

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: JOSHUA RAE, JD, MPA
SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR-END REPORT (JOSH'S 4TH YEAR REPORT)
DATE: JULY 2017- JUNE 2018

This year, we are proud to report our biggest win to date with HB 1407, a 67-million-dollar law that will help DSPs and people waiting to receive DD Comp services. In the next couple of years, we are on track to get about 500 people off the 3,000-person wait list. Providers also received a 1% provider rate increase on top of the 6.5% increase on most services that is earmarked for our DSPs.

As always, this work could not have been done without the talented Alliance staff, our President, Government Relations Chair, the Alliance Executive Committee, and so many of our members that helped along the way. We are so proud to advocate for your organizations, staff, and the people you serve. This report provides a summary of just some of the issues we worked on for our members and the people you serve in 2017-18 and what we will be working on this coming year.

Please feel to share this document with your board, staff, and other non-member PASAs or CCBs that would like to learn more about Alliance's return on YOUR investment. This work could not have been done without your support.

Legislative Overview

- ✓ Alliance drafted, lobbied, and passed HB 1407: Access to Disability Services and Stable Workforce (The DSP Compensation and Aging Caregiver Bill)
 - What the law does:
 - Enrolls 300 people on the "first-come-first-served" waiting list
 - Increases most IDD rates by 6.5% for DSP compensation
 - Adds new emergency enrollment criteria related to caregiver status, generating approximately 150 emergency enrollments per year into the future
 - Some of work that went into passing the bill:
 - Alliance spent months researching strategies from other states and meeting with stakeholders and legislators to discuss and draft the bill
 - Alliance successfully lobbied all six Joint Budget Committee members to carry and FUND the \$67 million bill
 - Alliance published comprehensive [talking points on HB 1407](#)
 - Alliance created and maintained a [DSP Compensation and Aging Caregiver webpage](#) and published a [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) report on HB 1407
 - Alliance staff and members worked to get 2,356 people signed on to [Alliance's petition in support of the bill](#)
 - Alliance successfully sought the public support of 90 advocacy organizations, PASAs, and CCBs
 - Over 500 emails were sent to legislators asking them to support the bill
 - Alliance published weekly [Action Alerts](#) and updates to over 1,000 IDD professionals in Colorado



- With lots of lobbying and education, the bill unanimously passed all committees
 - 54 legislators co-sponsored the bill
 - Out of 100 legislators, only 1 voted “no” on the bill
 - With a coordinated lobbying effort to the Governor’s office and HCPF, the Governor signed the bill into law
- ✓ Alliance worked to secure a 1% across-the-board provider rate increase
- ✓ Alliance worked to secure EI caseload growth in 2018 and 2019 and to ensure additional funding was appropriated for the work performed by CCBs
- ✓ Alliance spent years working with HCPF on identifying additional unused IDD Comp resources. This year, 168 new resources were released within existing appropriation because of the perseverance of a few of our members and staff.
- ✓ In addition to the state budget, Alliance tracked 45 bills in the 2018 legislative session
 - Out of the 45 bills Alliance tracked, 26 passed and became law.
 - Alliance supported 17 bills in the 2018 legislative session
 - Out of the 17 bills Alliance supported, 14 passed and became law
 - No bills passed that Alliance opposed
- ✓ Recommended reading: bills that passed and have a moderate to high relevance for Alliance members
 - HB18-1263: Medical Marijuana Use for Autism and Acute Pain
 - HB18-1267: Income Tax Credit for Retrofitting Home for Health
 - HB18-1285: Remuneration-exempt Disability Parking Placard
 - HB18-1326: Support for Transition from Institutional Settings
 - HB18-1328: Redesign Residential Child Health Care Waiver
 - HB18-1333: Concerning Part C child find responsibilities of state departments
 - HB18-1407: Access to Disability Services and Stable Workforce
 - SB18-145: Implement Employment First Recommendations
 - SB18-174: Service Providers for Persons with Developmental Disabilities
 - SB18-231: Transition to Community-based Services Task Force
 - SB18-254: Expand Access Behavioral Health Care Providers (includes new RCCF funds)
- ✓ Alliance secured provider reimbursement for new training requirements included SB 18-145
- ✓ Alliance continued educating legislators on funding deficiencies and complexities of the IDD system, including creating the “DSP For a Day” campaign.
- ✓ Alliance, The Arc of Colorado and JFK Partners jointly hosted one of the most successful and well-attended IDD Awareness Days yet. Nearly 500 people attended the luncheon.
- ✓ Alliance worked with legislators to draft and pass the 2018 IDD Awareness Day Proclamation
- ✓ Alliance received a proclamation from the Governor recognizing DSP Awareness Week in September

Alliance’s Federal and State Public Policy Work

- ✓ Alliance worked with ANCOR to pass the federal Electronic Visit Verification Extension bill and develop legislative and policy asks around such topics as: technology; workforce issues; data collection; employment; settings requirements; and more.
- ✓ Alliance tracked, analyzed, and disseminated information about federal political activity, legislative and regulatory proposals and their actions and consequences



- ✓ Alliance staff attended and spoke at several national conferences to increase their knowledge of, and better inform our members about, national issues and public policy initiatives in other states
- ✓ Alliance attended and tracked numerous committees and workgroups handling Colorado IDD systems changes
- ✓ Alliance tracked and participated in the rulemaking process for new employee background checks and helped to ensure that the costs of these checks are reasonable for providers

Revalidation and the Colorado interChange

- ✓ Alliance [advocated for our membership and all IDD providers](#) by working with HCPF and offering assistance to our members during the serious interChange issues
- ✓ Alliance assisted members in securing emergency payments from the state until the interChange system billing issues were resolved

Person-Centered Thinking

- ✓ Alliance concluded the Daniel's Fund Grant and the three-year Alliance CO PCT Training Project
 - Alliance partnered with Support Development Associates, LLC and the Council on Quality and Leadership to train over 2,500 individuals on person-centered thinking (PCT) and practices with state funding.
 - Alliance was able to conduct several [Families Planning Together](#) and [People Planning Together](#) courses to ensure self-advocates and families were also receiving free PCT training
 - Alliance Awarded PCT certification grants to ensure there was capacity to continue to conduct PCT trainings in all areas of Colorado. There are now certified PCT trainers in Durango, Montrose, Pueblo, Denver, Colorado Springs, La Junta, Greeley, and Fort Collins.
- ✓ Alliance continues to maintain the PCT website to advertise available PCT training resources (www.COPCT.org)

Alliance's Data Collection Efforts to Increase Provider Rates

- ✓ Alliance collected and compiled RFP Data from all 20 CCBs
- ✓ generated quarterly RFP reports that were used to show capacity issues in the Colorado IDD system
- ✓ Alliance worked with a coalition of stakeholders to argue for higher provider rates and intends to grow this coalition in 2018-19
- ✓ Alliance staff and members testified at the Medicaid Provider Rate Review Advisory Committee (MPRRAC) and was asked to be an on-going resource for the committee
- ✓ Alliance contracted with Health Management Associates (HMA) and is currently working with HCPF on a large IDD data request

Advancing Alliance's Brand and New Member Benefits

- ✓ [Alliance continues to maintain the very popular CO IDD Jobs Page](#) (free job postings for members)
- ✓ Alliance has challenged all 100 legislators to participate in the "DSP for a Day" challenge



- ✓ Alliance hosted a public webinar to educate all PASAs about HB 18-1407 with more than 250 attendees
- ✓ [Alliance continued to publish a Public Newsletter \(reaching over 1,000 subscribers\)](#)
- ✓ Alliance represents over 70 PASAs and CCBs and has a record 54 Board Members. Alliance welcomed six new PASA members this fiscal year:
 - Belk Model (Dec 2017)
 - Activity Options (March 2018)
 - Stepping Stone Support Center (May 2018)
 - Pueblo Diversified Industries (June 2018)
 - Friends of Broomfield (June 2018)
 - Karuna Care Services (June 2018)
- ✓ Alliance continued to grow Summit sponsorship and member benefits
- ✓ [Alliance increased our social media presence](#)
 - [Facebook](#): 603 followers, thousands of likes and hundreds of shares.
 - [Twitter](#): @Alliance_CO has 305 followers and 1,078 tweets
 - [NEW: Alliance YouTube Page](#)
- ✓ Alliance maintained and grew our partnership with the Colorado Rockies for [IDD Community Day at the Rockies and a new partnership with the Colorado Rapids](#)
- ✓ Alliance continued to participate and sponsor national events and conferences: Coleman Institute Conference, ANCOR National Conference, Families at the Forefront of Technology, IDD Nurses Conference, the Six State Summit, and The Arc Film Festival
- ✓ Alliance added NEW [Member Only Discounts and Preferred Vendor Benefits](#)
- ✓ New Committees in 2018:
 - Plan Legislative Asks Now (P.L.A.N.)
 - CMA/RFP Committee
 - HRC Committee
 - Investigations Committee
 - Host Home Committee

Awards and Special Recognitions

- ✓ Alliance's very own [Ellen Jensby was honored in Washington D.C.](#) as a national leader in the IDD field and for her outstanding work on the Save Medicaid campaign. She received ANCOR's Suellen Galbraith Award for Excellence in Policy.
- ✓ Alliance honored the entire Joint Budget Committee as legislators of the year for their work on passing HB 1407
- ✓ Alliance honored [Jason Kingsbury from Imagine!](#) as the 2018 DSP of the year at the IDD Awareness Day Luncheon
- ✓ ANCOR honored [Katrina Vincent with Continuum of Colorado](#) as their Colorado DSP of the year at their annual conference in New Orleans, LA
- ✓ Alliance honored Carol Meredith (The Arc of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties) and Joanne Svenningsen (HCPF) with Special Recognition Awards at the Alliance Summit
- ✓ Alliance honored Bruce Christiansen with the prestigious Jane Cavode Award
- ✓ Melanie Worley of Developmental Pathways was selected to serve as the Colorado representative to the ANCOR Board of Representatives
- ✓ Ellen Jensby was selected to serve on the ANCOR Government Relations Advisory Committee
- ✓ Josh Rael was selected to serve on the ANCOR Leadership Council



In 2018-19, Alliance will be working on a variety of bills, rules, and issues. Here are just some of the things we will be working on:

- New Bills/Appropriations
 - Provider rate increases
 - EI caseload growth and funding
 - New CES, SLS, IDD Comp. and emergency allocations
 - Remove Psychotropic Meds Review from HRC requirements
 - Adding a reporting time limit for APS investigations and sharing information with CCBs/PASAs

- Rule Making and the Implementation Process:
 - HB 1407 - DSP Compensation and Aging Caregiver Implementing the law
 - Alliance will be actively engaged in the rulemaking process
 - Alliance will assist any members in the implementation process
 - Alliance will be a resource to all IDD Providers by hosting [free public informational webinars](#)
 - SB 145 - Employment Training Requirements
 - 018 IRSS Rule Amendments re: Host Home regulations
 - Case Management Agency and Case Manager Qualifications
 - Background Checks

- Other IDD Work to Expect in 2018-19
 - interChange/Billing/Revalidation
 - Electronic Visit Verification
 - Creating a new IDD RFP Process
 - Individualized budgets for people with IDD
 - Survey to identify next steps for PCT
 - The future of the HRC Process
 - Mandatory Reporting
 - CHRP
 - Early Intervention/Child Find
 - Alliance's New Member Campaign
 - Coming Soon: Alliance Peer Network
 - IDD Provider Training opportunities
 - #Vote4Medicaid Education Campaign and the 2018 Gubernatorial Debate
 - DSP for a Day with Colorado legislators
 - Legislator tours and visits
 - And much more...

