



# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

**8:30-10:00am**

The Alliance Membership Meeting will be recorded, and meeting highlights will be provided after.

<https://www.alliancecolorado.org/membershipmeetings>

## Today's Agenda

- 8:30am-9:00am: Alliance Government Affairs
  - [Alliance's 2024 Legislative Agenda](#)
  - 2024 Proposed Rate Increases
  - Updates from the Capitol (Emma Hudson Consulting)
- 9:00am-9:15am: Evolution of Alliance: [2024 Organizational Updates](#)
- 9:15am-9:30am: [Alliance's 2024 High Priority Work](#)
- 9:30am-10:00am: Membership Updates
  - Updates from the Alliance Board of Directors
  - Early Intervention Policy Committee
  - Host Home Rules and Safety Committee
  - Staff Updates (State and Federal)
  - Membership Discussion & Feedback Forum



# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Alliance Government Affairs Update

8:30 – 9:00am

### Alliance Government Affairs Agenda

- Alliance 2024 Legislative Agenda
- Proposed rate increases
- Emma Hudson Consulting update

### Upcoming Government Affairs Opportunities

- HCPF briefing - Dec 11 at approximately 1:30 pm
- HCPF hearing - Dec 19 at 9:00 am
- Rep. Ortiz & CCDC's Disability Legislative Preview Dec 13th 12-2 @ the Capitol - [RSVP here](#)
- Disability Rights Advocacy Day (DRAD) at the Capitol on March 7th
- IDD Day Awareness Day at the Capitol and Luncheon at the Denver Art Museum on March 20th





# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Alliance's 2024 Legislative Agenda

Governor Polis 2024-25 proposed budget: \$18.4 billion General Fund, 6% increase, and a 15% reserve.

### Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF)

- Support Governor's proposed **Base Wage increases**, as well as the policy that these increases be in addition to the common policy increase. (Proposed Base Wage: \$16.55 statewide / \$18.29 in Denver.)
  - Educate the JBC on the impact of these increases coming into effect in July when the minimum wage increases in January, and the resulting financial impact of this on providers. (Note: to change this timing, the Department would have to submit a supplemental budget request for the current state fiscal year. The annual budget cycle and the announcement of the next year's statewide minimum wage do not align to allow this to be part of the regular annual budget bill.)
- Advocate for the across-the-board, **common policy rate** for other Medicaid services be increased from the proposed 1% to at least 2%, as is proposed for other departments.
- Support the proposed **Regional Center transition** rate increase.
- Support the proposal to **increase Pediatric Behavioral Therapy rates** to 100% of the benchmark HCPF *originally* set in the MPRRAC process, rather than the amount requested in the Governor's budget (note: this benchmark was later decreased when HCPF eliminated the state of Nebraska from the sample set, claiming its higher rates as an outlier.)
- Support the proposal for 411 **DD waiver enrollments** for emergencies and transitions. Due to continuing workforce challenges and high declination rates for DD enrollments, Alliance won't ask for additional new enrollments this year unless legislators take the lead.



# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Alliance's 2024 Legislative Agenda

### Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF)

- Monitor the following proposals/discussions and educate as needed:
  - **Targeted Case Management** rates – given that the transition has just begun, we are awaiting more data and feedback on the adequacy of the TCM rate established last session.
  - New rate for the new **single assessment tool** – this tool goes live in February, and we will be seeking more input from CMAs on its adequacy.
  - Gov proposal for additional **FTE (staff) for workforce** initiatives
  - Gov proposal to provide **coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorder** in the Children's Health Plan
  - Expiration of **funding for Supported Employment training** costs
    - This is the last year of funding for provider reimbursement of the SE training requirements (ACRE certificates or CESP certification). Because the training requirements were conditional upon reimbursement, if the funding goes away, so will the training requirements. The Governor's budget does not request additional funding to continue the reimbursement. HCPF reports they are looking for solutions, so we want to monitor this carefully to make sure there are no unfunded mandates on providers.







# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Alliance's 2024 Legislative Agenda

### Department of Early Childhood (CDEC)

- Support the **\$1.1M for EI caseload increases** and the **2% provider rate increase**.
- Advocate to fund a **study on the return-on-investment** for EI in Colorado to help support funding increases in future years.
- Educate on the need to **continue workforce investment funding** beyond next year.

### Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), Division of Housing

- Ask for legislative approval to expand eligibility for Community Access Team housing vouchers, which are state-funded vouchers that were created in last year's budget. Currently, only people on the SLS waiver can access these vouchers to help them remain on the SLS waiver. Because these are new, many are going unused this year. The Housing committee recommends that people on the DD waiver who live independently and are at risk of losing their housing setting due to cost also be able to apply for these vouchers to maintain the least restrictive environment. We believe this is a no-cost item that could be approved through a budget footnote and would not require a bill.

### Bills

- Alliance does not plan to take the lead on any bills but will focus its efforts on the state budget process. As always, we will review all bills for impact on members and people with IDD and use the established GRACE review process to determine our positions on bills. Members will be able to access our bill positions on our members-only bill tracker, which will be set up closer to the beginning of session.





# FY 24-25 **Proposed** Rate Increases

**\*All rate increases shown are *proposed* in the Governor's budget and are not yet final\***

## HCBS BASE WAGE

This year, the Gov. proposes giving base wage increases *plus* the common policy increase to the following services

SERVICE CATEGORY	BASE WAGE INCR.: Outside Denver (\$16.55) (% is weighted average)	BASE WAGE INCR.: Denver (\$18.29) (% is weighted average)	Plus COMMON POLICY INCR.
Adult Day Services	6.2%	5.6%	1%
Community First Choice Services (Personal Care, Homemaker, Health Maint. Activities, CDASS, IHSS)	Vary*	Vary*	1%
Day Habilitation	4.8%	4.4%	1%
Mentorship	2.2%	2.1%	1%
Non-Med. Transp.	4.1%	3.7%	1%
Prevocational Services	5.9%	5.6%	1%
Residential Habilitation	4.4%	4.3%	1%
Respite	3.9%	3.6%	1%
Supported Employment	2.9%	2.7%	1%

\* Beginning in 2025, HCPF will align the rates for these services that currently exist across multiple waivers to create a single rate for each service within the Medicaid State Plan. We anticipate they will get the base wage increase this year.

### SOURCES

HCPF Budget Requests [R-06](#) (provider rates)

Dept. of Early Childhood Requests [R-07](#) (EI Caseload increase) & [R-08](#) (Provider Rate Increase)

## "COMMON POLICY" RATE INCREASE

Other HCBS and Medicaid Services Targeted Case Management State SLS, Family Support Services Program	1%
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----

## CASE MANAGEMENT

New Single Assessment Rates	
Initial Basic	\$260.28
Annual Reassessment Basic	\$244.31
Initial Comprehensive	\$325.36
Annual Reassessment Comprehensive	\$272.34

## EARLY INTERVENTION

2% provider rate increase  
\$1.1 million for caseload growth

## REGIONAL CENTER TRANSITIONS

Set Residential rate to replace negotiated level 7	\$350 per diem
----------------------------------------------------	----------------

## PEDIATRIC BEHAVIORAL THERAPIES

Adopt MPRRAC recommendation to bring these rates to 100% of the benchmark identified by HCPF.

# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Evolution of Alliance: Updates to Alliance's Org Chart

9:00 – 9:15am

### Evolution of Alliance Agenda

- Phase I: Governing Documents.
  - [Bylaw updates](#) (Completed)
    - ✓ Added CMAs.
    - ✓ Representative BOD.
  - Alliance Policy Updates (In Progress)
  - [NEW: Draft 2024 Alliance Org Chart](#)
- Phase II: Scope.
  - [Hire Consultants to cover draft scope of work](#) (Complete)
  - Consultants meet with staff do discuss current and future workload (In progress)
  - Consultant Timeline (In Progress)
    - November-December Education and Issue Identification
    - January- Staff Capacity, Structure, and Expertise
    - February- Development of Framework for Prioritizing and Decision Making
    - March- Articulating the Membership Value Proposition
    - April-Final Review and next steps
    - May-Make final decisions.
    - June- If needed, vote or bylaw changes or policies.



# Alliance Org Chart (2024)

11.28.23

Rep. BOD

Alliance ED  
(Overseen by Alliance BOD President)

Government Affairs  
(Overseen by GRACE)

Member Affairs  
(Overseen by BOD)

Federal Affairs  
(ANCOR Rep: Jodi)

IDD Provider  
(GRACE Co-Chair: Randy)

Early Intervention  
(EI Chair: Rob)

IDD Case Management  
(GRACE Co-Chair: Shari)

Community Engagement

Communications

Events

Professional Development

- Full ANCOR Membership**
- Alliance's ANCOR Leadership Team**
- ANCOR BOD, SAE Chair, GR Co-Chair, DEIA Leadership: Josh Rael
  - ANCOR Board of Reps (Alliance Rep.): Jodi Walters
  - ANCOR Board of Reps (Colorado Providers): Doug McNeil

- Provider Policy Committees**
- Employment Committee
  - Host Home Safety & Rules Committee
  - Housing Committee
  - Emergency Resources in the Community (ERIC) Committee
  - Data Committee (TBA)
  - Technology Committee (TBA)

- Alliance/CDEC EI Task Force**
- Open to all Alliance EI Brokers.
- Alliance EI Policy Committee**
- Small policy committee.
- EI Peer Network**
- Non-policy Community of practice meetings.
- Internal EI Committees**- as needed

- Alliance/OCL CMA Task Force**
- Open to all Alliance CMA members.
- Alliance CMA Policy Committee**
- Small policy committee.
- Case Manager Peer Network**
- Non-policy Community of practice meetings.
- Internal CMA Committees** – As needed

- External Policy Work:**
- Advocacy Policy Work
  - Legislative Interim Work
  - MPRACC
  - Rulemaking
  - Stakeholder work
- [Community Awareness Events](#)
  - [Community Communications](#) and member marketing
  - Jobs Board

- Alliance Member Portal
- Peer Network Chatrooms
- Newsletters (A-Team News, Board Beat, ANCOR's Capitol Correspondence, and Capitol Chronicles)
- GR Support (Action Alerts, talking points, bill/rule/waiver review and drafting, Etc.)

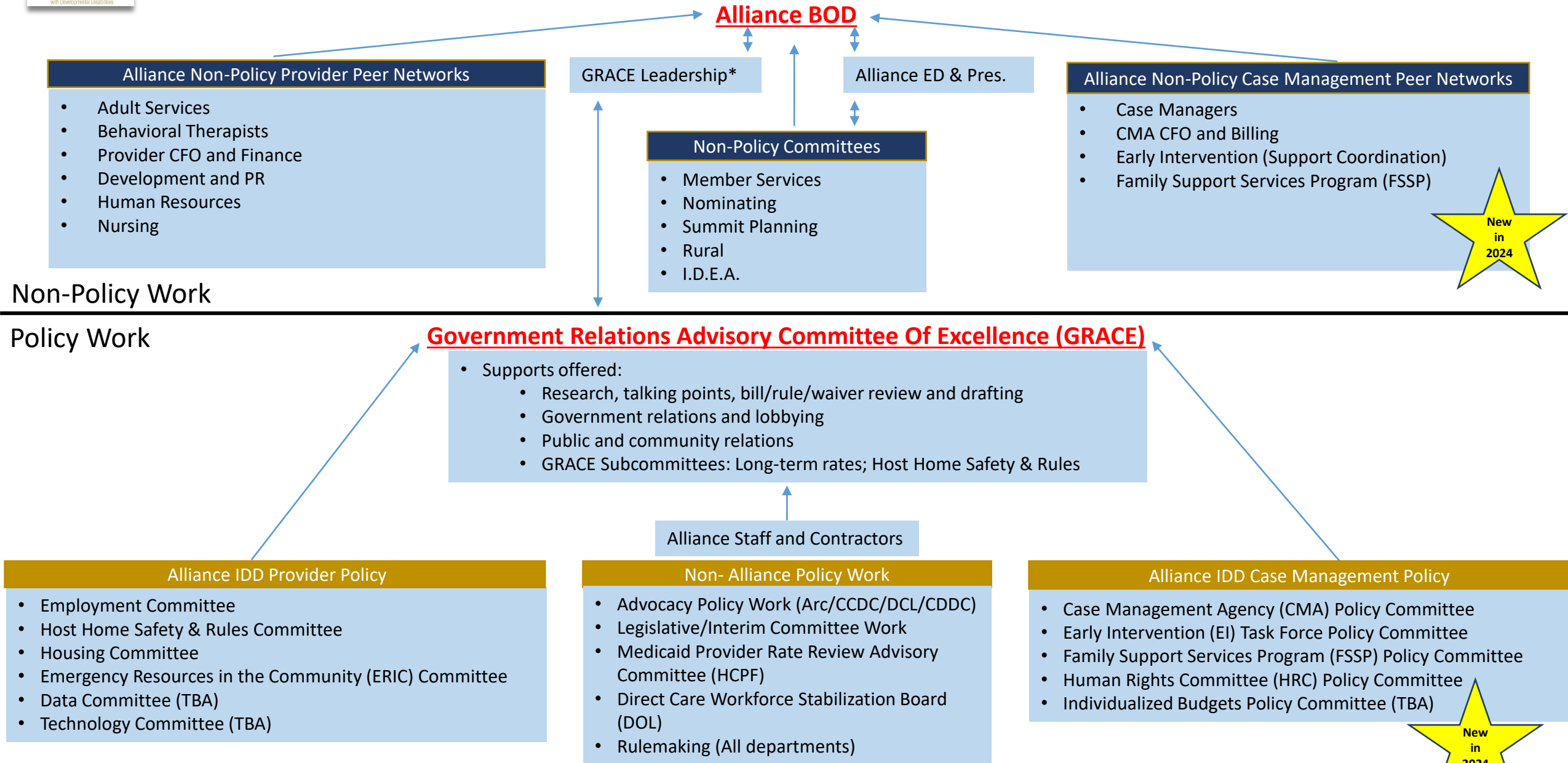
- IDD Awareness Day at the Capitol
- Conferences (Alliance, ANCOR, Six State Summit, Etc.)
- Alliance Membership Meetings and Events
- Alliance on the Road Retreat and Regional Events with Staff
- Alliance Annual Membership Meeting (May)

- Alliance State Forum
  - Alliance Peer Networks Groups
  - Alliance Membership Committees
  - I.D.E.A. Initiative
  - Webinars and Trainings
  - Alliance Staff and contractor support
- Options to consider:**
- Alliance Consulting
  - Alliance Email Subscription

Policy Work

Non-Policy Work





*\*During session or when a quick decision is needed, GRACE Leadership will work with the Alliance ED to approve an Alliance Action Item. GRACE Leadership is defined as the GR Co-Chairs (Provider/CMA/ANCOR reps) and BOD President.*



# Alliance Government Affairs Timeline

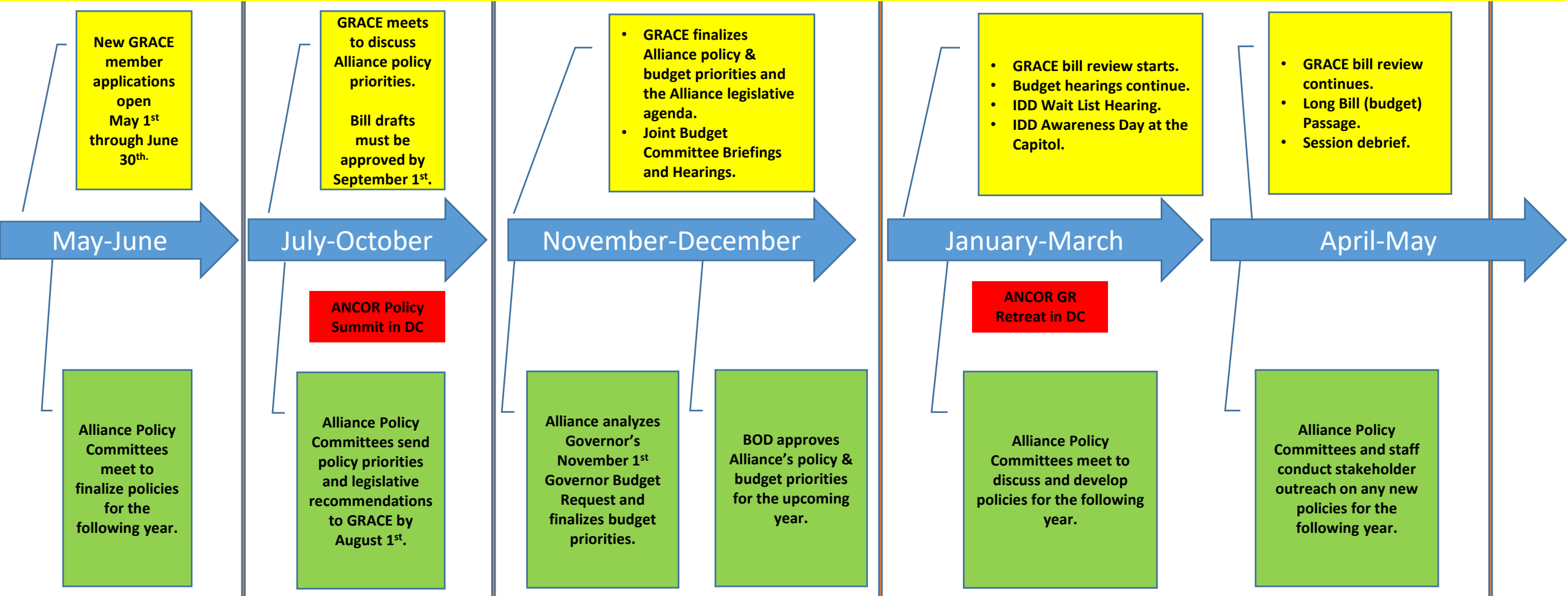
State Fiscal Year Begins (July 1<sup>st</sup>)

Legislative Budget Work Begins (Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>)

120-Day Legislative Session Begins (Early Jan.)

Legislative Session Ends (Early May)

## Government Relations Advisory Committee of Excellence (GRACE)





## Government Relations Advisory Committee Of Excellence (GRACE)

## Alliance Executive Director

### Policy

### Non-Policy

#### High Priority Public Policy Work in 2023-24

- Alliance Policy and Legislative Priorities. (Budget, Bills, and Rules.) *Status: Advocacy in progress.*
  - Rulemaking. *Status: Monitoring and reviewing CMRD Rules.*
- Host Home Safety & Rules Committee. *Status: Stakeholder process with HCPF through 2024.*
- Medicaid Provider Rate Review Advisory Committee (MPRRAC). *Status: HCBS Rates in 2024.*
- FSSP Rule Recommendations. *Status: HCPF adopted some recommendations. On pause pending CMRD.*
- Direct Care Workforce Stabilization Board. *Status: Monitoring.*
- Class B Licensure for all Personal Care in 2025. *Status: researching.*
- Statewide/rural stabilization. *Status: Meeting in January to discuss ideas and collect data.*
- CMA Administrative Relief During CMRD: *Status: CMA outreach and monitoring.*

#### Ongoing Policy Priorities in 2023-24

- Enhance system capacity for IDD services through long-term solutions
- End the DD Wait List
- Continue to implement person-centered practices

#### Alliance Policy Committees

- GRACE
  - Subcommittee: Long-Term Rates
- CMA Policy Committee
- EI Policy Committee
- Host Home Safety & Rules Committee
- Emergency Response in Communities- ERIC Committee
- Employment Committee
- Housing Committee
- CDPHE/HCPF/Alliance Relations Committee
- Family Support Services Program Committee

#### 2024 Alliance Shock Teams\*

- TBD

#### Federal/ANCOR Work

- Administrative
  - CMS Access Rule
  - DOL Overtime Rule
  - APS Rule
  - Section 504 Rule
- Legislative
  - SOC Bill
  - HCBS Relief Act

#### High Priority Non-Policy Work in 2023-24

- Evolution of Alliance Phase II: Alliance's Scope of Work/Expertise/Membership. *Status: Working with consultant.*
- CMA Membership. *Status: Meetings with CMAs/CCBs/Non-member CMAs.*
- CDPHE/HCPF/Alliance Relations (Improving the Survey Process and Communications). *Status: working with the BOD on recommendations.*

#### Membership Committees

- Membership Meetings
- Alliance State Forum
- Alliance BOD
- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility - IDEA
- Member Services
- Summit Planning
- Public Relations & Development
- Nominating

#### Alliance Peer Networks

- Adult Services
- Behavioral Therapists
- Case Managers
- CFO and Finance
- Early Intervention
- FSSP
- Development and PR
- Human Resources
- Nursing
- Rural

#### Other Alliance Membership Work

- Alliance Budget/Dues Adjustments. (March-June)
- IDD Awareness Day at the Capitol (March)
- Alliance on the Road BOD Retreat (June)
- IDD Community Awareness Sporting Events (year-round)
- Alliance Summit (August)
- A-Team News & Alliance Communications (Weekly)

\*Alliance utilizes shock teams for developing bill/policy concepts, as well as quick feedback on bills and rules during session and throughout the year.



# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## 12.06.23 BOD Updates (Celeste)



**Celeste Ewert**

Alliance Board President  
(Term Ends 6/30/24)  
& Executive Director of Envision  
(CCB)  
[cewert@envisionco.org](mailto:cewert@envisionco.org)

### Alliance BOD Agenda (12.6.23)

- **Evolution of Alliance (First 30 minutes)**
- **Member Feedback (Standing Agenda Item)**
  - General Feedback from BOD and Staff – TBD
  - Josh has hosted 17 30-min check ins with members. And he has more coming up! Are you interested in a meeting? You can request one [HERE>](#)
- **CDPHE/HCPF/Alliance Relations**
  - [MEMO: Suggested next steps from Alliance Staff](#)
- **Committee Reports**
  - [GRACE: Alliance 2024 Legislative Priorities](#)
- **Discussion Items**
  - TBA
- **Staff Updates**
  - Public Health Emergency Unwind
  - 2025-2027 Alliance Summit Contracts/Location Update
  - 2024 IDD Day at the Capitol Luncheon Venue: Denver Art Museum

# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Policy Committee Reports



### Rob DeHerrera

Alliance/OEC EI Task Force  
Chair and Executive Director  
at [Developmental Disabilities  
Resource Center](#)

[robert.deherrera@ddrcco.com](mailto:robert.deherrera@ddrcco.com)

### Early Intervention

- The Alliance EI Committee finalized the [2024 Alliance EI 2024 Legislative and Policy Agenda](#) and sent to GRACE/BOD for approval.
- In 2024, Alliance will be meeting with CDEC's CFO to discuss the following:
  - Simplification and flexibility of the EI contracting process
  - Making timely payments to EI Brokers
  - Simplification of the EI funding hierarchy
  - Establish proactive measures to track growth and workforce capacity
  - Recognition of administrative costs
  - Establish a system for measuring EI outcomes
  - Timeliness of executive contracts and contract amendments.
- Next meeting: January 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am. [DRAFT AGENDA.](#)



# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Policy Committee Reports



**Kristie Braaten,**  
**MSW**

Host Home Safety and Rules  
Committee Chairperson  
and  
Senior Director of Waiver  
Programs at [DDRC](#)

[Kristie.Braaten@ddrcco.com](mailto:Kristie.Braaten@ddrcco.com)

### Alliance Host Home Rules and Safety Committee

- HH Oversight Stakeholder group (HB 23-1197) held a second meeting November 16. Group debrief November 17
- Results of the stakeholder survey and recommendations: Onboarding and training
- Mission Analytics - Contractor to complete six (6) contracted tasks: Environmental Scan, Review of current data, support for stakeholder inquiries on special topics, Focus groups, grievance procedure, final report on stakeholder recommendations
- Meetings to resume in January 2024, every 1-2 months
- Work to be completed by June 30, 2024



# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Staff Updates: Important Upcoming Dates to Note (Kylie)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SHARE WITH STAFF:

### [Case Managers Peer Network](#)

January 8 @ 10:00 – approx. 11:30am via zoom

### [Adult Services \(PASA\) Peer Network](#)

January 9 @ 8:30 – approx. 10:00am via zoom

### [Human Resources Peer Network](#)

January 9 @ 10:00 – approx. 11:30am via zoom

### [Employment Peer Network](#)

January 9 @ 11:30am – approx. 1:00pm via zoom

### [Public Relations & Development Peer Network](#)

January 9 @ 3:00 – approx. 4:30pm via zoom

### [Nurses \(CANDD\) Peer Network](#)

January 10 @ 11:00am – approx. 12:30pm via zoom

### [CFO/Finance Peer Network](#)

January 11 @ 9:30 – approx. 11:00am via zoom

### [Rural Providers Peer Network](#)

January 11 @ 11:00am – 12:30pm via zoom

### [Early Intervention Peer Network \(non-policy\)](#)

January 11 @ 12:30 – approx. 2:00pm via zoom

### [Behavioral Therapists Peer Network](#)

January 11 @ 3:30 – approx. 5:00pm via zoom

### [FSSP \(non-policy\) Peer Network](#)

January 22 @ 2:00 – approx. 3:30pm via zoom

### [Alliance Emergency Response in Communities \(ERIC\) Committee](#)

December 12 @ 1:00 - 2:00pm via zoom

### **Alliance Office Closed**

December 22 - January 1

### Save the Dates

- [Alliance's 2024 Community Awareness Day at the Avalanche is Jan 16!](#)
- **IDD Awareness Day at the Capitol**  
March 20, 2024  
Lunch venue: Denver Art Museum
- **ANCOR Conference in Santa Fe**  
April 8-10, 2024  
Early bird pricing ends Dec 13!
- **Alliance on the Road: Weld County (in-person meetings and events)**  
June 19–20, 2024

*Remember, you can always reference the Alliance Calendar here: [www.alliancecolorado.org/alliance-calendar](http://www.alliancecolorado.org/alliance-calendar)*

*CAN Members can reference: [www.alliancecolorado.org/canmembersonly](http://www.alliancecolorado.org/canmembersonly)*



# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Staff Updates

- **State Updates**

- PHE Unwind Escalation (County) Process
- CMRD Rules

- **Federal Updates**

- Administrative

- Overtime Rule
- Nursing Home Staffing Regs (ICF Payment Transparency)
- 1915(c) Waiver and Technical Guide Updates
- 504 Regs
- APS Regs

- Legislative

- SOC Bill: Reach out to the Colorado Congressional Delegation [HERE>](#)
- HCBS Relief Act: Access ANCOR's tool [HERE>](#)

- **Other**

- Alliance Political Committee Update (Non-Alliance)  
<https://www.coiddalliance.com/>





# Alliance Membership Meeting

December 7, 2023

## Membership Discussion and Feedback Forum

- Future agenda items.
- Feedback for the Alliance BOD.
- Questions for fellow members.
- Questions for state partners.
- Feedback for staff.

