltop Community Resources	2	Grand Junction and Montrose, CO	Mesa, Montrose	\$40,369	\$10,898
Montezuma County Public Health	1	Cortez, CO	Montezuma	\$54,114	\$14,859
United Way of Weld County	1	Greeley, CO	Weld	\$112,943	\$30,492
WeeCycle	1 (+4 mobile units)	Aurora, CO	Adams, Alamosa, Arapahoe, Baca, Bent, Boulder, Broomfield, Chaffee, Cheyenne, Clear Creek, Crowley, Custer, Delta, Denver, Dolores, Douglas, Eagle, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont,	\$838,849	\$226,470

			Garfield, Gilpin, Grand, Huerfano, Jackson, Jefferson, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Lake, Larimer, Las Animas, Lincoln, Logan, Mesa, Moffat, Morgan, Otero, Park, Phillips, Pitkin, Prowers, Pueblo, Rio Blanco, Rio Grande, Saguache, Summit, Teller, Washington, Weld, Yuma		
TOTALS			Diaper vendors reached 56 of the 64 Colorado counties. This year, vendors with mobile units were able to dispatch and reach more counties (Chaffee, Custer, Jackson, Kit Carson, Phillips, Teller, and Washington) not previously served that expressed a need for services.	\$1,851,068	\$499,999

- d. Vendors recorded a total of 237,349 individual transactions for diapering essentials through State funding; there were an additional 58,879 transactions through the DOL funds. These transactions translate to approximately 80,000 unique households served. Table E presents the total individuals transactions for diapering essentials, disaggregated by month. Vendors report various reasons for higher numbers of individuals served in some months due to community and pop-up style events, social media postings, and months that families have extra expenses (e.g. holidays or childcare needs when school is not in session).

Table E: Diaper Program Clients Served, FY 2023-24

Clients Transactions (State Funds) FY 2023-24		Additional Client Transactions (DOL Funds)
July 2023	13,529	N/A
Aug 2023	18,318	N/A

Clients Transactions (State Funds) FY 2023-24		Additional Client Transactions (DOL Funds)
Sep 2023	15,936	N/A
Oct 2023	16,583	N/A
Nov 2023	18,567	N/A
Dec 2023	108,080	N/A
Jan 2024	15,807	N/A
Feb 2024	6,531	10,696
March 2024	5,807	13,093
April 2024	6,364	12,625
May 2024	7,322	11,006
June 2024	4,505	11,459
TOTAL	237,349	58,879

SMART Act Requirement Name: Modifications To Colorado Works Program
Statutory Requirement: Section 26-2-709.5(3), C.R.S.

(3) Beginning January 2023, and each January thereafter, the state department shall submit a report to the house of representatives public and behavioral health and human services committee and the senate health and human services committee, or their successor committees, as part of its “State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act” presentation required by section 2-7-203, on the effectiveness of the works program. To the extent practicable, the state department may request a county department to provide any information and data necessary to develop the report, including information and data from exit interviews conducted by the county departments pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. Any data used must protect the personal identifying information of the participants and the participants’ family members. At a minimum, the report must include:

(a) The total number of participants enrolled in the works program in the previous fiscal year, disaggregated by case type, race, and ethnicity;

- (b) The total number of participants who exited and re-enrolled in the works program one or more times in the previous fiscal year, disaggregated by case type, race, and ethnicity;*
- (c) The total number of instances a participant exited and re-enrolled in the works program one or more times in the previous fiscal year, disaggregated by case type, race, and ethnicity;*
- (d) The total number of months each participant remained enrolled in the works program in the previous fiscal year, disaggregated by case type, race, and ethnicity; and*
- (e) To the extent practicable, data gathered through surveys and exit interviews with participants in the works program regarding participants' experience with the program, beliefs about the goals of the program, perceptions of how participation in the program contributed to the family goals, reasons for leaving the program, current employment status and wage rate, and supportive services provided and whether those services have been impacted by increases in basic cash assistance.*

Response:

In compliance with Section 26-2-709.5, C.R.S. regarding modifications to the Colorado Works program, the Department has produced a report, in partnership with a vendor, to meet this statutory requirement.

The Colorado Works report can be found [here](#).

SMART Act Requirement Name: Colorado Works Outreach and Engagement Plan
Statutory Requirement: Section 26-2-725, C.R.S.

(1) No later than September 30, 2022, the state department shall develop an outreach and engagement plan to promote access to the Colorado works program for eligible persons. (5) Beginning January 2023, and each January thereafter, the state department shall include information on the implementation of the requirements in this section in its report to the house of representatives public and behavioral health and human services committee and the senate health and human services committee, or their successor committees, as part of its "State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act".

Response:

In compliance with statutory requirements in Section 26-2-725, the Department contracted with Idea Marketing, Inc. to develop and implement an outreach and engagement (O&E) plan to enhance access to the Colorado Works program. (That [plan](#) was completed in September 2022.) The plan presents a roadmap for engaging eligible clients across a variety of touchpoints and outlets, ensuring access to a broad swath of the Colorado Works population. It includes strategies to engage hard-to-reach audiences in both rural and urban counties.

In FY 2022-23, the Department collaborated with Idea Marketing to develop [training](#) and resources to support the O&E plan, conduct integration meetings with program

partners, and develop a comprehensive toolbox, including [infographics](#) in seven languages, regional flyers, and client video [testimonials](#).

Using this material, nine regional training sessions were delivered to county program staff, Division of Economic and Workforce Support (DEWS) staff, and advocacy groups to ensure a broad reach and promote awareness and accessibility of the Colorado Works (CW) program. Additionally, the O&E content is integrated into the Colorado Works program [website](#) to enhance efforts to improve accessibility and increase awareness about the program.

The Department shared the O&E materials with 92 percent of counties during the first two quarters of FY 2023-24. Subsequently, the Department conducted a statewide survey to identify how county programs use the marketing materials both in their offices and throughout the community. Of the 64 counties surveyed, 55 percent were aware of the marketing materials, and more than half knew where to access them. The Department is working with the other 45 percent of counties to access and post materials in their communities by the end of FY 2024-25.

Counties reported posting O&E materials in an array of community locations, such as workforce centers, schools, childcare centers, libraries, and other community access points (e.g. post offices, gas stations, etc.) Additionally, four community colleges have posted the O&E materials on their websites.

SMART Act Requirement Name: Teen Parent Driving Instruction Course
Statutory Requirement: Section 26-2-142, C.R.S.

(5) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, the state department shall submit a preliminary report, and beginning in state fiscal year 2023-24 and each fiscal year thereafter, shall report to the public through the annual hearing pursuant to the ""State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act"", part 2 of article 7 of title 2. At a Minimum, the report must include:

- (a) The total number of teen parent organizations contracted with the state department pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, including any subcontractors;*
- (b) The total amount of money awarded to each teen parent organization;*
- (c) The location of each teen parent organization and the counties served;*
- (d) The total number of eligible individuals who received driver's licenses each year, disaggregated by each month; and*
- (e) The total number of eligible individuals who received training from a driver's education school, disaggregated by each month.*

Response:

In compliance with the statutory requirements of Section 26-2-142, C.R.S., the Department has compiled the requested information pertaining to the implementation of the Teen Parent Driving Instruction Course.

- a. In FY 2023-24, the Department contracted with two organizations to deliver the program: Hope House, which oversees the Teen Parent Collaboration (TPC), a collaboration of 175 teen parent-serving organizations across Colorado; and Mosaic Unlimited. Although both organizations support eligible teens per the Teen Driver Program (TDP), they specialize in serving a specific population:
 - i. Hope House serves pregnant teens and mothers, ages 15-20.
 - ii. Mosaic Unlimited serves teen fathers ages, 15-20.
- b. The amounts awarded to the vendors were:
 - i. Hope House \$57,000
 - ii. Mosaic Unlimited \$42,300
- c. Both agencies serve all regions and counties of Colorado, focusing on Denver Metro and the Front Range. Their services include assisting teen parents with removing barriers to obtaining driving school training, permits, and licenses.
- d. In FY 2023-24, 89 eligible individuals received program services by Hope House and Mosaic Unlimited:
 - i. 26 teen parents received driving school training classes
 - ii. 37 teen parents received a driving permit
 - iii. 26 teen parents received a driving license
- e. The total numbers served by the program vendors, disaggregated by month, are presented in Table F.

Table F: Teen Parent Driver Program, FY 2023-24

Hope House			
Month	License	Permit	Completed Driver's Education
August 2023	2	0	4
October - December 2023	3	0	4
January 2024	4	8	0
February 2024	2	1	1
March 2024	2	1	2
April 2024	4	8	1
May 2024	0	4	1
June 2024	2	4	1
July 2024	1	2	3

Mosaic			
Month	License	Permit	Completed Driver's Education
September 2023	0	2	0
October 2023	2	1	0
November 2023	2	4	5
December 2023	2	2	4

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OFFICE - STRATEGY

SMART Act Requirement Name: Lifelong Colorado Initiative

Statutory Requirement: Section 26-11-302, C.R.S.

(4) The state office, in collaboration with the commission and technical advisory committee, shall coordinate with the state department to include in its report to the committees of reference, pursuant to the “Smart measurement for accountable, responsive, and transparent (smart) government act” hearing required by section 2-7-203, information from the state office regarding the progress and barriers specific to the implementation of the strategic action plan on aging.

Response:

Background

The Colorado Commission on Aging (CCOA) was established in legislation in 1963, two years prior to the federally mandated Older Americans Act, to provide older Coloradans opportunities to be engaged in policies that impact their lives. Throughout the years, several amendments were made to the Commission membership. This included members representing each congressional district across the state and adding a person living with a disability or having a family member with a disability. In 1985, a legislative declaration was added to the legislation that included the duty of the Commission to “[a]dvise and make recommendations to the state department and the state office on aging... “on the problems of and programs and services for the aging and aged.”

In 2015, the Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging (SAPGA) was established with the passage of HB15-1033. SAPGA was charged with developing a comprehensive, long-term strategic plan guided by analyses of the impact of the shifting aging demographic on the economy, workforce, state and local revenue budgets, Medicaid, long-term care, transportation services and and other factors.

In 2021, the Department of Regulatory Agencies performed a sunset review of SAPGA and determined that the group had fulfilled its mission; HB22-1209 was enacted to sunset SAPGA.

HB22-1035 modernized the Older Coloradans Act, empowering the CCOA to continue the efforts for SAPGA and focus on the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan on Aging.

Progress and Barriers Implementing the Strategic Action Plan

A new class of commissioners were appointed by the governor in August 2024 to carry out three year terms on the commission. The new commissioners bring additional talent and knowledge to an already robust commission. The Commission released an [annual report](#), highlighting their efforts, including advocacy on several bills during the 2024 legislative session, age friendly community support, and mental health strategies.

The Technical Advisory Committee draws expertise from members representing CDHS, HCPF, CDPHE, DOLA, CDLE, and CDOT. The Technical Advisory Committee tracks progress and identifies barriers related to Colorado's aging population. State agency priorities that align with the Strategic Action Plan on Aging include, CDHS' Multi-sector plan on aging development, CDLE's digital equity initiatives, CDPHE's Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Center for Disease Control and Prevention grant, CDPHE's health equity reports on older adults, CDHS' aging data dashboard efforts, HCPF's direct care worker and ARPA initiatives, CDHE's health care workforce initiatives, DOLA's support of affordable and accessible housing, and CDOT's focus on cognitive impairment among drivers and mobility manager support. This Committee meets monthly to discuss initiatives and provide feedback on the multi-sector plan on aging. During this past year, the Technical Advisory Committee committed to a new purpose statement and committee charter to highlight the dedication to collaboration.

Over the past year, CDHS' Senior Specialist on Aging has been conducting research for and writing the Multi-Sector Plan on Aging for the State of Colorado. This plan includes operationalizing recommendations from the Strategic Action Plan on Aging as well as other recommendations to support all older Coloradans, including groups who have been historically under-represented. The Senior Specialist on Aging has been engaged in significant stakeholder outreach to ensure all older Coloradans are represented in the plan, including, but not limited to indigenous peoples, LGBTQ+ community members, low and middle income older adults, people with Intellectual/Developmental disabilities, rural communities, and BIPOC communities. The first draft of this plan has been completed and is being communicated to stakeholders for feedback. The implementation of the plan is slated for July 1, 2025.