



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: Section 26-11-208, 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:

Background

Senate Bill 21-290 (Security for Colorado Seniors) created the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) grant program (grant program) in the department of human services' state office on aging (state office). The purpose of the grant program was to assist and support the health, well-being and security of older Coloradans through projects including:

- Community services for older Coloradans;
- Infrastructure improvements;
- Health promotion, congregate meals, and socialization activities;
- Transportation services;
- Home modification programs; and
- Implementation of evidence-based fall prevention and chronic disease management programs.

One time funding of \$15,000,000 was appropriated to the state office on July 1, 2021 for use by the grant program. The State Unit on Aging (SUA) located within the state office managed the project through a grant administrator.



The AAAs are responsible for the implementation of the Older Americans Act (OAA) and the Older Coloradans Act (OCA) across Colorado with grant program oversight by the SUA. The grant program provided services to more than 54,000 older Coloradans including: in-home services, transportation, congregate meals, home-delivered meals, caregiver services, adult day care, ombudsman, and legal assistance to help older adults age-in-place in their communities and postpone or avoid more costly placements such as assisted living facilities or nursing homes. Historically, the AAAs have not had access to flexible State funds similar to the funds made available through SB 21-290 to serve older Coloradans.

Application Process

This grant provided an opportunity for each AAA to submit applications for funding in two rounds of applications with similar requirements except for distinctions in funding priority and the number of projects allowed. **Funding priority:** Round 1 prioritized lower funded AAA regions as determined by the state and federal funding formula; Round 2 prioritized regions not funded in Round 1 (only 3 regions were not funded in Application Round 1). **Number of projects allowed:** Round 1 allowed regions to apply for an unlimited number of projects within each application and Round 2 limited regions to five projects per application.

Grant Awards

Funding decisions were made by two distinct panels comprised of experts from CDHS staff, external volunteers with experience supporting older Coloradans and persons with large scale grant expertise. In total, 28 applications were received from the two application rounds with total requests for \$32,997,084 in funds. All 16 Area Agencies on Aging regions applied for funds in application Round 1 and 11 regions applied for funds in application in Round 2. The grant funds were fully allocated in two application rounds. Fifteen (out of 16) AAAs received funds and 65 projects were funded across the state to serve older Coloradans.

Projects were varied and addressed the emerging and long term needs within each region. Broad project categories included:

- **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.

Project Type	#Projects Round 1	Amount Granted	#Projects Round 2	Amount Granted	Total Granted
Renovation of Building	18	\$2,430,660	4	\$3,371,338	\$5,801,999
New Construction	5	\$3,597,758	1	\$1,348,383	\$4,946,141
Programmatic Projects	8	\$1,496,989	3	\$69,038	\$1,566,028
Kitchen Equipment	7	\$809,735	3	\$456,057	\$1,265,79
New Vehicle	5	\$334,996	2	\$77,673	\$412,669
Technology Upgrades	2	\$112,000	3	\$284,190	\$396,190
Material Aid Vouchers	0	\$0	4	\$161,180	\$161,180
TOTAL	45	\$8,782,139	20	\$5,767,860	\$14,550,000

Grant Implementation

The success of the SB 21-290 grant program was attributable to:

- The ability of the SUA to secure waivers from the State Controller’s Office to exceed purchase order limits and to advance payments to allow the AAAs to receive funding payments in full thus expediting the distribution and use of funds to benefit older Coloradans;
- The flexible deadlines to fulfill grant obligations that allowed regions to remain nimble in navigating fluctuating vehicle, equipment and construction costs while obtaining county or city approvals to complete projects; and
- Grant management is monitored by the SUA’s grant manager who is familiar with the project, reviewed monthly progress reports and conducted frequent on-site monitoring visits to confirm implementation benchmarks.

SB 22-185 Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Program

The grant program under SB 21-290 (26-11-108 C.R.S.) ended on December 31, 2022. Senate Bill 22-185 amended 26-11-108 C.R.S., which renamed the AAA grant program to the Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Program and extended the program to assist and support older Coloradans indefinitely. Additionally, the Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Program extends applicant eligibility beyond the AAAs to allow for a broader range of potential grant applicants. Currently there are no additional funds for the continuation of this program, but the option for future allocations remains.

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

Commissioners were appointed by the Governor in September 2022 to the CCOA and at the first meeting in November 2022 the Commission began its work on the Strategic Action Plan. The Commission released an [annual report](#), highlighting their efforts, including advocacy on several bills during the 2023 legislative session, age friendly community support, workforce development strategies.

The Technical Advisory Committee draws expertise from members representing CDHS, HCPF, CDPHE, DOLA, CDLE, and CDOT. The Technical Advisory Committee will track progress and

identify barriers related to Colorado’s aging population. State agency priorities that align with the Strategic Action Plan on Aging include, 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, CDPHE’s Data Advisory Workgroup’s Dashboard, 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 continues to meet with the Governor’s Senior Policy Advisor on Aging to support the needs of older Coloradans. During this past year, the Technical Advisory Committee committed to a new purpose statement and committee charter to highlight the dedication to collaboration.

In September, CDHS hired a Senior Specialist on Aging. This role is tasked with developing 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 multi-sector plan will be written over the course of 2024. CDHS expects to present policy and budget requests in 2025.

OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

NEW REQUIREMENT

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 has not developed a capacity plan in collaboration with the Behavioral Health Administration and Health Care Policy and Financing in direct response to any facility closures, but has developed a plan to build and maintain capacity for residential treatment facilities with goals and timelines, including through the Governor’s Wildly Important Goal of expanding high acuity treatment options. The Office of Children, Youth, and Families’ Division of Child Welfare closely monitors

available residential beds through its contracts with providers and through close communication and collaboration. County departments of human services who have legal custody of youth in need of placement can also either apply for state-contracted beds and/or apply for dedicated support when placement is difficult to locate or if there are cross-systems or emergent issues that need to be addressed.

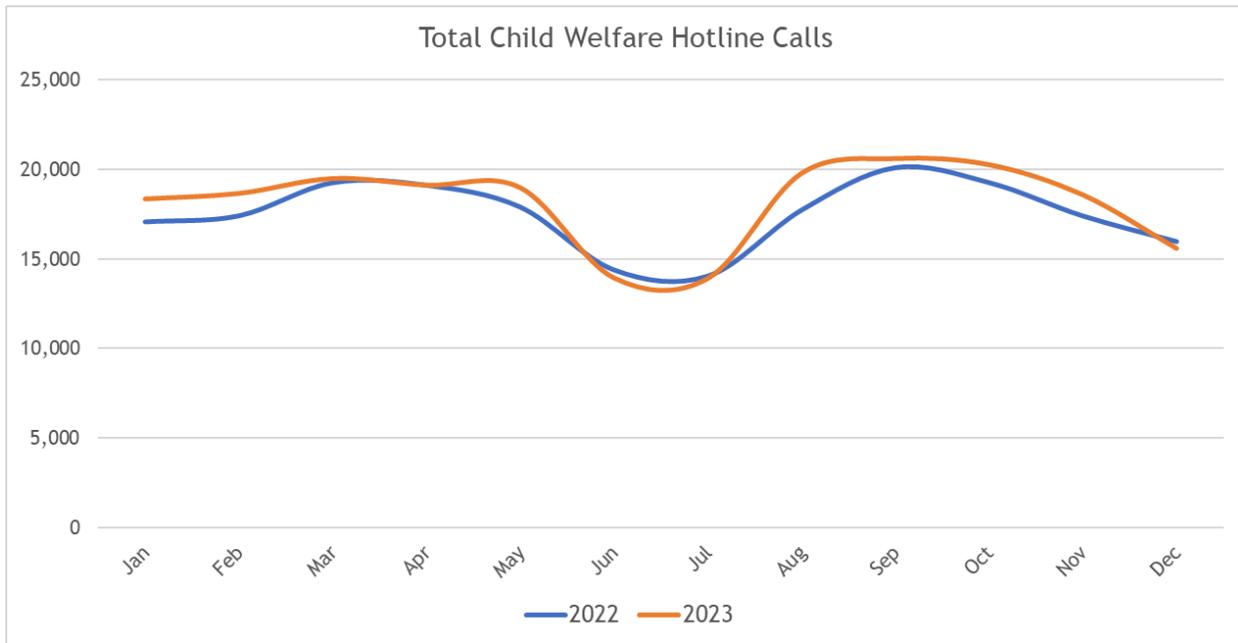
SMART Act Requirement Name: Child Welfare Hotline

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

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. Since 2015, the Hotline County Connection Center in cooperation with the sixty-four (64) counties that provide child welfare services has ensured people across Colorado and beyond have anytime access to report known or suspected child abuse and neglect. Currently, forty-five (45) counties utilize the Hotline County Connection Center's services for full-time call coverage, and an additional ten (10) for after-hours call coverage.

In 2023, the hotline system received 217,261 calls and has averaged 210,696 calls per year since its implementation. Through the modernization of Colorado's child welfare database system known as Trails, the State included in a call-taker script the Code of Colorado Regulations Volume VII required information questions (7.103 and 7.103.2) along with additional enhanced screening questions for call-taking consistency. In 2023, 116,238 calls resulted in child protection or youth in conflict referrals that county departments then reviewed for the next steps which can include assigning the referral to a caseworker for further assessment or offering the family volunteer prevention services. Our state Social Services Rules clarify expectations for county responsibilities and our Division of Child Welfare subject matter experts provide guidance and technical assistance.



Data current as of 12/29/2023, Genesys Interactive Insights.

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

(1)(a) Subject to available funding, the state department, in collaboration with the Tony Grampas youth services board, created in section 26-6.8-103, shall convene a group of interested parties to create a Colorado state youth development plan. The goals of the plan are to identify key issues affecting youth and align strategic efforts to achieve positive outcomes for all youth. (4) Beginning in January 2015, and every January thereafter, the department shall report progress on the development and implementation of the plan as part of its "State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act" hearing required by section 2-7-203, C.R.S.

Statue calls for the Statewide Youth Development Plan (SYDP or the Plan) to identify successful and replicable youth development strategies nationally and in Colorado. The best practice approaches for prevention and intervention include Positive Youth Development (PYD) Framework, Shared Risk and Protective Factors, Two-Generation (2Gen) Approach, Equity Focus, and Wraparound and Coordinated Services Approach. These approaches and frameworks are included in the Plan, which is supported by various programs and team members within the Division of Community Programs including the Collaborative Management Program, the Colorado Sexual Health Initiative, Domestic Violence Program, and the Tony Grampas Youth Services (TGYS) Program. The Plan is available on the [Statewide Youth Development website](#) and is supported by the Tony Grampas Youth Services (TGYS) team through the TGYS Community Engagement Specialist.

Over the past year, the TGYS Community Engagement Specialist:

1) Gathered information on various dashboards that youth development professionals utilize when identifying needs and developing programming. These dashboards include the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey Interactive Data Dashboard, the Youth Move Colorado Dashboard, and the Colorado Afterschool Partnership dashboard.

2) Continued to compile resources that are relevant to youth development work and partner with state and community partners to determine how to best share these resources.

3) Continued to elevate PYD practices throughout Colorado. The addition of the statewide PYD Training System to the TGYS program, through an Interagency Agreement with CDPHE, has added statewide PYD 101 trainings, statewide PYD Train the Trainer, the capacity to develop continued education opportunities for PYD trainers, and regular office hours for PYD practitioners.

Beginning the spring of 2024, TGYS will offer two new opportunities:

1) Updating the PYD 101 Training to be current with the latest best practices and current events within the youth development world.

2) Hosting statewide meetings with SYDP stakeholders (youth councils, state agencies, youth serving foundations and organizations, city government, and county government) in order to support the continuation of the goals within the Plan.

OFFICE OF CIVIL AND FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH

The Office did not have any specific-to-CDHS programmatic updates required by statute for January 2023.

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

SMART Act Requirement Name: Diaper Distribution Program

Statutory Requirement: Section 26-2-140, 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 SFY 2022-23 the Department contracted with 10 diaper distribution centers to implement the Diaper Distribution Program, as detailed in Table 1. 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 \$1,711,580 was distributed to provide diapering essentials across Colorado. Table 1 provides the total funds awarded to each diaper distribution center.
- (c) Services were provided statewide. Table 1 provides information regarding the locations of the distribution centers and counties served.

Table 1: Diaper Distribution Program Vendors

Vendor	# of Distribution Facilities	Location of Distribution Facilities	Counties Served	Amount Awarded
A Precious Child	18	Broomfield (multiple), Lakewood, Denver (multiple), Commerce City (multiple), Westminster (multiple), Brighton, Northglenn (multiple), and Boulder CO	Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Jefferson, Weld	\$267,437.05
Catholic Charities Marisol Family	10	Aurora, Boulder, Denver (multiple), Eagle, Ft. Morgan, Lakewood, Ft. Collins, and Dillon, CO	Adams, Arapahoe, Aurora, Boulder, Broomfield, Cherry Creek, Denver, Douglas, Eagle, El Paso, Finney, Fort Morgan, Jefferson, Lake,	\$239,387.14

			Larimer, Morgan, Park, Pueblo, Summit, Weld	
Dolores County	1	Dove Creek, CO	Dolores	\$14,859.78
Food Bank for Larimer County	16	Loveland (multiple), Estes Park, Ft. Collins (multiple), Berthoud, Red Feather Lakes, and Wellington, CO	Larimer	\$62,192.55
Full Circle of Lake County	1	Leadville, CO	Lake	\$14,369.33
Gunnison County	1	Gunnison, CO	Gunnison, Hinsdale (per email, will put on invoice)	\$4,618.38
Hilltop Community Resources	1	Grand Junction, CO	Mesa, Montrose	\$41,196.04
Montezuma County Public Health	1	Cortez, CO	Montezuma	\$40,966.97
United Way of Weld County	1	Greeley and Longmont, CO; mobile unit	Weld	\$80,399.40
WeeCycle	1	Aurora, CO; and mobile unit	Adams, Arapahoe, Baca, Bent, Boulder, Broomfield, Cheyenne, Clear Creek, Conejos, Crowley, Delta, Denver, Dolores, Douglas, Eagle, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Garfield, Gilpin, Grand, Gunnison, Huerfano, Jefferson, Kiowa, Lake,	\$806,024.05

			Larimer, Las Animas, Lincoln, Logan, Mesa, Moffat, Morgan, Otero, Park, Pitkin, Prowers, Pueblo, Rio Blanco, Summit, Weld, Yuma	
TOTALS	51			\$1,711,579.72

(d) A total of 215,520 individuals were served with diapering essentials. Table 2 details the total number of eligible individuals who received diapering essentials, disaggregated by month. The months at the beginning of the fiscal year are at zero because the vendors were utilizing other donations and resources to serve their clients during those first months of the contract start. Overall, the number of clients served increased from 54,991 in SFY 2021-2022 to 215,520 in SFY 2022-23. Thus, despite the slow start, there was a large increase in the number of clients served in SFY 2022-23.

Table 2: Individuals Served

Number of Clients Served SFY 2022-23	
July 2022	0
Aug 2022	0
Sep 2022	0
Oct 2022	8,671
Nov 2022	9,811
Dec 2022	7,654
Jan 2023	9,902
Feb 2023	11,028
March 2023	11,599
April 2023	11,816
May 2023	15,488
June 2023	129,551
TOTAL	215,520

SMART Act Requirement Name: Modifications To Colorado Works Program
Statutory Requirement: Section 26-2-709.5, 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 that May be 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 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, including strategies to engage hard-to-reach audiences in both rural and urban counties.

During 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 different languages, regional flyers, and client video [testimonials](#).

Using this material, nine regional trainings were delivered to county program staff, Division of Economic and Workforce Support (DEWS) staff, and advocacy groups to ensure a wide reach to 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.

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 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) The State Department contracted with one organization, The Teen Parent Collaborative (TPC). The TPC is a collaboration of 175 teen parent serving organizations across the State. Some of the organizations within the TPC are smaller organizations and expressed concern about the administrative burden of managing a cost reimbursement model with an external entity for these services. Through collaboration, CDHS established a Purchase Order with Hope House Colorado that is acting as the fiscal agent on behalf of the TPC and is able to oversee an application process where TPC agencies can apply for funds and receive them more quickly upon delivering services. Hope House will also be managing the administrative burden for organizations within the TPC.
 - b) The Purchase Order amount was for \$100,000 for SFY 2022-23.
 - c) The agencies within the Teen Parent Collaborative serve all regions and counties, with a focus on Denver Metro and the Front Range.
 - d) The first three months of SFY 2022-23 were used to collaborate with the TPC to determine the best way to distribute the funds to reach the most clients and with the largest geographic reach. The TPC released its first application cycle to their members in October, with services beginning in November. One eligible individual received their license during the program year.
 - e) For SFY 2022-23, among the eligible individuals there were two in November 2022, seven in December 2022, one in January 2023, one in February 2023, two in March 2023, two in April 2023, and four in May 2023 who received training from a driver's education school.
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