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Colorado Access to partner with North Range Behavioral Health for managed care in Weld County

Colorado Access, a local, nonprofit health plan, announced Tuesday it has won two contracts to serve as the behavioral health organization for Weld County, 11 other counties in northeast Colorado and the city and county of Denver. In this role, Colorado Access will partner with North Range Behavioral Health to provide behavioral health services in Weld County.

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is required to rebid all behavioral health organization contracts every five years as part of the state's Medicaid Managed Care program. Managed Care is a health care system under which doctors, hospitals and other care givers are organized into a group or network to manage the cost, quality and access to health care.

Colorado Access has been the behavioral health organization for the city and county of Denver since 1998 and has won every Denver behavioral health organization bid since.

Starting in July, it will provide those same services to northeast Colorado counties including Weld, Larimer, Morgan, Logan, Sedgwick, Phillips, Washington, Yuma, Kit Carson, Lincoln, Elbert and Cheyenne. As the northeast behavioral health organization, Colorado Access will work closely with Centennial Mental Health Center, North Range Behavioral Health and Touchstone Health Partners to increase behavioral health services access and efficacy.

This partnership enables an integrated approach to extensive care management and behavioral health services for the neighboring communities. With this addition of the northeast region to their nonprofit health plan, Colorado Access will serve the behavioral and physical health needs of more than 125,000 individuals, which also allows Medicaid recipients to get most of their services under one health plan.

“North Range Behavioral Health is excited to work with Colorado Access,” said Larry Pottorff, executive director for North Range Behavioral Health. “As we enter a new era of collaboration in eastern Colorado, we are looking forward to a long-term partnership that will enhance efforts to integrate behavioral and physical healthcare with the common goal of improving the health of our members.”

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