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House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee: Colorado's Regional Centers

Colorado Department of Human Services
March 25, 2014

Colorado's Regional Centers



What is the future of
Colorado's
Regional Centers?

Colorado's Regional Centers



How can we provide
the right care,
in the right setting,
at the right time?

Colorado Statutes

- **25.5-6-402 C.R.S. (2014) provide services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.** The general assembly hereby finds and declares that it is the purpose of this part 4 to provide services for persons with developmental disabilities which would foster the following goals:
- (a) To maintain eligible persons in the **most appropriate settings possible and to minimize admissions to institutions;**
- (b) To recognize the unique services requirements of persons with developmental disabilities;
- (c) **To provide optimum accessibility to various important social, habilitative, remedial, residential, and health services that are available to assist in maintaining eligible persons in the least restrictive settings;**
- (d) **To provide eligible persons who have the capacity to remain outside an institutional setting access to appropriate social, habilitative, remedial, residential, and health services, without which institutionalization would be necessary;**
- (e) To provide the most efficient and effective use of funds in the delivery of these social, habilitative, remedial, residential, and health services to eligible persons;
- (f) To coordinate, integrate, and link these social, habilitative, remedial, residential, and health services into existing community-based service delivery systems for persons with developmental disabilities

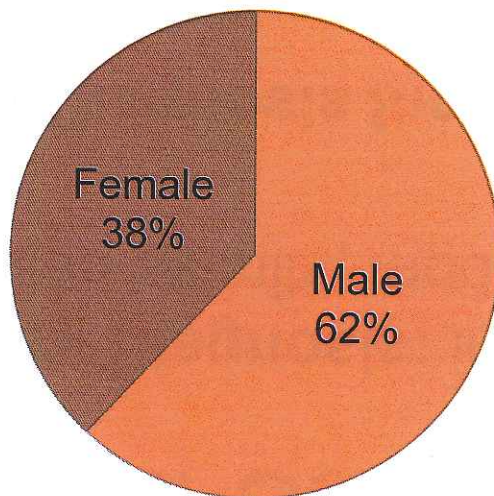
Who Do We Serve at the Regional Centers?

- **Primary Diagnosis:** intellectual/developmental disability classified as mild, moderate, severe, and profound
- **Other Diagnosis Include the Following:**
 - Paranoid Schizophrenia
 - Bi-Polar Disorder
 - Intermittent Explosive Disorder
 - Pica Behavior
 - Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
 - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
 - Tourettes Disorder
 - Impulsive Control Disorder
 - Boarderline Personality Disorder
 - Mixed Personality Disorder
 - Autism
 - Maladaptive Behavior

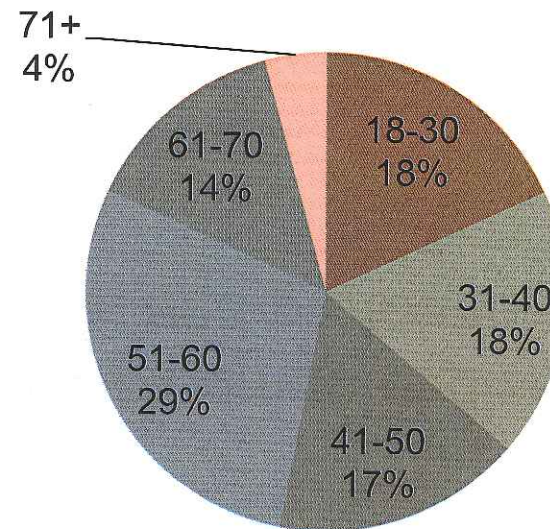
Who Do We Serve at the Regional Centers?

- **Gender:** 38% female, 62% male
- **Age Range:** 18 to 79 years old

Gender



Age Range



Who Do We Serve at the Regional Centers?

- Average Time in the Regional Centers:
 - Short Term: 249 days (.7 years)
 - Intensive: 5 years (1720 days)
 - Long Term: 26 years (9367 days)
- Shortest Length of Time at the Regional Centers: 61 days
- Longest Length of Time at the Regional Centers: 64 years

What are the Regional Centers?



	Waiver Group Homes	Intermediate Care Facility - MR
# Beds	138	180
Residential Facilities	Nearly all are 8 bed group homes	Mix of 8 bed group homes and dormitory style housing
Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with Activities of Daily Living • Continual Supervision of Client Health and Safety • Behavioral Therapy and Counseling • Vocational and Day Programming • Transportation • Nursing Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services include those provided at waiver homes • Preventive Dental and Vision Services • Physician Care • Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy • Psychiatric Care
Case Management Provider	Community Centered Boards	State

Colorado's Regional Centers

- 356 total licensed bed capacity

	Wheat Ridge	Pueblo	Grand Junction	Total
Waiver Beds	0	88	80	168
Waiver Homes	0	11	10	21
ICF/IDD Beds	142	0	46	188
ICF/IDD Homes/Dormitories	19	0	8	27

Olmstead Ruling

1999 US Supreme Court ruling concerning the care of individuals in institutions

- “Institutional placement of persons who can handle and benefit from community settings perpetuates unwarranted assumptions that persons so isolated are incapable or unworthy of participating in community life.”
- “Confinement in an institution severely diminishes the everyday life activities of individuals, including family relations, social contacts, work options, economic independence, educational advancement, and cultural enrichment.”

Olmstead Ruling: Integrated Settings

- The integration and reasonable-modifications regulations rest on two key determinations:
 - (1) Unjustified placement or retention of persons in institutions severely limits their exposure to the outside community, and therefore constitutes a form of discrimination based on disability prohibited by Title II, and
 - (2) qualifying their obligation to avoid unjustified isolation of individuals with disabilities, States can resist modifications that would fundamentally alter the nature of their services and programs.

Admission to Regional Centers



- 27-10.5-110 C.R.S. (2013). Imposition of legal disability - removal of legal right
 - (2)(b) When a petition filed pursuant to subsection (1) of this section seeks to impose a disability or to remove a legal right, related to the selection of place of abode by the person with a developmental disability, the court shall also find:
 - (I) That, based on the recent overt actions or omissions of the person subject to the petition, and because of the presence of a developmental disability, without the relief prayed for in the petition such person poses a probable threat of serious physical harm to such person or others or is unable to care for such person's own needs to the extent that such person's own life or safety is seriously threatened; and
 - (II) **That the place of abode requested in the petition is the least restrictive residential setting which is appropriate for the individual needs of the person with a developmental disability.**
 - (7) **No person shall be admitted to a regional center without a court order issued pursuant to this section except in an emergency or for the purpose of temporary respite care.**

Discharge from Regional Center



- 27-10.5-108 C.R.S. (2013). Discharge
 - (1) **A person receiving services shall be discharged from services or supports upon a determination, made pursuant to the individualized planning process, that the services or supports are no longer appropriate.** At least ten days prior to effectuation of the discharge, notification of discharge shall be given to the person receiving services, the parents or guardian of such a person who is a minor, and such person's legal guardian and authorized representative when applicable.
 - (2) When a person receiving services notifies a service agency that such person no longer wishes to receive a service or support, the person shall be discharged from such service or support unless the person is subject to a petition to impose a legal disability or to remove a legal right, filed pursuant to section 27-10.5-110 or section 25.5-10-216, C.R.S., or for whom a legal guardian has been appointed, affecting the person's ability to voluntarily terminate services or supports. The parents of the person receiving services who is a minor and such person's guardian shall be notified of the person's wish to terminate services or supports, but no minor will be discharged without the consent of the parent or legal guardian.

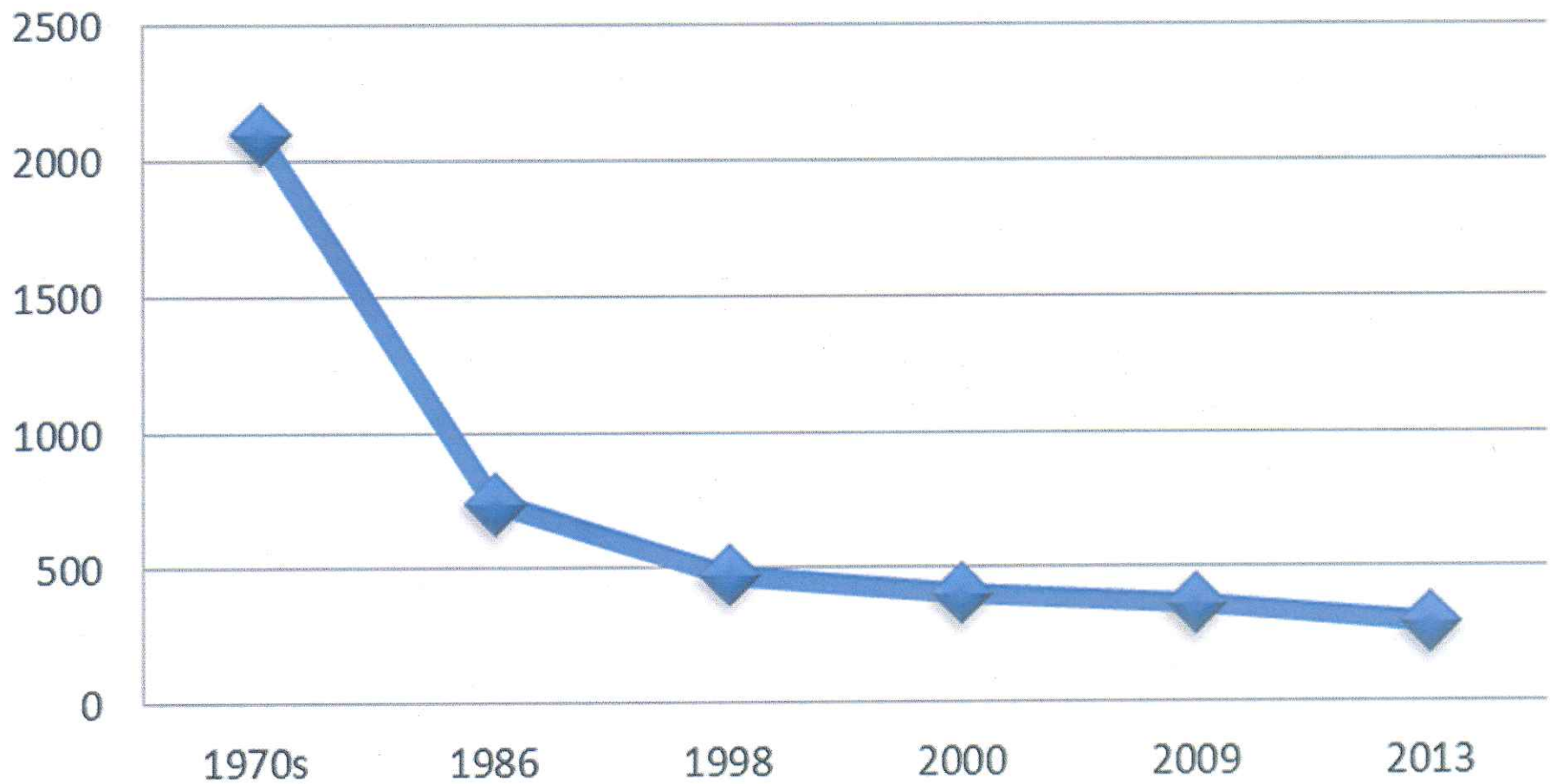
Determining Success of Transition to the Community



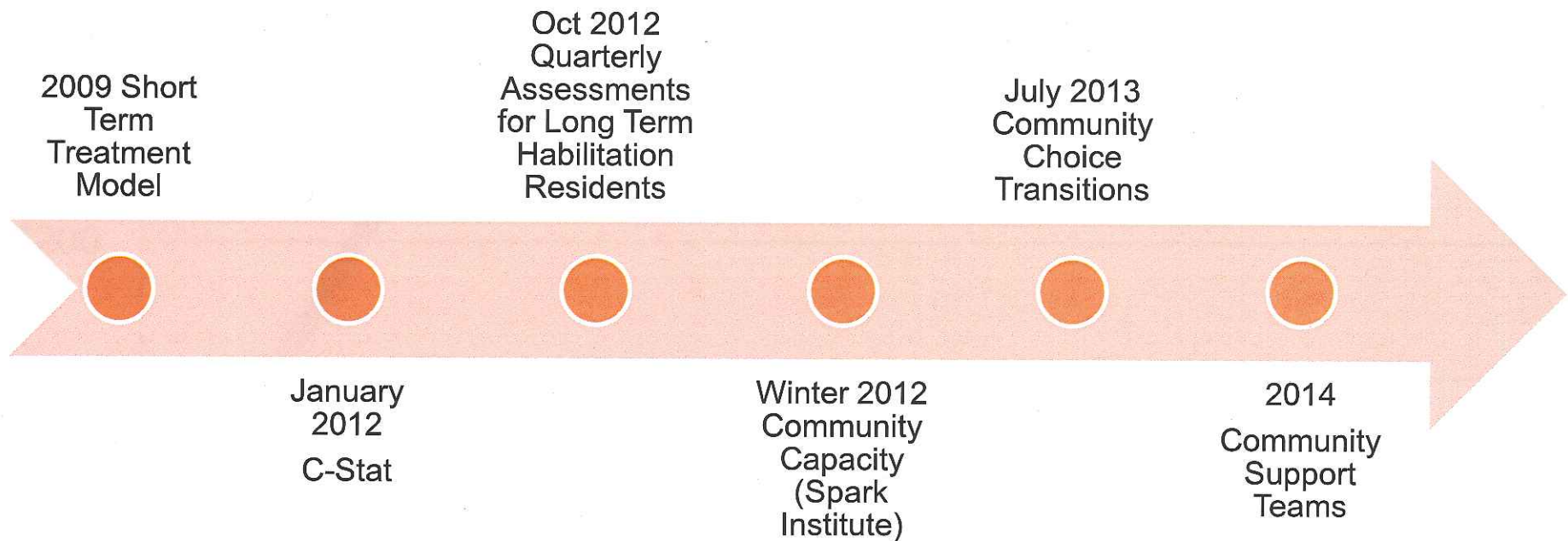
**To expand community living options for
all people with developmental disabilities**

*Department of Human Services
2014-15 Strategic Initiative
pursuant to
HB 13-1299 SMART Government Act*

Historical Population of the Regional Centers



Recent Changes at the Regional Centers



Realigning Regional Center Services

Community
Support Teams

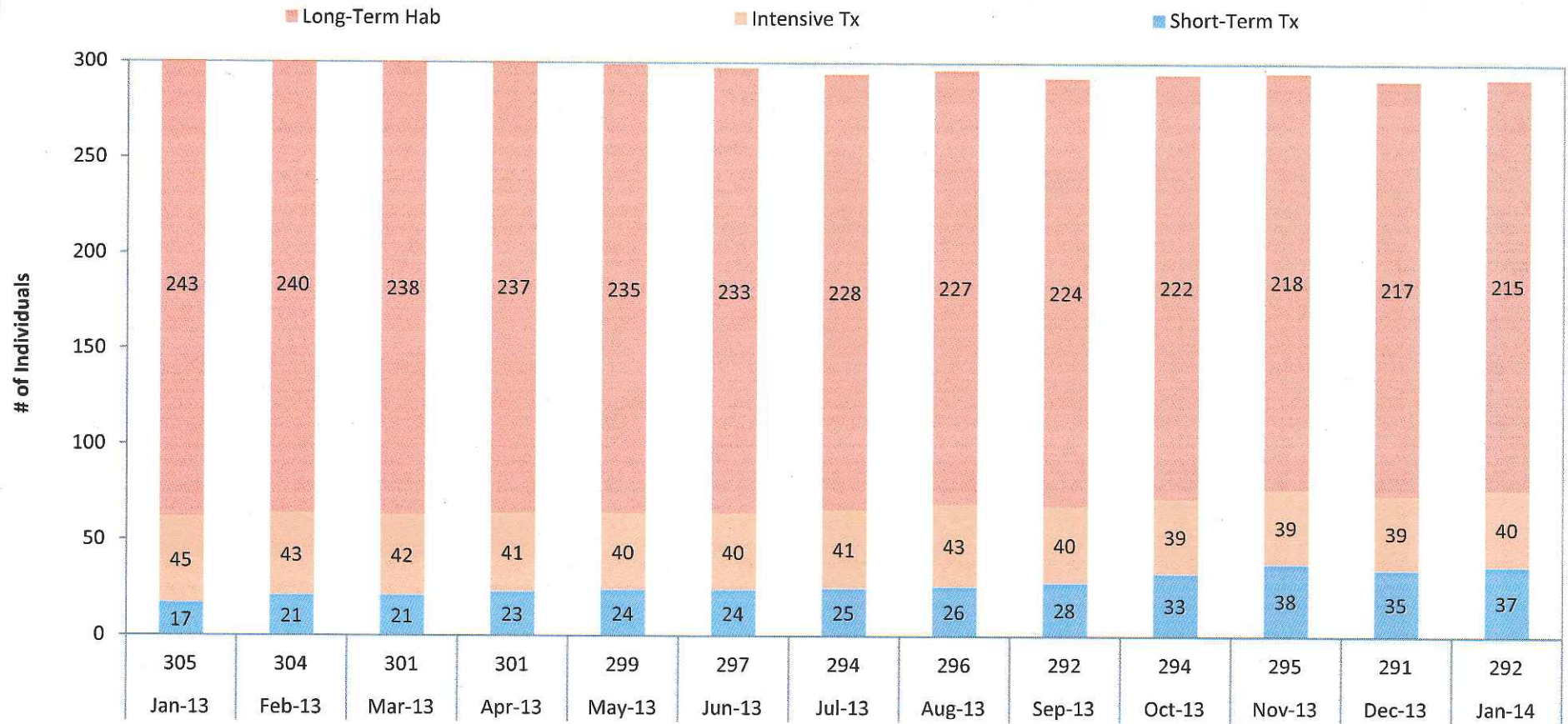
Support individuals in the community who are in need of assistance so they can live successfully in a less restrictive community setting

Ensure successful transitions from the Regional centers to a less restrictive community setting

Short Term
Treatment
Model

Provides short term treatment and stabilization with IDD and acute behavioral or medical crisis

DRCO Census by Service Model



Data through January 2014

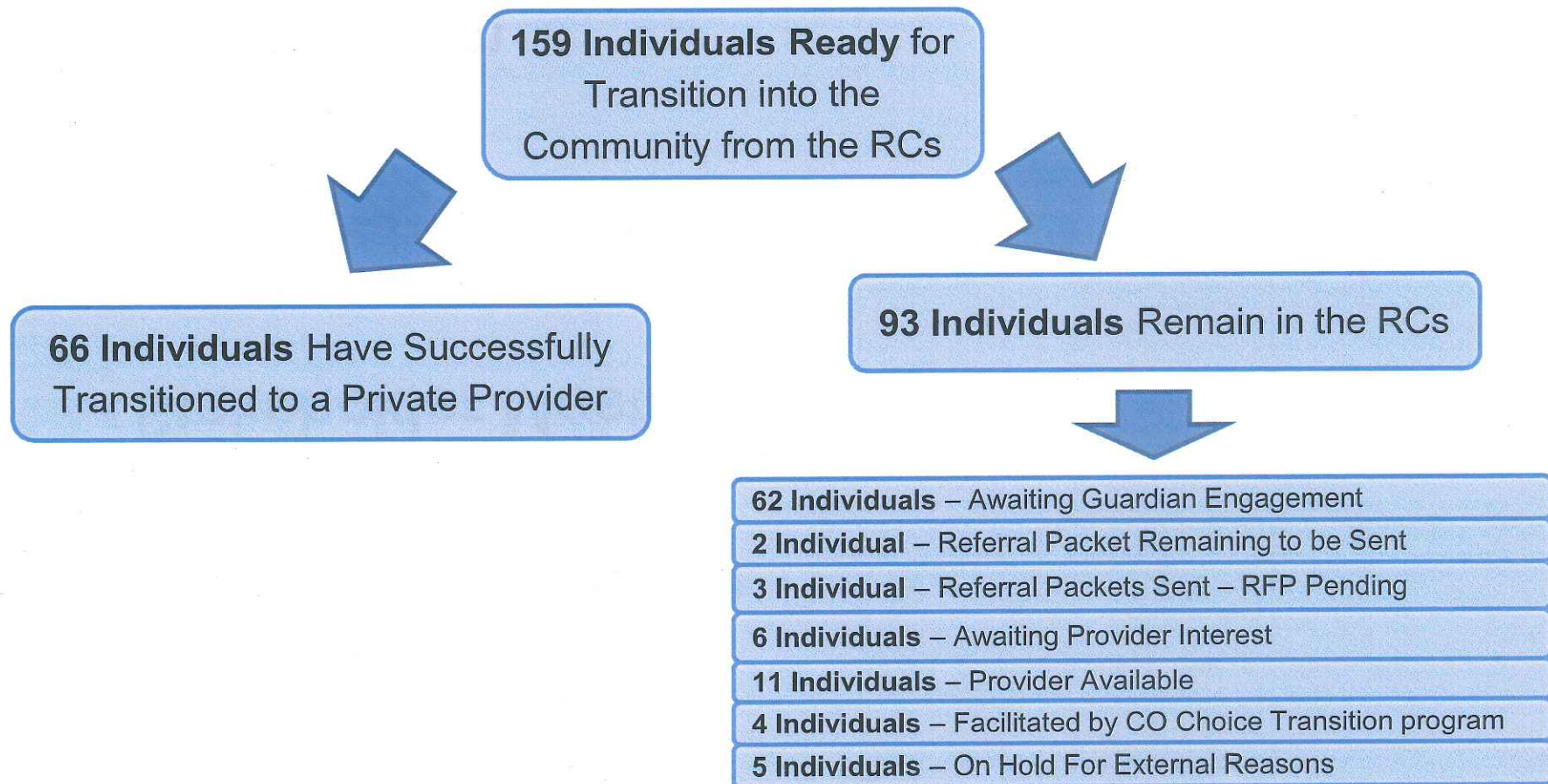
Current Capacity at Regional Centers

- Currently licensed residences:
 - 21 Waiver Homes
 - 27 ICF/IDD Homes
- Vacant residences:
 - 1 vacant waiver home at Pueblo Regional Center
 - 1 vacant waiver home at Grand Junction Regional Center
 - 3 vacant ICF homes at Grand Junction Regional Center

OSA Regional Center Audit

- Released December 9, 2013
- 11 Findings
 - DHS and HCPF agreed with all findings
- Themes:
 - Common rate methodologies between DHS and HCPF
 - Improve transition readiness assessments, process and performance monitoring related to transitioning of clients to the community
- Full implementation of all findings by July 2014

Regional Center Transitions



Data from October 2012 to January 2014

Efforts to Communicate with Stakeholders

- Spark Policy Institute
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Employee Meetings
- Online forum -
<http://regionalcentersforum.weebly.com/>

Regional Centers - Bobby King

“ I think he’s doing great, just wonderful. He really enjoys it there. He is a people person and he likes the people there.”

Bobby’s mom, Ruth Weichselbaumer



- 53 years old; 47 of those spent at the Wheat Ridge Regional Center
- Lives at Imagine!
- Bobby enjoys outings with caregivers – wants to go tobogganing
- Got to grow a beard

Regional Centers – Todd Bucher

“He has become a part of our family and has touched the lives of everyone that has worked with him” *Alexa Lanpher, Continuum of Colorado*



- 58 years old; 40 of those spent at the Grand Junction Regional Center
- Lives at Continuum of Colorado
- Todd goes on community outings, volunteers and participates in arts and crafts

Questions?



Colorado Department
of Human Services
people who help people



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