



Safety Net Advisory Committee (SNAC) Learning Labs

We don't want to brag, but the Colorado Health Institute (CHI) just might have the healthiest snacks in Colorado.

Even better, CHI and its Safety Net Advisory Committee (SNAC) have a learning laboratory series called SNAC Labs. While fueling up with a nourishing lunch, SNAC Lab participants discuss challenges and successes in securing health care for vulnerable Coloradans. They also explore innovations developed in the safety net and how to apply them more broadly. CHI launched this effort in the belief that there are lessons to be learned for policy makers, advocates, care providers and philanthropic organizations as the health care landscape changes.

One SNAC Lab: Two Tracks

- **Accountable Care Collaborative:** Colorado Medicaid's Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC) is the platform for transforming Medicaid in Colorado. Seven Regional Care Collaborative Organizations (RCCOs) manage the program under the direction of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF). This regional design provides an opportunity to learn from different approaches used across the state. These discussions are designed to identify and share what can be learned and shared.
- **Access to Care:** Gaining insurance helps increase access to care, but it does not guarantee that people can get the care they need when they need it. These discussions provide a closer look at access to care issues, focusing on particular populations, access to particular kinds of care, or new tools that could increase access to care.

Learning Labs Structure

This isn't a lecture series. It's a 90-minute interactive program, divided into two parts. First, CHI presents data and research to raise the collective knowledge on the topic. Then we have a facilitated discussion, with the goal of leveraging the expertise of the group and hearing a variety of perspectives from people engaged in this work. This is an opportunity to better understand what is happening within the Colorado medical safety net and identify questions and challenges as well as innovations and potential solutions.



Resources

- **Food for Thought: Updates from the Safety Net Advisory Committee (SNAC)** provides a summary of the information presented and the discussion themes from each meeting. You can request to be included on the Food for Thought [email list](#).
- **Presentations, agendas and past editions** for Food for Thought are available on the [SNAC Lab webpage](#).
- **The Safety Net Primer** provides an introduction to Colorado's health care safety net.

We are always available to answer your questions about Colorado's medical safety net. If you would like additional information, or if you are interested in joining the Safety Net Advisory Committee, please contact:

Jeff Bontrager
Director of Research on Coverage and Access
BontragerJ@coloradohealthinstitute.org
720.382.7075

Jessica Fern
Policy Analyst
FernJ@coloradohealthinstitute.org
720.382.7078

SNAC Lab Goals

- **Raise the collective knowledge** about challenges, successes and policy issues affecting Colorado's health care safety net.
- **Supply data and information** to evaluate models of care and remaining gaps.
- **Leverage the expertise** of a variety of stakeholders from across Colorado, and provide a forum for discussion.
- **Synthesize data with community discussion** to develop and share resources about timely and important issues facing Colorado's health care safety net.