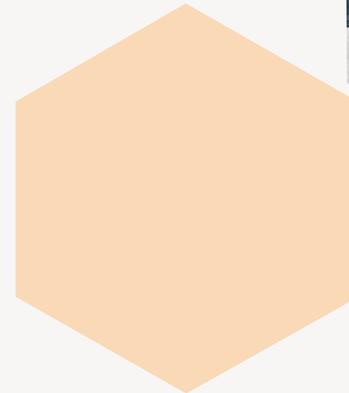
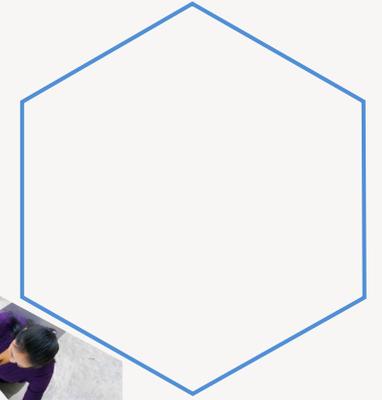
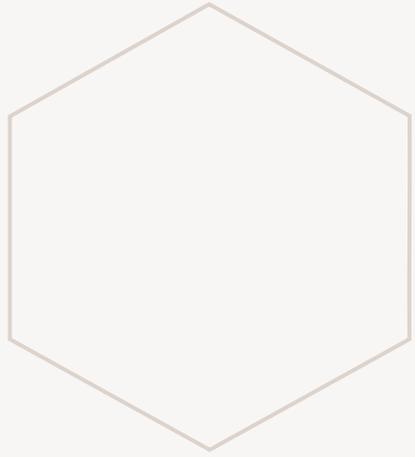


# Human Services

Director Jamie Ulrich  
Director Donna Rohde





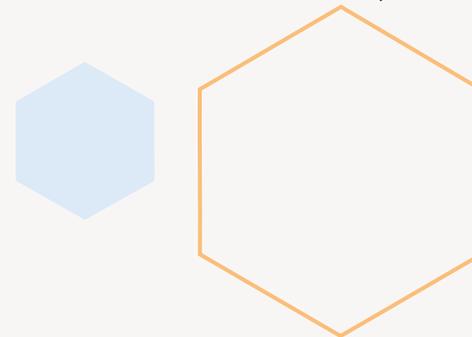
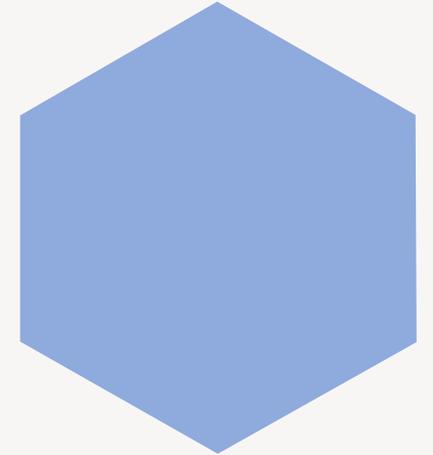
# Agenda



# Introduction

Human Services supports people and families by connecting them with assistance, resources and support at every stage of their lives.

Throughout Colorado, Human Services professionals work with individuals and families facing a variety of challenges, including poverty, homelessness, mental health issues, disabilities, and child welfare concerns.



# State Agency Partnerships

## Colorado Department of

- Human Services (CDHS)
- Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF)
- Early Childhood (CDEC)
- Labor and Employment (CDLE)
- Local Affairs (DOLA)

## Colorado

- Behavioral Health Administration

# Human/Social Services Structure

CDHS, HCPF, and CDEC provide funding, promulgate rules, develop programs, provide training and technical assistance, and monitor and enforce compliance.

- Services are mandated by Federal and State statute
- Counties employ staff to administer programs
- Counties are required to follow Merit System requirements regarding personnel matters, which include hiring, performance evaluations, and compensation



# Appointments

## **Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS):**

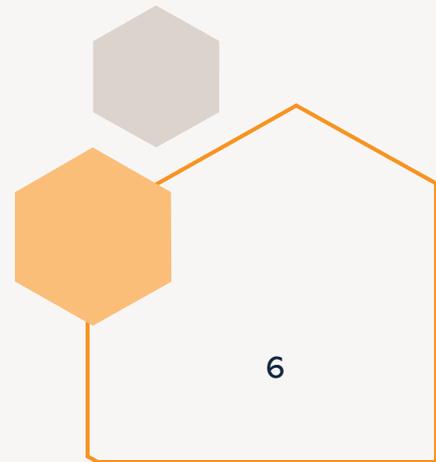
The Executive Director, who is appointed by and responsible to the Governor, administers the state department. The State Board of Human Services is the body that adopts rules for the formulation and revision of CDHS policies. The board consists of nine (9) individuals, three (3) of whom are county commissioners. C.R.S. §26-1-107.

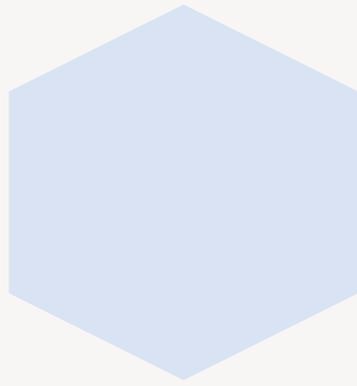
## **Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF):**

Led by an Executive Director appointed by the Governor. C.R.S. §25.5-1-104.

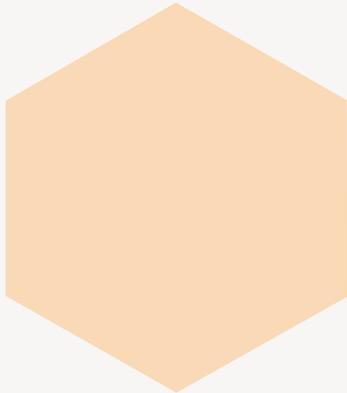
## **Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC):**

Led by an Executive Director appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate. C.R.S. §26.5-1-101.

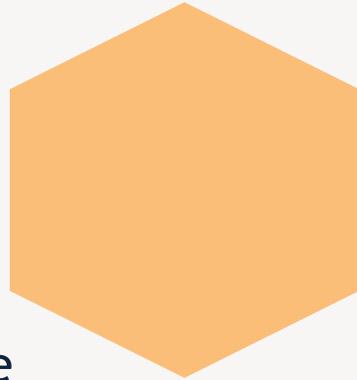




# Mandated Services



- Adoption and Foster Care
- Adult Financial Programs
- Adult Protection
- Child Care Assistance
- Child Support Services
- Child Welfare
- Colorado Works (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
- Food Assistance (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)
- Medical Assistance
- Therapeutic and Supportive Services (Core Services)



# Adult Protection Services

Established in statute in 1983, APS investigates allegations of physical and sexual abuse, caretaker neglect, exploitation and harmful acts (collectively referred to as "mistreatment") and self-neglect of at-risk adults.

In FY24, there were:

- 30,016 reports made
- 7,312 new cases
  - Of the new cases, 6,723 had an assessment completed
- 11,207 allegations investigated
  - Note, many cases have more than one (1) allegation.

# Child Support Services

Federal law requires each state to establish a single and separate agency to provide child support enforcement services. These services consist of:

- Locating non-custodial parents;
- Establishing paternity;
- Establishing, enforcing, and modifying child support orders;
- Establishing, enforcing and modifying medical support orders; and
- Collecting and distributing child support payments.

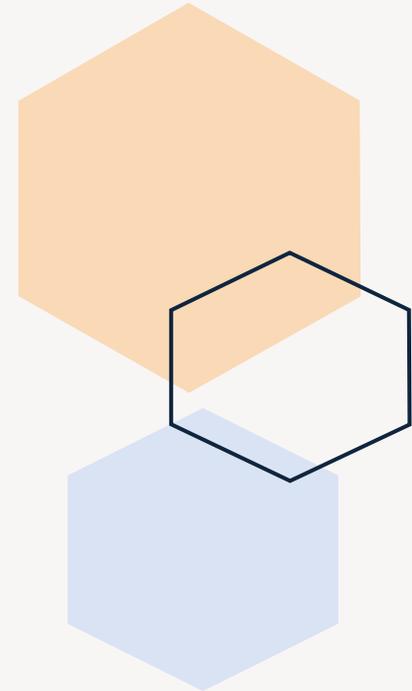
In FFY24:

- 122,773 Cases with Orders
- 66,166 Medical Support Cases
- \$316,498,442.98 was collected for IV-A and Non-IV-A combined

# Child Welfare Services

The Division of Child Welfare is composed of a specialized set of services that strengthen the ability of the family to protect and care for their own children, minimize harm to children and youth, and ensure timely permanency planning.

- Prevention and intervention
- Youth in conflict
- Protection services
- Children or youth who have been adopted through foster care, children and youth with Medicaid-only services, and youth whose permanency goal is no longer reunification.



# Child Welfare Therapeutic and Supportive (Core) Services

Established in 1994 to provide strength-based resources and support to families when children and youth are at imminent risk of out-of-home placement, in need of services to return home or to maintain a placement in the least restrictive setting possible.

There are ten (10) designated types of family preservation services which constitutes the Core Services Program.

## Aftercare Services

County Designed Services

Day Treatment

Home-Based Intervention

Intensive Family Treatment

## Life Skills

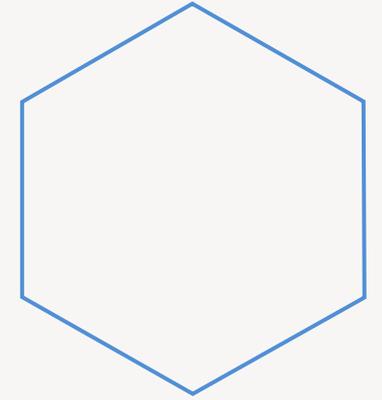
Mental Health Services

Sexual Abuse Treatment

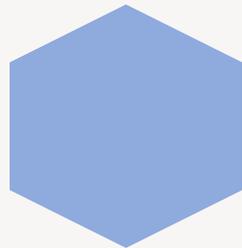
Special Economic Assistance

Substance Abuse Treatment Services

# Child Welfare Totals in SFY24



- **117,038** - Number of Referrals/Assessments
- **9,715** - Substantiated Abuse or Neglect
- **6,971** - Children exiting state involvement 12 months ago who did not require further involvement for 12 months
- **6,480** - Children in Foster Care (Out of Home)
- **558** - Children became legally free for adoption (parents rights were terminated)



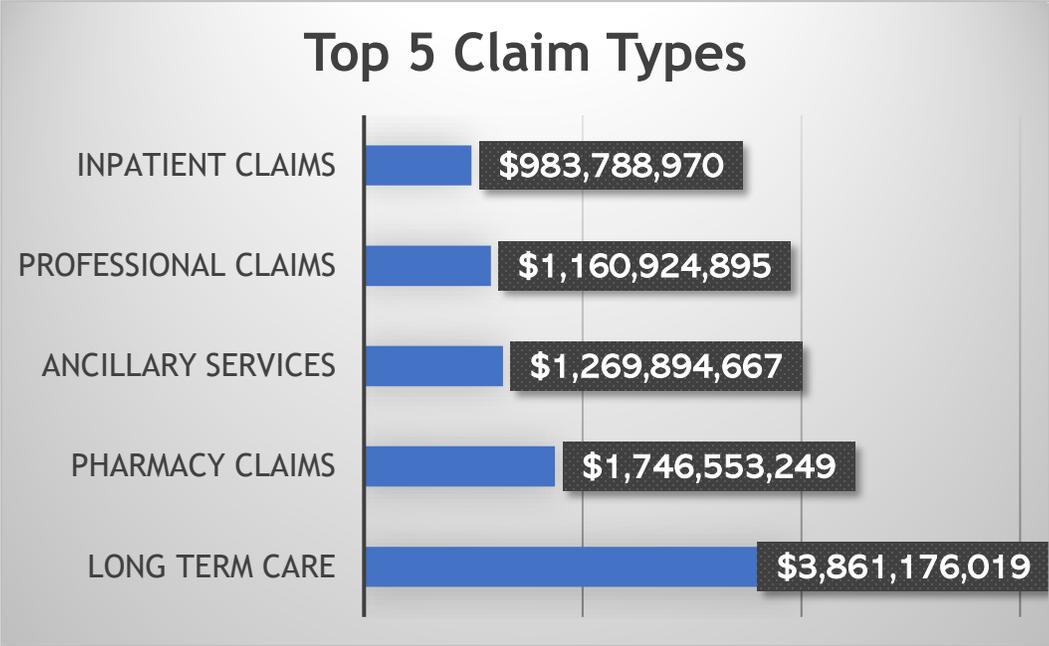
# Health First Colorado

Colorado’s Medicaid Program has three (3) kinds of basic benefits:

- Physical health benefits
- Dental benefits
- Behavioral health (mental health and substance use benefits).

In FY24:

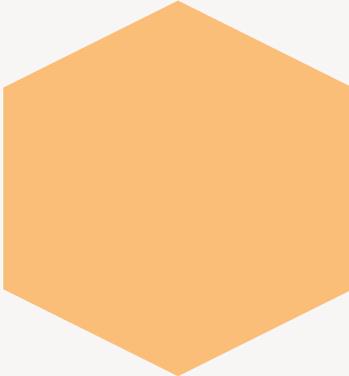
- 1,337,093 Average number of members enrolled per month
- \$12,058,237,677 Total HFC Expenditure



# Economic Security



# Child Care Assistance Program



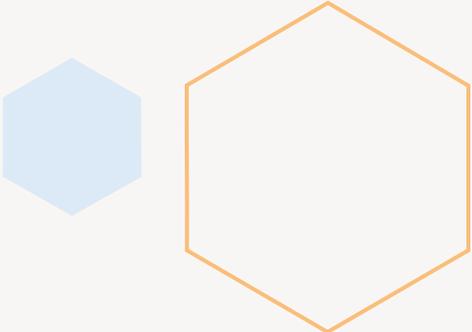
The Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) helps families that are homeless, working, searching for work or in school find low-income child care assistance.

The income eligibility level for CCCAP is set by each county but the counties are required to provide this program for families that have an income 185% or less of the federal poverty level (FPL).

In 2023:

2,166 Licensed Centers in 2023

1,421 Licensed Family Homes



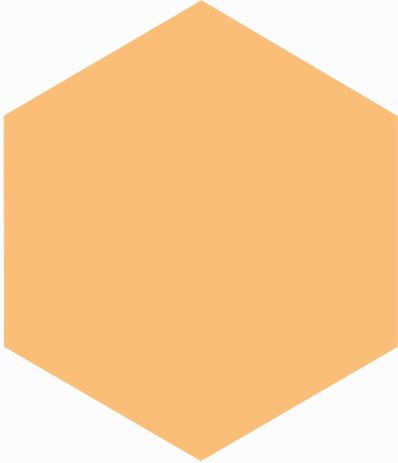
# Colorado Works Program

At the federal level, this program is known as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Colorado Works provides cash assistance, services, and other types of support to help families pay their bills while they transition into the workforce.

Statutes require each county to develop a plan that explains how it will operate Colorado Works Program within federal and state guidelines. CDHS reviews the plans and makes suggestions for improvement, but staff do not approve or deny the county's plans. The plans are incorporated as part of each county's performance contract with CDHS.

## TANF Monthly Averages FFY23

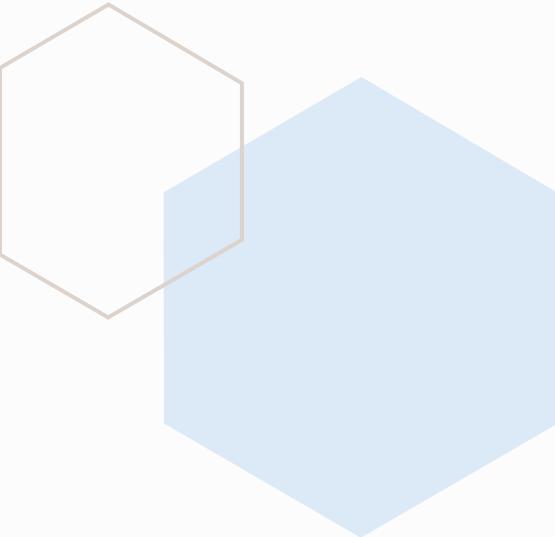
- 12,061 Families Served
  - 7,912 Adult Recipients
  - 21,491 Child Recipients



# Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

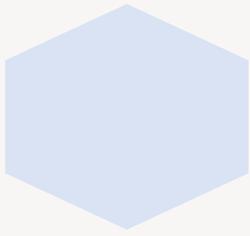
The program is an individual entitlement program providing recipients with cards for the purchase of food. The program serves:

- Individuals up to 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) who are under age 60 and able-bodied; and
- Individuals up to 165 percent of the FPL who are elderly (over 60) or disabled.

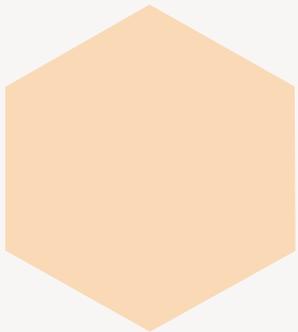


## SNAP Monthly Averages in CY24

- \$112,541,647.03 Issuance Amount
- 592,414 Client Count

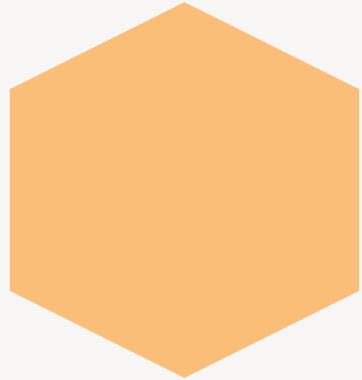


# Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)



A federally funded program that helps eligible hard-working Colorado families, seniors and individuals pay a portion of their winter home heating costs.

The program works to keep our communities warm during the winter (November through April) by providing assistance with heating costs, equipment repair and/or replacement of inoperable heating tools.



# Discretionary Services



# Funding

Federal, State, and County share vary by program

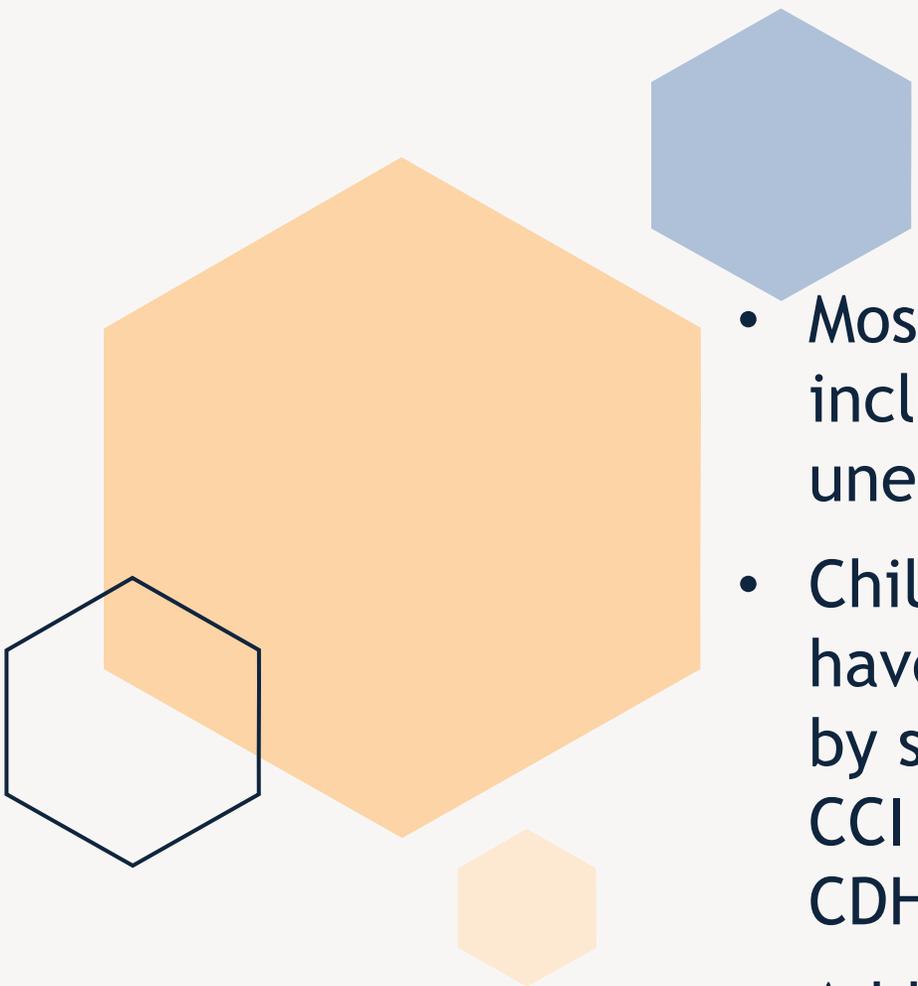
**100% Federal/State** - Part of Child Protection and Core Services; most financial benefits except TANF and Child Care assistance

**90% Federal/State and 10% County** - Adoption assistance; limited Child Protection staff positions

**80% Federal/State and 20% County** - Adult Protection; Foster Care; and most of the Child Welfare, Economic Security, and Core Services.

**66% Federal and 34% County** - Child Support Services

**Maintenance of Effort** - TANF (15%) and Child Care Assistance (11%)



# Funding continued...

- Most funding is formula allocated. Factors can include population demographics, poverty rates, unemployment levels, etc.
- Child Care, Child Welfare, and Colorado Works have allocation committees that are mandated by statute. Eight (8) members are appointed by CCI and three (3) are appointed by CDEC or CDHS.
- Additional work groups provide recommendations to CDHS and HCPF.

# Opportunities

## Colorado Human Services Directors Association

CHSDA Legislative Committee determines recommendations to be made to CCI. CHSDA distributes this information to Directors. **Ask to discuss the topics at hand.**

### Current Priorities:

1. County Administration Funding and Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS)
2. Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP)
3. Aging and Adult Protection

## Engaging State Delegation

- Follow the Joint Budget, Joint Technology, Judiciary, and Human Services Committees.
- Develop a relationship with your legislator during and outside of session.

## Connecting with Federal Delegation

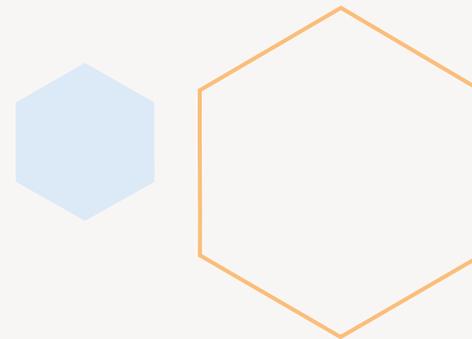
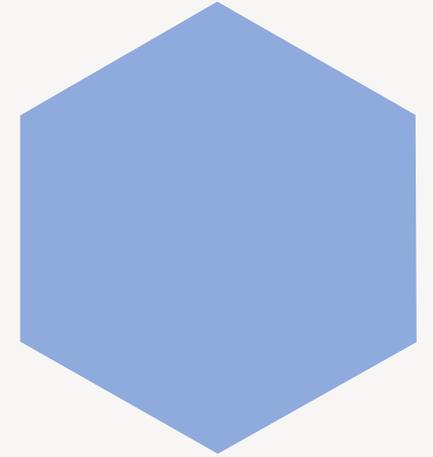
Most often, it is their staff that will be in contact regarding federal legislative priorities.

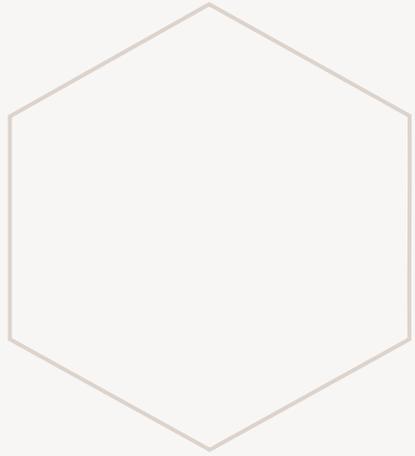
**Confirm what entities your BOCC has memberships to.** A few include:

- American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)
- the National Association of Counties (NACo)
- the National Association for County Human Services Administrators (NACHSA; an affiliate of NACo).

# Engagement

- CCI
- CHSDA
- State Allocation Meetings
- Establish and maintain open and frequent communication channels with Directors





# Questions



# We appreciate your dedication to public service

Jamie Ulrich

Director

Weld County Department of Human Services

970-400-6510

[ulrichjj@weld.gov](mailto:ulrichjj@weld.gov)

Donna Rohde

Director

Otero County Department of Human Services

719-383-3131

[donna.rohde@state.co.us](mailto:donna.rohde@state.co.us)

