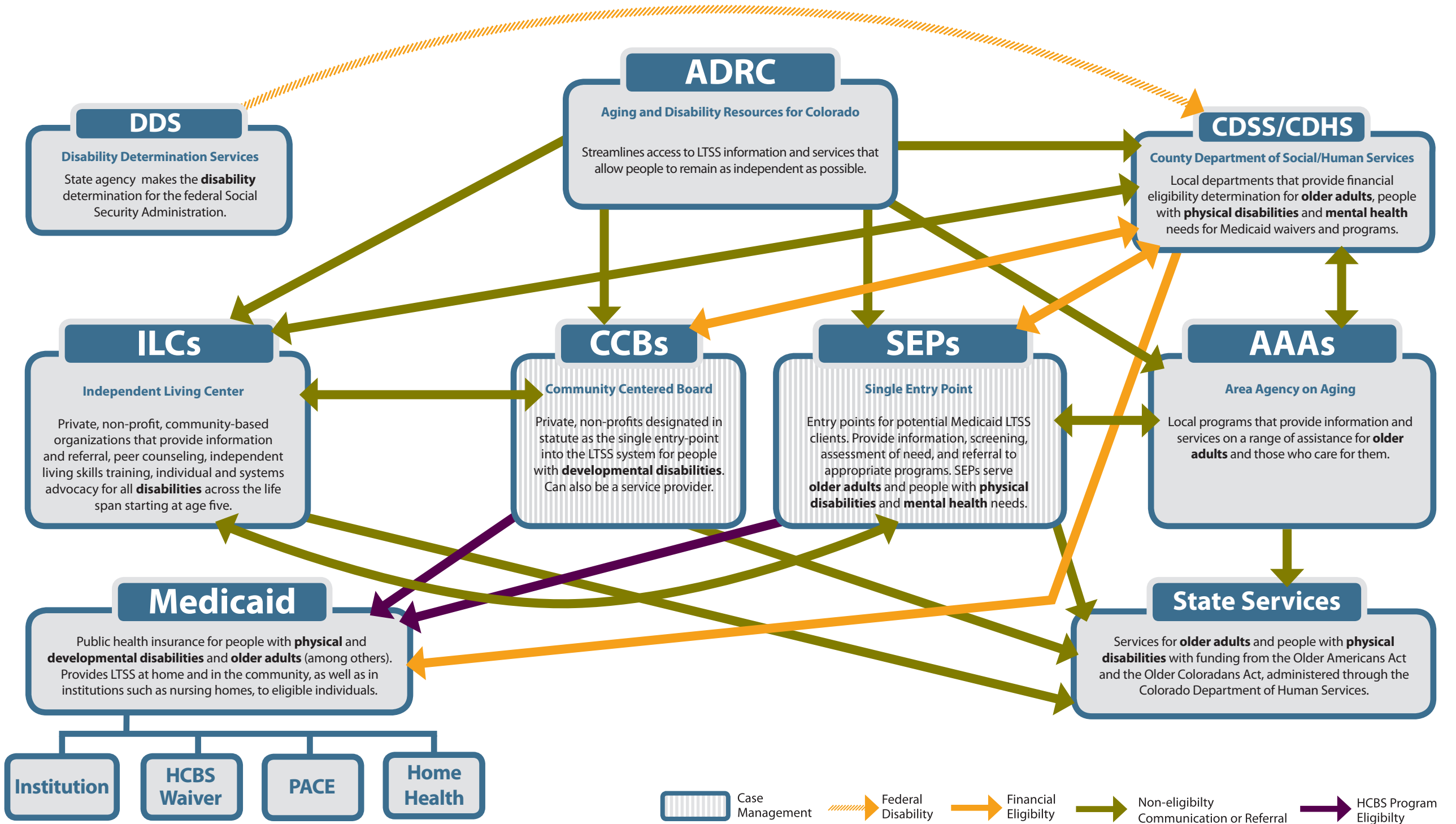# Colorado's LTSS Puzzle:

Piecing Together the System

Definitions

ADRC
Aging and Disability Resources for Colorado

Overview: Counselors discuss long-term services and supports (LTSS) options, assist and track applications, make service referrals, provide short-term case management. Funded through Colorado Department of Human Services (DHS) with grants from federal Administration on Community Living, based on joint funding from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Older Americans Act (OAA).

Population Served: 60 and older; 18 and older with a disability.

Area Served: 16 regional ADRCs in 61 counties.

Eligibility Determination: None. ADRCs must complete the options counseling assessment tool for State Unit on Aging (SUA). Data not tracked uniformly.

Department: DHS

Connection with Entry Points: Often co-located with Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), and sometimes with county Department of Human Services and/or Single Entry Points (SEPs).

Data Systems: Varies.

AAA
Area Agencies on Aging

Overview: Local programs provide information and services for older adults, plus community and program planning and development. SUA issues regulations for programs authorized by OAA and Older Coloradans Act (OCA), including nutrition, transportation, in-home, community-based, information and referral services.

Administers Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

Population Served: 60 and older

Area Served: 16 regional AAAs statewide.

Eligibility Determination: Some state programs, no Medicaid.

Departments: DHS, SUA

Connection with Entry Points: Often co-located with ARCHs, sometimes with county Department of Human Services and/or SEPS.

Data Systems: Social Assistance Management System (SAMS)

CCB
Community Centered Boards

Overview: Private, non-profits designated in statute as single entry-point for people with developmental disabilities. Provides case management, including intake, functional eligibility determination, service plan development, coordination, delivery and monitoring. Services Medicaid waivers administered by DHS. Assess community service needs, develop service plans.

Population Served: Those with developmental disabilities, all ages

Area served: 20 regional CCBs statewide.

Eligibility Determination: Functional eligibility for Medicaid/HCBS waivers using ULTC 100.2 and Supports Intensity Scale (SIS).

Department: DHS Office of Long-Term Care, Division for Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

Connection with Entry Points: None

Data Systems: Benefits Utilization System (BUS), Colorado Benefits Management System (CMBS), Medicaid

Management Information System (MMIS), Community Contract and Management System (CCMS)

CDHS/CDSS
County Departments of Human/Social Services

Overview: Provides assistance, protective and prevention services to all populations, case management for Children's Habilitation Residential Program Waiver.

Population Served: Low-income

Area Served: Statewide

Eligibility Determination: Financial eligibility for Medicaid.

Department: DHS

Connection with Entry Points: Sometimes co-located with AAAs, ARCHs and/or SEPs.

Data Systems: CMBS

DDS
Disability Determination Services

Overview: State agency makes disability decisions for federal Social Security Administration (SSA), which provides funding. Not involved with application process, other eligibility determinations or benefit calculations.

Population Served: Those with physical and developmental disabilities, all ages

Area Served: One office statewide

Eligibility Determination: Decisions for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). SSI is based on disability and financial need and results in Medicaid eligibility. In order to be eligible for Medicaid with SSDI (disability insurance for those who have paid into Social Security through employment)

individuals must have incomes at or below of 300% of the SSI limit and be determined functionally eligible for long-term care benefits.

Department: DHS

Connection with Entry Points: None

Medicaid

Overview: Federal-state health insurance program for low-income seniors and people with disabilities, among others, operated by Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) and DHS. Requires financial and functional eligibility. CCBs and SEPs determine functional eligibility with ULTC 100.2. Must meet nursing home, intermediate care facilities (ICF) or hospital level of care for LTSS coverage. Colorado has 12 home and community-based waivers (HCBS) that allow for services at home or in the community.

Population Served: About 36,000 in HCBS waivers and about 14,000 in nursing facilities in FY 2012-13 statewide.

Area Served: State

Departments: HCPF administers eight waivers - Children's HCBS , Children with Autism, Children with a Life-Limiting Illness, Persons with Brain Injury, Community Mental Health Supports, Persons Living with AIDS, Persons who are Elderly, Blind and Disabled, and Persons with Spinal Cord Injury. DHS administers four waivers - Children's Extensive Support, Supported Living Services, Children's Habilitation Residential Program, and Persons with Developmental Disabilities.

Data System: BUS, CMBS, MMIS

PACE
Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly

Overview: Medicaid-Medicare program that provides LTSS and physical health care. Most enrollees remain home. Must meet nursing facility level of care, determined with ULTC 100.2. Managed care model coordinated by interdisciplinary health care teams.

Population Served: 55 and older

Area Served: Must live in one of three PACE areas - Mesa and Delta counties, El Paso County or metro Denver and Pueblo.

Departments: HCPF and CMS

SEP
Single Entry Point

Overview: Entry points for Medicaid LTSS. Provides care planning and case management, makes referrals. Services HCBS waivers for HCPF.

Population Served: Older adults, children, adults with physical disabilities and mental health needs

Area Served: 23 regional SEPs statewide

Eligibility Determination: Functional eligibility for Medicaid and HCBS waivers with ULTC 100.2.

Department Involved: HCPF

Connection with Entry Points: Sometimes co-located with AAAs, ARCHs and/or county Departments of Human/Social Services.

Data Systems: BUS, CMBS, MMIS

State services

Overview: Services for older adults and individuals with disabilities

not covered by Medicaid, including nutrition, transportation, in-home, community-based care, caregiver support and legal assistance. Financial assistance provided by state programs such as Aid to the Needy Disabled (AND), Aid to the Blind (AB) and Old Age Pension (OAP). Some services require financial eligibility while others available to all older adults and individuals with disabilities. Funded by OAA, OCA and Colorado state general funds. Also provides Adult Foster Care (AFC) and Home Care Allowance (HCA). HCA lets those who are financially eligible but not at nursing home level of care to pay for home care.

Population Served: Specific programs for specific populations. For example, OAP is for low-income individuals ages 60 and older. HCA serves about 3,000

Area Served: Statewide

Department Involved: DHS

ILC
Independent Living Center

Overview: Independent Living Centers work with a cross-disability population to achieve their independent living goals through information and referral, peer counseling, independent living skills, and individual and systems advocacy. Three of the ten centers also provide home health services. Receive state general funds and federal funds through the Rehabilitation Act, among other sources.

Population served: Those with significant disabilities (defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)), all ages

Area Served: 10 regional ILCs statewide

Eligibility Determination: None

Department Involved: DHS, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

Best Practices from an Innovative State

Minnesota leads the nation in LTSS services, ranking No. 1 in the 2011 state scoreboard by the Commonwealth Fund, SCAN Foundation and AARP. Here's a look at the ideas that set Minnesota apart.

A Comprehensive System:
- Each county assesses eligibility and provides case management. Focus is on non-medical needs such as housing, employment and independent living.
- Most services offered through managed care organizations, which determine functional eligibility and coordinate services. Focus is on health services.
- Long Term Care Consultations offered to those who don't qualify for public programs

Community Support:
- School districts - Special education and early intervention services
- Area Agencies on Aging - Services to older adults
- Centers for Independent Living – Independent living services for people with disabilities
- Housing authorities – Funding for public housing

Rolling out a New System:
- MnCHOICES is a web-based assessment tool designed to replace all current assessments for LTSS programs, including Medicaid and state services.
- Goal is person-centered care without preconceived ideas about correct programs for the client.
- Will complete a support plan, and then look at funding sources – reversing the current process.