



<b>POLICY TITLE</b> <b>Domestic Violence</b>	<b>REFERENCE</b> <b>C.R.S. 26-2-716</b> <b>CDHS Volume 3.602; 3.604.2</b>
<b>POLICY NO.</b> <b>15.1000.4.17-CWP</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> <b>February 1, 2017</b>
<b>DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL</b>	<b>BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS</b> <b>ADOPTION DATE</b>

## **PURPOSE**

Domestic Violence issues may prevent an individual from engaging with the standard components of the Colorado Works Program(s). Adams County will conduct a screening and assessment and will provide specific information, materials, and services that support individuals involved in family (domestic) violence, as defined in Colorado Works program rule.

## **POLICY**

The Adams County procedure allows applicants and participants to voluntarily and confidentially self-identify as victims of family (domestic) violence, by providing multiple, safe opportunities for applicants and participants to disclose this information, and using trained staff to conduct routine assessments. Anyone receiving services through Adams Works Family Transition Services will be initially and periodically privately screened for identification of current or previous domestic violence. Self-disclosed information remains confidential, unless an immediate threat to safety or well-being is present. Adams County reserves one interview room for screening and or discussion related to domestic violence.

Adams County provides referrals to appropriate domestic violence advocacy, counseling, and support services, including but not limited to the Adams Works Domestic Violence Shelter provider, the Tri-County Health Department, law enforcement, legal aid, Brochures and other informational handouts regarding Domestic and Family Violence issues are distributed and available in English and Spanish to all Colorado Works applicants and participants. Information is located in our lobby and all common areas, and includes contact information for advocacy, shelter and education.

All Colorado Works Program(s) participants will be screened and identified using the state's **Domestic Violence Screening Tool**. Screening will occur during initial application, and be addressed again at case manager orientation and during one-on-one case management meetings.

### Waiver(s)

Adams County will involve the participant in the invocation of any waiver; the participant may accept or refuse any waiver offered. Adams County provides the following waivers for Survivors of Domestic Violence:

1. Adams County will offer an **Child Support Enforcement Domestic Violence Waiver** to participants that are identified as survivors of domestic violence and report that seeking child support services would potentially endanger their family.
2. Adams County will offer a **TANF/Colorado Works Domestic Violence Work Requirement Waiver** that will exempt program participants, who have experienced or are experiencing family violence, from Colorado Works work activities. This waiver/referral and associated services will be captured in the Road Map/IRC, and reassessed every six months.
3. Adams County will offer the **TANF/Colorado Works 60 Month Time Limit Extension Form** to participants three months prior to reaching their 60-month TANF time limit. This waiver/referral and associated services will be captured in the Road Map/IRC, and reassessed every six months.

Individuals receiving a waiver will be referred immediately to the appropriate domestic violence advocacy and support services. Individuals will also be provided information about and, if requested, enrolled in the statewide Address Confidentiality Program (ACP). Waivers will be accompanied by documentation describing the following:

1. Past, present and ongoing impact of family violence on the individual and family
2. Individual's available resources
3. Specific program/work components being engaged in as well as those waived
4. While maintaining safety of the individual as a priority maximize opportunities to engage in education, training, work, and other activities leading to family financial security

### Training

Adams County staff will receive state-sponsored training in recognizing, responding, and referring survivors and/or perpetrators of domestic violence, including associated impacts on economic independence and community resources. All staff who play a role in working with Colorado Works applicants and participants (i.e. intake, eligibility, assessment, case management, sanctioning, or workforce development) will be trained; training will be taken when hired and ongoing at least once every five years. Adams County supplements state trainings that are offered with internal trainings provided in collaboration with the local and/or state domestic violence programs or agencies.

Adams County requires that any contractor who plays a role in working with Colorado Works applicants and participants (e.g., intake, eligibility, assessment, case management, sanctioning, or workforce development) will be trained and will complete the state-sponsored domestic violence course. Certification of domestic violence training requirements will be included in all contracts for such services. Adams County will verify that each contractor's staff member has completed required trainings .

Signed by:

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Eva J. Henry, Chair, Board of Adams County Commissioners, Adams County Colorado

Date

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Adams County Workforce and Business Center Local Area Director

Date

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Adams County Human Services Department Director

Date