



Rural PIAC Meeting Minutes

July 29, 2026 at 10-11:30 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86555189061>

Meeting ID: 865 5518 9061

Passcode: 383052

ATTENDEES

Attendee Name, Organization	Present	Attendee Name, Organization	Present	Attendee Name, Organization	Present
Alma Mejorado, NHP	☐	Cody Campbell, NHP	☒	Sarah Stangebye, NHP	☐
Amanda Mrkivicka, NHP	☐	Diamilla Konate, NHP	☒	Tara Martin, NHP	☐
Bekkah Abeyta, NHP	☒	Laura Cornell, NHP	☒	Tricia Yonaha, NHP	☒
Brian Robertson, NHP	☒	Nancy Musso, NHP	☒	Wayne Watkins, NHP	☐
Cailey Cimera, NHP	☒	Raina Ali, NHP	☒	Melissa Iwanowski	☒
Cara Hebert, NHP	☒	Kami Cahoon	☒	Melody Baum	☒
Amy R	☒	Karma Wilson	☒	Meranda	☒
Ann Russell	☒	Katelynn Mack	☒	Nichole	☒
Blakely Christie	☒	Kim Stanley	☒	Mariela Archuleta	☒
Carley Lane	☒	Kimberly Montejano	☒	Marquez L	☒
Cheryl McCann	☒	Kyle Gustafson	☒	Meagan Hillman	☒
Cindy Killip	☒	Lacy Paull	☒	Melody Baum	☒
Dawn Watts	☒	Laura DiPrince	☒	Olivia	☒
Erika Marcello-Cannone	☒	LopezMo	☒	Pat Cook	☒
Gayla Lobato	☒	Lucia Trejo	☒	Renay Crain	☒
Hannah R.	☒	Segura	☒	Renee Granado	☒
Jasmine Gomez	☒	Stacey Samaro	☒	Sebastian	☒
Brent Crowell	☒	Tom Culver	☒	Sharon Mauch	☒
Shawna	☒	Wes Price	☒	Steve Carleton, Porch Light Health	☒
Teresa Engel	☒	Don Stader	☒	Vanessa Flint, Aetna	☒
Wendy Buxton-Andrade	☒	Kailey Meardon	☒	Erin Kendrick, CDPHE	☒
Charisma Rascon	☒	Tom Culver	☒	Juavaila Pavliceck, NEHD	☒

Total Attendees: 58

MINUTES

1. Introduction

Facilitator: Raina Ali raina@nhpllc.org

- Welcomed attendees and opened the meeting.



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2. Community Investment Grant Updates

Presenter: Raina Ali (raina@nhpllc.org)

- NHP received a record 84 Community Investment Grant applications and provided awards to 14 organizations.
- Application trends identified ongoing community needs related to access to care, behavioral health, housing, translation services, substance use disorders, and youth services.
- Award recipients will provide project updates during future PIAC meetings.
- PIAC voting members participated in the grant review process for the first time.

3. NHP Committee Updates

Presenters: Raina (NHP) raina@nhpllc.org , Bekkah (NHP) bekkah.abeyta@nhpllc.org

Annual Service Appreciation Award

- 2026 Annual Service Award recipients announced:
 - Runner up: Jesslyn Seridan from Goodness Health
 - Award Winner: Mellie Ryan from Epifluence

RAE 2 MEAC Updates:

- **Larimer MEAC**
 - State representatives visited the MEAC to gather feedback on primary care and care coordination services.
- **Region 2 MEAC**
 - HCPF representatives will attend the August 19 MEAC to gather member feedback and learn about current member needs.
- **Bridging Communities (Deaf/Hard of Hearing)**
 - Website accessibility review continues
 - Hospital communication processes are being reviewed to improve communication both within hospitals and externally.
 - Care Coordination referral form updated to improve accessibility and member self-referrals.
- **Spanish MEAC**
 - Committee continues seeking presenters offering Spanish Specific Programming.
 - Recent presentation on an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) received strong member engagement.
 - Membership has grown to approximately 35 participants, making it the largest MEAC this past year.



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- Meetings continue to be held virtually and facilitated entirely in Spanish, with English materials available.
- **Youth Voice**
 - Next meeting will be held in Fort Morgan and is open to youth ages 13-20.
 - Current discussion topics include combining annual well visits with sports physicals and improving youth access to healthcare services.
 - Members identified limited access to school nurses as a barrier to care.
 - Members participated in the Statewide Colorado Teen Life Conference, with RAE 2 having the largest youth representation among all RAEs.
 - Youth also participated in Rural Philanthropy Days, where a youth-focused track was added for the first time, engaging approximately 20 youth participants.
 - Youth continue providing valuable feedback on healthcare services and identifying school health resource needs.
- **State PIAC Report**
 - Gretchen Hammer recently attended a State PIAC meeting as part of the RAE presentations.
 - Jodi Walker continues serving as NHP's State PIAC representative and shares updates on NHP initiatives, particularly youth programming.
- **Reminders**
 - Medicaid members receive a \$25 gift card for attending MEAC meetings and providing feedback.
 - Encouraged the group to share information to members about MEAC opportunities to increase participation.

Health Equity

- The next Health Equity Committee meeting will be held September 23.
- The Healthy Colorado for All Plan was submitted to HCPF and is currently under review.
- Health Equity priorities align closely with existing Primary Care Medical Provider (PCMP) and Behavioral Health Provider performance measures, creating opportunities to streamline improvement efforts.
- Beginning in September, the committee will review demographic data to identify priority populations experiencing disparities and develop targeted interventions.
- Committee feedback will help guide community-based improvement strategies and interventions.
- Providers were encouraged to participate in upcoming Health Equity Committee meetings and presentations.

Professional Development Corner



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- The Professional Development Hub is available at no cost to the NHP network.
- Members were encouraged to visit the Provider Training webpage and newsletters for upcoming trainings and course updates.
- Upcoming trainings include:
 - Complex Trauma 101 with Doreen Hills of CHTA
 - Understanding HR 1 & Upcoming Medicaid Changes (self-paced; updated monthly)
 - Non-Emergent Medical Transportation (NEMT) training (self-paced; updated with the new provider information)
 - Mental Health First Aid (virtual; free to NHP network)

4. Review Survey Outcomes

- Reviewed annual Provider Survey results and respondent demographics.
- Overall satisfaction with NHP exceeded the average survey score, with provider relationships identified as a key strength.
- Opportunities for improvement included Carelon transition support, billing and credentialing, and increasing survey participation next year.

5. Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP)

Presenter: Vanessa Flint, Aetna Medicare D-SNP Director

- Provided an overview of Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs) and how they coordinate Medicare and Medicaid benefits for eligible members.
- Reviewed Aetna's Colorado D-SNP offerings, available care coordination services, and supplemental member benefits.
- Discussed provider billing guidance, including billing Medicare first, followed by Colorado Medicaid for applicable cost sharing.

6. Regional Resources Presentation

WIC

Presenters: Erin Kendrick and Juavaila Pavlicek

- Provided an overview of WIC services, eligibility requirements, and available nutrition, breastfeeding, and community support resources for eligible women, infants, and children.
- Reviewed participant eligibility, supplemental food benefits, and referral options, including the WIC Shopper App, online referrals, and local WIC clinics.
- Encouraged providers and community partners to connect eligible families with WIC services.

Porch Light Health

Presenter: Steve Carleton

- Provided an overview of Porch Light Health's low-barrier outpatient services for substance use disorders, mental health, and related medical needs.
- Reviewed Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services, including same-day virtual access through MAT on Demand and referral options by website or phone.



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- Highlighted that services are available regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.

7. Action Items & Closing

- Reviewed the new process for registering for NHP meetings and events through the NHP website.
- Registration confirmation emails include meeting details, Zoom information, and calendar invitations.
- A how-to video and user guide are available on the PD Hub to assist with the registration process.
- H.R. 1 Updates will continue to be shared through NHP communications.
- Feel free to email hr1support@nhpllc.org with questions or concerns.