



# Linked Information Network of Colorado (LINC)

## GOAL

LINC is a state collaborative that supports timely and cost-efficient research, evaluation, and analytics using integrated data across state agencies. LINC is designed to securely share data to a centralized linking hub in state government to produce anonymized datasets for approved end users. LINC development is partially supported by seed funds and staff commitment from the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab.

## CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

- Frontloads the legal and data security decisions so they aren't revisited for each use case
- Allows agencies to answer questions to improve policies and programs with cross-system data
- Limits transfer of personal identifiers to a centralized linking hub in state government
- Relieves burden on agency staff to coordinate cross-agency responses to data requests
- Relies on a fee-for-use model where agencies recoup costs associated with data contribution

## Supported by the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab

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## ANTICIPATED USE CASES

- Identifying risk factors for homelessness among youth exiting foster care
- Coordinating Early Intervention service delivery and reimbursement between Human Services and Medicaid
- Improving cross-system prevention and intervention services for substance exposed newborns (SB-19-228)
- Informing practice approaches to crossover youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems

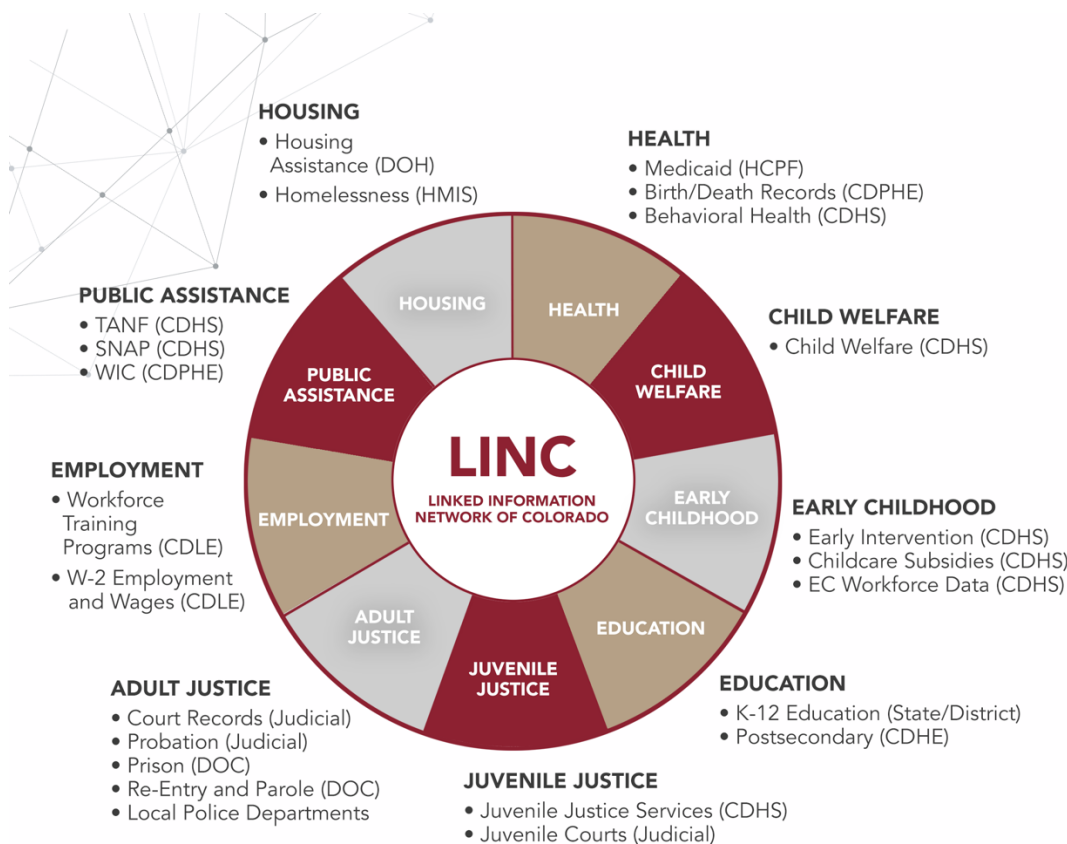
## ANTICIPATED PROGRESS BY THE END OF 2019:

- At least 5-7 government partners
- At least 2 active LINC projects
- Sustainable funding strategy identified



## LINC DESIGN

- LINC data providers maintain LINC-approved data extracts that can be reused for all approved LINC projects.
- Data are only sent to the linking hub in OIT once a project is approved.
- After data are integrated, reduced to those approved for the project, anonymized, and provided to the end user, the data in the linking hub are destroyed.
- LINC is supported by a three-tier legal framework that includes:
  1. *Enterprise Memorandum of Understanding (EMOU)*: LINC vision, mission, and governance process. The EMOU will be signed once by all participating data providers as they enter into the LINC collaboration.
  2. *Data Sharing Agreement (DSA)*: Terms and conditions for how the linking hub will secure, handle, and anonymize data for all approved LINC projects according to the requirements and expectations of the data provider. The DSA should be signed once between each data provider and OIT.
  3. *Data Use License (DUL)*: Roles and responsibilities of the end users of LINC project data. A standard DUL is used for all projects and populated with the approved project details. This is signed by the end user of each LINC project.



### FULLY ENGAGED

- Birth and Death Records (CDPHE)
- Healthcare (Medicaid) (HCPF)
- Child welfare (CDHS)
- Early Intervention (CDHS)
- Childcare subsidies (CDHS)
- EC Workforce Data (CDHS)
- TANF (CDHS)
- SNAP (CDHS)
- Postsecondary education (CDHE)
- Juvenile justice services (CDHS)
- Denver Police Department (DPD)
- W-2 Employment and Wages (CDLE)
- Workforce Training Programs (CDLE)
- WIC (CDPHE)
- Denver Metro Homelessness (HMIS)

### IN PROCESS

- Behavioral health (CDHS)
- Denver Public Schools (DPS)
- Juvenile Courts (Judicial)
- Court records (Judicial)
- Probation (Judicial)
- Prison (DOC)
- Re-entry and Parole (DOC)
- Housing assistance (DOH)

### NOT YET ENGAGED

- K-12 education (State/Non-DPS)
- Non-Denver Homelessness (HMIS)
- Non-Denver Police Departments