



Children & Youth Program Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) MEETING MINUTES

DATE: December 9, 2025

LOCATION: Virtual

TIME: 4:00PM – 6:00PM

Name	Organization	Present	COA Staff Present
Alisia Moreno	International Rescue Committee		Dave Aragon
Carolyn Anello	Project Worthmore	v	Dr. Lauren Brassfield
Courtney Lawlor	Mile High Behavioral Healthcare	v	Nancy Viera
Devin Myers	Entrust Health	v	Casey Thomas
Erin Denovan	Health First Colorado Caregiver	v	Shelley Cooper
Judy Shlay	Public Health Institute at Denver Health		Carrie Jones
Kait Hamor	Community Reach Center/Mountainland Pediatrics		Ashlie Brown
Kirsten Anderson	Aurora Mental Health & Recovery	v	Keri Kugler
Kristin Soderberg	Health First Colorado Caregiver	v	Lexi Dienstbier
Lanae Dailey	Children’s Hospital Colorado		
Lori Spurgeon	Health First Colorado Caregiver		
Megan Bowser	Health First Colorado Caregiver; Executive director for Family Voices Colorado	v	
Michelle Roy	WellPower	v	Other Guests
Mordy Cukier	Kiwi Kids ABA	v	Health Transformation Program Team:
Nikki Brooker	You Are Not Alone (YANA)	v	Cathi Redmond, HCA Health One Sky Ridge
Sadie Wych	Adams County Public Health		Tim Wimbish, National Jewish Health
Wendy Nading	Arapahoe County Public Health	v	Traci Ertle, Children’s Hospital
Whitney Gustin Connor	Kids First Colorado	v	Susan Goldenstein, Children’s Hospital

(x) - In Person attendee; (v) – Virtual attendee

Agenda Items	
Welcome, Intros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership acknowledged Becky Selig’s absence due to parental leave and shared appreciation for her preparation of meeting materials. Discussed the organization’s purpose and commitment to improving care for children and youth through Health First Colorado. The role of the Youth PIAC was reinforced as a space to provide insight, advise on improvements, and help shape priorities. Core values were reviewed, including constructive dialogue, respect, practical language, and assuming good intent.
Member Story Video	A video was shown featuring a Colorado Access member story highlighting complex pediatric medical needs, long-term care, and the impact of Medicaid and Colorado Access support. The video was shared to ground the discussion in lived experience and reconnect the group to the organization’s mission and purpose.

Introductions and Breakout Activity	Participants were placed into small breakout rooms for brief introductions. Members shared their name, role, and personal context for participating, and identified two to three unusual things they had in common. Upon returning to the main group, a few themes from the breakout discussions were shared.
Youth PIAC Charter Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitators introduced the concept of developing a Youth PIAC charter to provide clarity on structure, roles, responsibilities, and goals. • The charter was framed as a simple, practical reference document to support alignment and consistency over time. • Discussion included support for having clearer structure and goals, questions about how objectives and strategies fit between responsibilities and goals, and interest in understanding expectations before committing to charter development work. • It was agreed that leadership would revisit existing notes, share additional context with the group, and continue the discussion at a future meeting once more clarity was provided.
Legislative and Policy Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A policy update was provided focused on the upcoming 2026 Colorado legislative session and the Governor’s proposed budget. Key points included anticipated budget challenges, pressure on Medicaid funding, and the legislature’s focus on healthcare affordability and sustainability. • The group was briefed on potential impacts to Health First Colorado, including proposed Medicaid cost controls, changes to long-term services and supports, provider reimbursement adjustments, administrative changes, and delays to certain benefits. • Discussion emphasized the importance of using Youth PIAC input meaningfully and maintaining a clear focus on children and youth when discussing Medicaid and policy changes.
Digital Engagement and Interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado Access staff presented an overview of a developing digital engagement roadmap and upcoming federal interoperability and prior authorization regulations (CMS 57-F). • The presentation outlined requirements related to data sharing, patient access APIs, provider access APIs, payer-to-payer data exchange, and consent processes. • A poll was conducted to gauge familiarity with these regulations, showing most participants had not previously been aware of them. • Discussion focused on the importance of clear communication, FAQs, trust-building, and safeguards to protect member data, with particular attention to implications for children, youth, and caregivers.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 pm
Next PIAC Meeting: 03/10/26, virtual