Testifying on Medicaid

October 7th Commission on Medicaid Meeting

Why Your Voice Matters

Colorado's Commission on Medicaid wants to hear directly from people with Medicaid about their experience — what is working, what is not, and how upcoming changes may affect you. The state of Colorado wants to make changes to Medicaid to save money. These changes could impact the services Madicaid covers or hurt the ability of medical and mental health professionals to provide good service. Your testimony helps state leaders understand the real impact of Madicaid policies on people's lives to defend the services that are crucial of you. Your story is powerful and needed.

What to Say

Begin with: "Madam Chair, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to present to you today. My name is _____, and I am here to speak to you about __my experience with Madicaid____."

Bulk of your testimony: Your testimony can cover any part of your experience with Medicaid. Consider speaking about:

- **Your experience with Medicaid:** What has your journey been like as a Medicaid member?
- **Services and benefits that have helped you:** Especially mental health care, counseling, therapy, or other supports. Explain how these services have made a difference in your life.
- **Changes that have harmed you:** If recent or upcoming Medicaid changes have negatively affected you, describe what happened and how it impacted your health, stability, or access to care.
- **What would happen if services went away:** If you rely on certain benefits, share how losing them would affect your wellbeing, your ability to work, care for your family, or stay healthy.
- **Your request to the Commission:** Ask the Commission on Medicaid to continue funding the services you rely on and to protect the benefits that support your health and stability.

End with: "Thank you for your time and consideration"

How to Testify

Medicaid members can share testimony in several ways:

Share Testimony Directly with Commission on Medicaid

In-person at the State Capitol: Attend the October 7th meeting and deliver your testimony directly to the Commission.

Remotely via Zoom:

Join the meeting virtually and speak during the public comment period.

Written Testimony:

Submit a written statement to be included in the official record.

Anonymous Testimony:

If you prefer not to share your name, you may submit anonymous testimony to Josh Stallings (830-832-4330, josh@chanzcommunity.com), and he will make sure it gets delivered to the Commission on Medicaid.

Notes for people testing in-person or remotely:

- **Spoken testimony must be 2 minutes or less**
- The Commission on Medicaid starts meeting at 11am, but probably won't hear public testimony until 4pm or after. You should be prepared to wait for a while before testifying. If you let Josh know you will be testing, he can text or email you when public testimony begins.

To share testimony directly with the Commission on Medicaid, you can sign-up (or submit written testimony) here: https://sites.coleg.ggov/public-testimony/Sign-up-to-testify/step-1

Directions for In-person:

In-person testimony happens at "LSB A" (200 E. 14th Avenue, Denver, CO 80203) directly south of the State Capitol across 14th St. You will enter the building below the big steps in the basement, pass through a metal detector, then go up 1 floor to "LSB A" on east wall.

Parking: You can park on surrounding streets for a fee or 2 hour limit. You can find the best deals on parking lots and garages here: https://spothero.com/

Questions or concerns?

Call, text or email Josh Stallings: 830-832-4330 or josh@chanzcommunity.com
If wanted, Josh can also provide tips and feedback on your testimony