CBMS Updates to Stepparent Logic Project #13744

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Eligibility rules in CBMS are changing to now *allow stepparents to opt-in* to the Colorado Works program. This will allow families to determine if a stepparent, and their children, should be part of the *Assistance Unit (AU)*.

If the stepparent requests CW, the stepparent is treated as a biological parent for all eligibility purposes, including but not limited to:

- Work Program Referrals and Exemptions
- · How income is counted/disregarded
- Work Participation Rate (WPR)

CHANGES TO CBMS DATA ENTRY

If a stepparent chooses to participate in Colorado Works, eligibility workers will mark the *Requesting Assistance* radio button to *Yes* for Colorado Works on the *Case Individual Program Requested* page for the stepparent.

Scenario 1



A husband, his wife, and his biological child are applying for Colorado Works benefits after the implementation of this project. The biological father is the only one who is exercising the responsibility for his child, however all 3 of them are in the home and requesting assistance.

Results:

All 3 applicants (Husband, his child and his wife/stepmom) are considered mandatory members of the AU. If otherwise eligible all 3 members could be approved for Colorado Works benefits on the same case.

Scenario 2



A husband and wife apply for Colorado Works benefits with 2 children. Each of the children are a biological child of one of the parents. The husband and wife do not have a common child. Each parent is exercising the responsibility of their biological child. The husband is the Head of Household and all four members of the family are in the home and requesting assistance for Colorado Works.

Results:

Eligibility will be determined for all 4 members of the family as all 4 members of the family are considered part of the same AU. If otherwise eligible all 4 members could be approved for Colorado Works benefits on the same case.

Scenario 3



A husband, his wife, and his biological child are applying for Colorado Works benefits after the implementation of this project. The biological father is the only one who is exercising the responsibility for his child, and is only requesting CW for himself and his child.

Results:

The mandatory members of the AU will be the Husband and his child. (The Wife is a step parent without a common child and is opting out). If otherwise eligible, Husband and Child could be approved for Colorado Works benefits on the same case



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