

**Mill Levy Advisory Council, BCHS**

Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> 2024

5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

**ADA statement**

This document contains materials from external parties that may not be fully accessible. To request an Americans with Disability Act (ADA) accommodation, please email [ada@bouldercounty.gov](mailto:ada@bouldercounty.gov), or call 303-441-1386. [View the county's accessibility statement.](#)

**Advisory Council Members in Attendance:** Asher Johnson, Heidi Que, Lisa Slager, Teresa Greene, Annette Treufeldt-Frank, Jolie Bernstein

**Absent:** Julie Marshall

**Community Members in Attendance:** Ailsa Wonnacott, Kimberly DeGraff, Caitlin Looney

**Boulder County Employees:** *Rebecca Seiden, IDD Mill Levy Program Coordinator & Ally Joel, IDD Mill Levy Program Specialist*

**Meeting**

Meeting was held virtually through Microsoft Teams. No Public Comments were scheduled.

**Approval of Minutes**

Lisa motioned to approve October's minutes; Heidi seconded. No objections. Minutes were approved.

**Cultural Broker Program Presentation & Discussion**

*Claudia Ibarra-Arellano*

# Cultural Brokering 101

Meeting Presentation



**Claudia IbarraArellano**

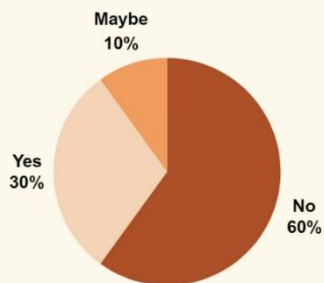
**Bilingual C.A.P Project Specialist**



**How many of you know what a cultural broker is or identify as one?**

## Community Survey

• Do you know what a cultural broker is?



• What is your definition of a cultural broker?

- Person who focuses on identifying culture issues, and facilitates this for minorities
- Providing support to families through programs
- Creating more diversity within the community
- Someone who serves as a "point of contact" for those who have a language, cultural, or other barriers.

• What are examples of Cultural Brokers in Boulder County?

- Resource Navigators
- Community leaders
- Social Workers
- Mental Health Advocates
- El Centro Amistad
- Public Schools

# The Beginning of the Cultural Broker Program



## What is a Cultural Broker?

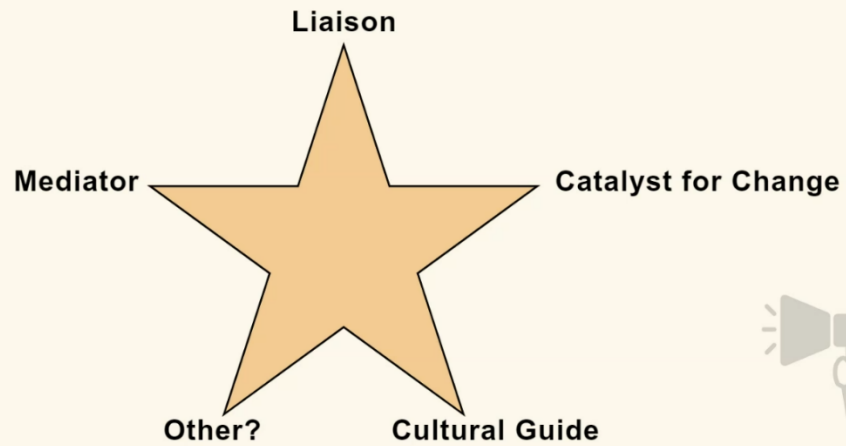
### Boulder County's Definition

“Community partners who bridge diverse cultures and reduce current or potential conflict by co-creating, with the communities they serve, innovative strategies for change in areas of mediation, resource sharing and navigation, mentorship, and the promotion of culture for civic engagement and public participation in advocacy and activism.”





# Cultural Broker's Roles



**What types of skills/traits do you think are needed to be a Cultural Broker?**

# Cultural Brokers Skills/Traits

Multicultural Experience

Cultural Humility

Resource Navigator

Advocate/Civic Engagement

Emotional Intelligence

Mentor

Social Networking

Active Listener

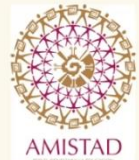
# Boulder County Cultural Brokers

## Organizations/Entities

- Boulder County Cultural Brokers
- ELPASO Movement
- Centro Amistad
- Philanthropiece Foundation
- Intercambio
- Community Foundation Boulder County

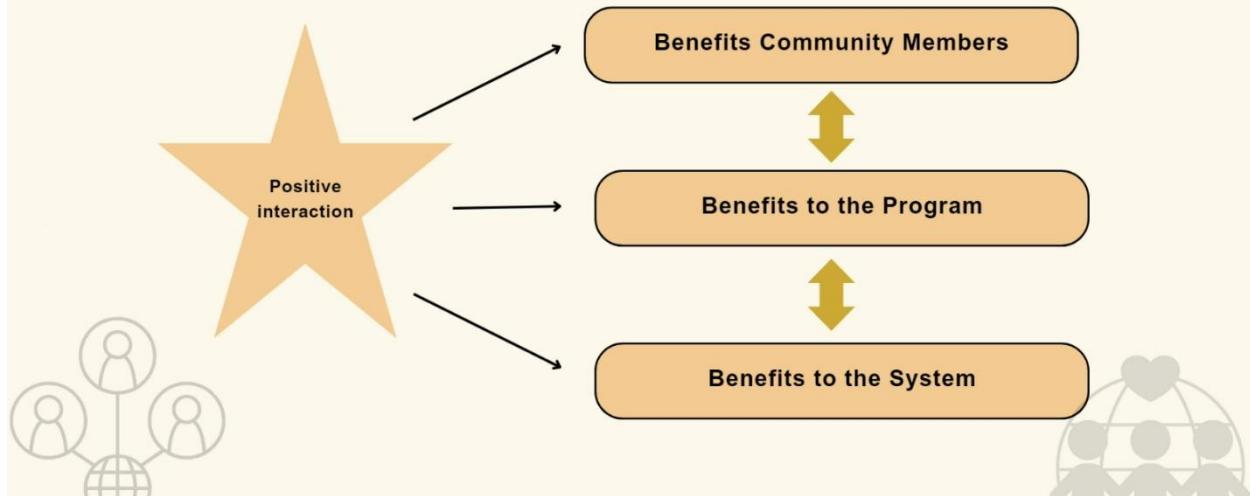
## Individuals

- Boulder County Cultural Brokers
- Boulder County Case managers
- Boulder County Social Workers
- Community Liaisons
- BVSD Teachers/Counselors
- Parent Coalitions



Ibarra-Arellano, Claudia

# Cultural Brokers are Essential



## Cultural Broker Program



- Introductory Course
- 5 Sessions
- Virtual (in-person last meeting)
- English



- Every month
- English
- Highlights community programs (Boulder county ogvernment and non-profits)




- Bi-monthly
- In-person (mostly)
- English
- Resource sharing, social networking, and engaging in the Cultural Broker Identity

- Spreads awareness via word of mouth, & flyers.
- Cultural "insider" and "outsiders" welcome - cultural brokers can be either. "Outsider" are not people with direct lived experience but who are willing to take an extra step to learn about that culture and advocate for that community.
- Training is open to just community member, and nonprofit members.

- Cultural collective members, open to BC employees as well as community members, and nonprofit members.

## Housing Data Presentation

*Rebecca Seiden, Staff Liaison*



**NEED FOR NEURO-INCLUSIVE HOUSING**  
DATA-DRIVEN DISCUSSION

Rebecca J. Seiden, IDD Mill Levy Program Coordinator  
Boulder County Human Services Community Initiative Unit

### Phone Survey

#### **Boulder County IDD Mill Levy contracted with A&I Avenues**

Contracted to complete telephone quality assurance survey to obtain information regarding client specific statistics and opinion-based criterion on personal housing goals, and funding needs/distribution in the areas of current and future habitation.

Housing Survey Sample involved 1131 potential participants.

Total number of participants totaled 313. Of those 313, 59 were Spanish speakers/readers. Those individuals were distributed a Spanish version of the same housing survey.

A&I called all residents of Boulder County that are currently on Medicaid Waivers including: Supported Living Services, Developmental Disability, Brain Injury, Elderly, Blind, and Disabled, State SLS, and persons on Children's Waivers ages 16 and above.



## Age of Person Receiving Services

16-21 years	41.69%
22-35 years	25.08%
36-49 years	16.02%
50-64 years	8.85%
65 years +	6.94%

3



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-ND

BOULDER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

## Boulder County Human Services Housing Survey

### Current Living Arrangements

Live with parents/family/friend(s)/guardians in their home	73.87%
Live in a home/apartment with roommate(s)	1.72%
Live alone in a rented apartment	9.98%
Live in a 24-hour staffed setting/group home	.73%
I am homeless	.23%
I live in a Companion Home Model	.37%
I live in a Host Home Model	8.87%
I live in a home that I own	4.93%

4

BOULDER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

## Boulder County Human Services Data from Telephone Survey

### Funding Assistance for Housing Supports

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher	14.14%
Colorado Medicaid	58.63%
DD (Developmental Disabilities) Waiver	31.08%
EBD (Elderly, Blind, and Disabled) Waiver	0.73%
BI (Brain Injury) Waiver	0.36%
SLS (Supported Living Services) Waiver	11.01%
CES (Children's Extensive Supports)	2.46%
CHCBS (Children's Home and Community Based Services)	0.12%
CMHS (Community Mental Health Supports)	0.12%
Other Medicaid Waiver	0.36%
Family Support Services Program	12.97%
Autism Spectrum Disorder Program	14.53%
Supplemental Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	14.32%
Supplemental Insurance Income (SSI)	24.25%
Financial Assistance from family/friends	4.53%

## Age of Family Member/Parent/Guardian

### Living with 65+ Caregiver

Most concerning trend identified was the topic of transition for clients currently being cared for by aging parents.

Senior Caregivers described insufficient future support for their adult children requiring arrangements for after parental/guardian/caregiver passing.

Rigors of client care are more difficult to facilitate with aging parents, guardians, caregivers in charge of all aspects of physical, behavioral, and medical care

## Boulder County Human Services Data Continued

### Desired Supports for Ideal Habitation

Live with parents/family/guardian in their home	50.54%
Live in a home or apartment with roommates	10.14%
Live alone with someone I could check in with	4.75%
Live in a group home with 24-hour staff	5.64%
Live in a skilled nursing facility	.25%
Live in a Companion or Host Home Model	14.00%
Live alone	14.56%

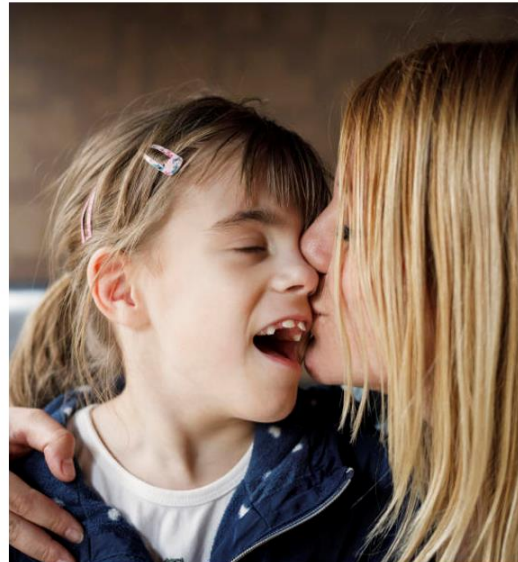
7

BOULDER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

### Obstacles Regarding Ideal Housing

I don't have the skills to live independently	51.85%
I don't have enough money	53.28%
I worry that I will be lonely	21.45%
I can't find an apartment/house	10.12%
I worry that I cannot take care of myself	21.86%
I am scared people will take advantage of me	29.10%
People don't treat me the same	9.79%
I don't know who to ask for help	8.28%
There is no transportation	11.75%
I need housing that meets physical needs (Wheelchair, bathroom accessible, open floor)	18.88%

8



This photograph is licensed under CC BY-NC

BOULDER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

**Supports Data  
from Boulder  
County  
Telephone  
Survey**

**Supports for Independent Living**

I need help during the day	27.59%
I need help during the night	14.18%
I need occasional help during awake and night hours	9.70%
I need someone to stop by my home every day for assistance	7.47%
I need someone to stop by home every few days for assistance	22.91%
I don't need someone coming to my home during the day or week for assistance	15.43%

**“Most  
Important/  
Neutral/  
Least  
Important”  
variables in  
an Ideal  
Housing  
Scenario**

	<b>Most Important</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Least Important</b>
To live in a safe neighborhood	91.58%	7.68%	.73%
To be near a bus stop	32.72%	48.23%	19.05%
To be in walking distance to retail/restaurants/leisure activities	56.27%	30.37%	13.35%
In walking distance from grocery stores	49.66%	34.76%	15.58%
In areas where you can eat with other people	37.16%	48.35%	14.48%
In a community space with on-site community activity	49.46%	20.45%	29.99%
To be close to spiritual opportunities	23.00%	42.18%	34.81%
To be close to recreational activities	48.33%	31.49%	19.83%
To have staff to help me with things like getting dressed, cleaning or cooking	56.31%	25.75%	17.93%
To be close to on-site job training/job opportunities	41.41%	30.43%	27.47%
To have access to assistive technology needed to participate in daily activities	46.75%	26.18%	27.06%
To have access to special lighting	18.29%	30.59%	51.11%
To be near parks and green areas	47.80%	40.13%	12.07%
To be near farm animals, agriculture and/or gardens	24.62%	44.11%	31.26%
To have social opportunities with others	68.15%	18.99%	12.85%
To be close to friends and family	87.97%	6.61%	5.41%
To be near my doctors/medical/therapy appointments	66.81%	22.82%	10.36%

## Spanish Speaking Participants

## Crucial Housing Needs That Are Falling Through The Cracks

Crucial housing needs in conjunction with implementation of service waiver(s), voucher(s), and necessary funding.

A percentage of respondents described housing situations that put their daily health, safety, and wellbeing at risk.

The added variable of the language barrier is making it more difficult for this portion of individuals receiving services to communicate housing issues that are immediate in nature.

## Total Waiver Enrollment by Fiscal Year

## Total Waiver Enrollment by Fiscal Year (Statewide Statistics)

Fiscal Year	BI	CCT	CES	CHCBS	CHRP	CIH	CLLI	CMHS	DD	EBD	SLS	TOTAL
FY 2020/21	667	55	2,564	2,245	201	223	223	4,235	7,317	31,189	5,393	53,601
FY 2021/22	727		2,753	2,466	293	747	206	4,336	8,122	31,682	5,462	55,173
FY 2022/23	814		3,109	2,653	329	294	186	4,373	8,416	33,005	5,157	57,646
FY 2023/24	826		3,579	2,645	392	334	170	4,279	8,673	32,984	5,225	58,401

## DD and SLS New Enrollments

### Fiscal Year 2023/24 DD and SLS New Enrollments

Waiver	July-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Total
DD	43	43	37	56	44	44	57	48	51	46	40	44	552
SLS	41	50	44	48	42	38	36	62	50	41	43	39	527
Total	84	93	81	104	86	82	93	110	101	87	83	83	1,074

## Support Levels

### Number of DD and SLS Members by Support Level Levels 1 - 7

Waiver	FY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
DD	FY 2020/21	892	1,543	1,264	1,353	1,476	1,100	280
DD	FY 2021/22	1,007	1,734	1,364	1,473	1,665	1,297	224
DD	FY 2022/23	1,011	1,752	1,396	1,486	1,753	1,432	224
DD	FY 2023/24	972	1,725	1,381	1,469	1,782	1,482	241
SLS	FY 2020/21	1,951	1,830	585	397	376	307	
SLS	FY 2021/22	1,932	1,910	603	402	387	306	
SLS	FY 2022/23	1,741	1,839	577	372	370	294	
SLS	FY 2023/24	1,741	1,880	594	377	377	300	

## Wayfinder RFP Data

Data was collected from May 2024 to present.

Wayfinder is an avenue for Case Management to coordinate care, improve service delivery, and track outcomes.

Boulder County's single entry point A&I Avenues started using Wayfinder in May 2024

- Many responses are marked as "Closed" or "Expired".
- Multiple instances of individuals being "Placed", especially in higher-level tiers (Level 3, Level 4, Level 6).
- Several cases remain "Open"
- Higher-level tiers (Level 5 and Level 6) show a mix of "Closed" and "Open" statuses.
- Level 1 tier has very few responses.
- CHRP has recorded no responses.
- No response to Group Home Requests.



15

BOULDER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

# Thank you!

Please contact me with any questions.

Rebecca J. Seiden, Boulder County Human Services, IDD Mill Levy Program  
303-817-6090 [rseiden@bouldercounty.gov](mailto:rseiden@bouldercounty.gov)



## Public Awareness Subcommittee Report Out

*Lisa Slager, Council Member, Jolie Bernstein, Council Member & Ally Joel, IDD Program Specialist*

- Submitting a request to communications to design the logo. Will present options to the IDDAC once they become available.
- **Mission Statement (revised):** Our purpose is to broaden and inform our network of community partners to increase awareness of the IDDAC and create greater opportunities for individuals with IDD/Autism/BI and their caregivers to effectively engage with Boulder County life.
- **Approach to mission:** We are committed to achieving this by prioritizing cultural equity and actively engaging new and diverse lived experiences into IDDAC spaces where programming and funding recommendations are made.
- Explore a way to refer to our population in a more concise way
- Look at integrating language developed for the IDDAC:
  - **Our mission** is to empower Boulder County residents living with Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Brain Injury, and Autism and their support networks by fostering inclusivity and promoting a compassionate community that recognizes and celebrates the uniqueness of all members of our community as valued citizens and neighbors.
  - **Our vision** is to champion equitable access for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Brain Injury, and/or Autism to have a diverse array of choices that align with their aspirations. We are dedicated to facilitating and supporting opportunities for housing, employment, health, wellness, and community inclusion, fostering an environment where everyone can pursue their goals.
  - **Our purpose** is to make informed recommendations to the Boulder County Commissioners which generates and encourages impactful investments that supports inclusivity and access for all members of our community.
  - **Our Housing mission** is to ensure individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Brain Injury, and/or Autism are included in their communities as valued neighbors and citizens through access to safe, affordable, and customized housing solutions. We are committed to a continuum that ranges from emergency housing to homeownership which fosters independence and encourages self-directed housing choices.

## **IDD Mill Levy Updates**

*Rebecca Seiden*



- Elevated Communities has decided not to renew their contract for 2025. We will be regrouping to figure out how we want to proceed with this position. We would like to complete a REIAT during the interim to help us make an informed decision on how we should proceed.
- REIAT is a racial equity tool, which stands for Racial Equity Impact Assessment Tool. It is a set of questions used to examine how a proposed policy, program, or decision might affect different racial and ethnic groups. It aims to identify and mitigate potential negative impacts on marginalized communities and promote racial equity in decision-making. We would like to begin to complete this prior to making recommendations.
- November is Native American Heritage Month. We invite everyone to use resources such as [Native-Land.ca](https://www.native-land.ca) to learn about and connect with the indigenous land we live on.
- LEAP Low-income Energy Assistance Program-LEAP is a federally funded program that helps eligible Coloradans pay a portion of their winter home heating costs. To qualify for LEAP, households must:
  - Pay home heating costs, either directly to a utility company or to a landlord as part of rent
  - Earn a maximum family household income that does not exceed 60% of the state median income (Maximum gross monthly income for 1 person=\$3,382, 2 people=\$4,423, 3 people-\$5,464, 4 people=\$6,505, 5 people=\$7,545, and 6 people-\$8,596)
  - Provide proof of lawful presences in the U.S.
  - Several ways to apply for LEAP, including: Colorado PEAK
  - Download a LEAP application in English or Spanish
  - Pick up an application at any local human services office
  - Call 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435) and LEAP will send you an application by mail
  - Applications are accepted until April 30.
- Another enrollment event for current OmniSalud enrollees will be on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at the St Vrain Community HUB from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. They are looking for Spanish speaking bilingual volunteers.

## **Working Session**

### Website updates

- More welcoming and simplified (plain) language to join meetings and committees

- Minutes posted more timely. Put meeting minutes with agenda (like end of year)
- Tabs for each priority area
- Update titles for council members
- How to join the council, more accessible access to our meetings for the community
- "How to" video on selecting language/navigating the site, include ASL interpreting
- Check to ensure all PDFs have been remediated
- Create list of documents to translate, i.e. needs assessment reports
- Update ballot language (include BI)
- Use plain language throughout
- Stock photo: currently looks like we serve children. Include an image that is more inclusive, possibly pulling from new stock photos provided by one of our partners, featuring real community members
- Include new PA logo
- Get webpage input from neurodiverse family/friends on more accessible navigation
- Navigation Resources featured in "related links" (on the right of the webpage) does not have a link back to Systems Navigation on IDDAC page. Might confuse community. Find out if we can link back to "systems navigation."
- AAC devices have set images to connect universal concepts. Look up universal images to remain consistent with what AAC users would understand.
- Legislative update/opportunities
- Use the images from the brief report to help breakup the words (see below)



### **Next Steps/Agenda Topics**

- Update on systems navigation
- Presentation from one of our community partners
- Data from Oliver Behavioral (we have that data from first session and waiting for second, is not complete yet).
- Rebecca and Ally to survey mental health practitioners to find out success of the Oliver Behavioral mental health training program.
  - Possible questions:
    - How many of the trainees have increased their Medicaid clientele?
    - How many of the trainees have increased IDD clientele?
    - Do they feel better equipped to work with IDD clientele?
    - What barriers still exist to serving IDD clientele?
    - What do practitioners need to better serve IDD clientele?

*Meeting Adjourned at 7:37 p.m.  
Minutes Submitted by Ally Joel*