Larimer County Colorado Business Process Reengineering

Assistance Programs including:

- SNAP
- TANF
- Medicaid
- Adult Financial support

Kinks in the Pipes...



2004 - 2008:

- Implementation of CBMS
- No additional state/federal administrative funding
- Individual caseloads with 35+ calls/voicemails per worker per day and difficulty in covering absences

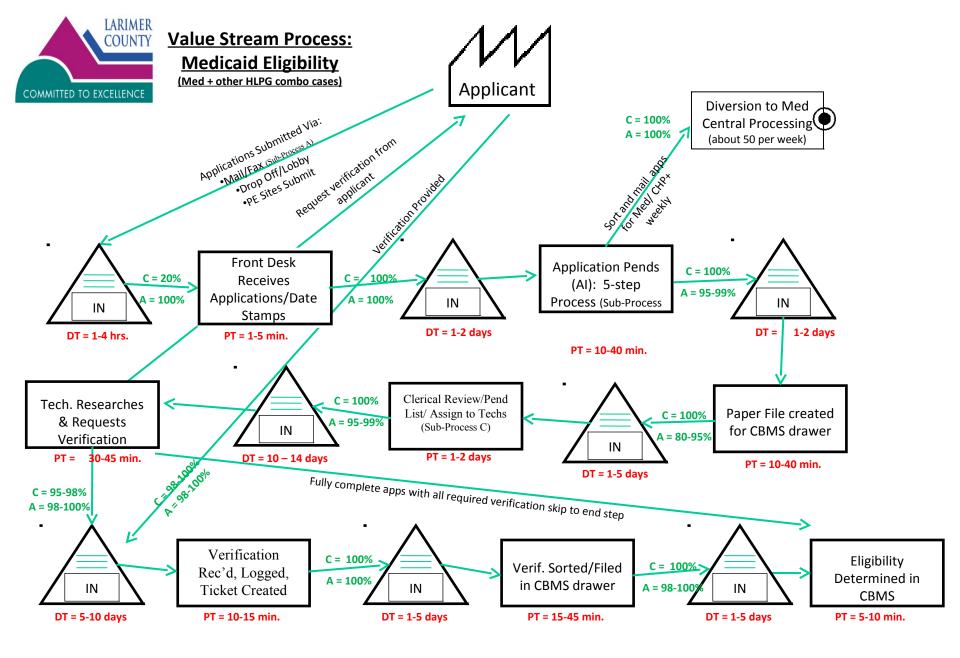
January 2008 – January 2013:

- Caseload Increases:
 - 147% in Medicaid
 - 210% in TANF
 - 212% in SNAP
- FTE has only increased from 94 to 98 eligibility staff since 2008

Business Process Analysis

Colorado Eligibility Process Improvement Collaborative (CEPIC)

- Began Sept. 2010 through HCPF (State Health Care Policy & Financing) via grant funding from the CO Health Foundation
- Received technical assistance from a Six-Sigma Black Belt and other business process experts over 8 months
- Mapped out entire process to find the kinks in the pipes
- Toughest recommendation from the experts: move from a push to a pull system for workflow
- Implementation of One Touch and Done (OTD) was a result of this process



Task Based Work

- Technicians are trained on multiple programs
- Several technicians work one large caseload
- Technicians are assigned tasks from that workload
- Processing documents in date order received
- Technicians rotate all case tasks
- Diversion from the traditional "intake" and "ongoing" processing model

Timely Processing Stats

- July 2008: 83% of new applications/54% redeterminations
- July 2013: 95% of new applications/93% redeterminations

BIC (Benefits Information Center)

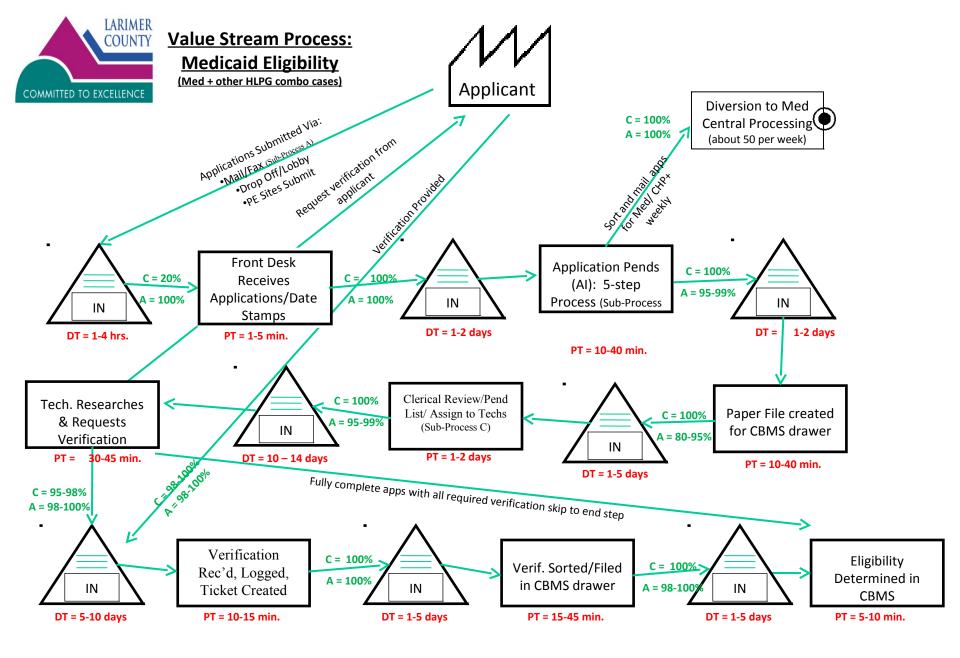
- BIC call center was implemented to serve as a central contact for calls from participants, providers, agencies and the community, staffed by trained technicians
- Technicians no longer take calls/return voicemails
- BIC staff determine immediately if the caller can be assisted within a few minutes
- BIC staff prioritize cases and determine if further research needs to occur
- Currently experiencing a 90+% first-call resolution rate
- Task-based workflow for online applications
- Interviews occur via cold calls, scheduled appointments
- Complete interviews when calls are returned and process verifications

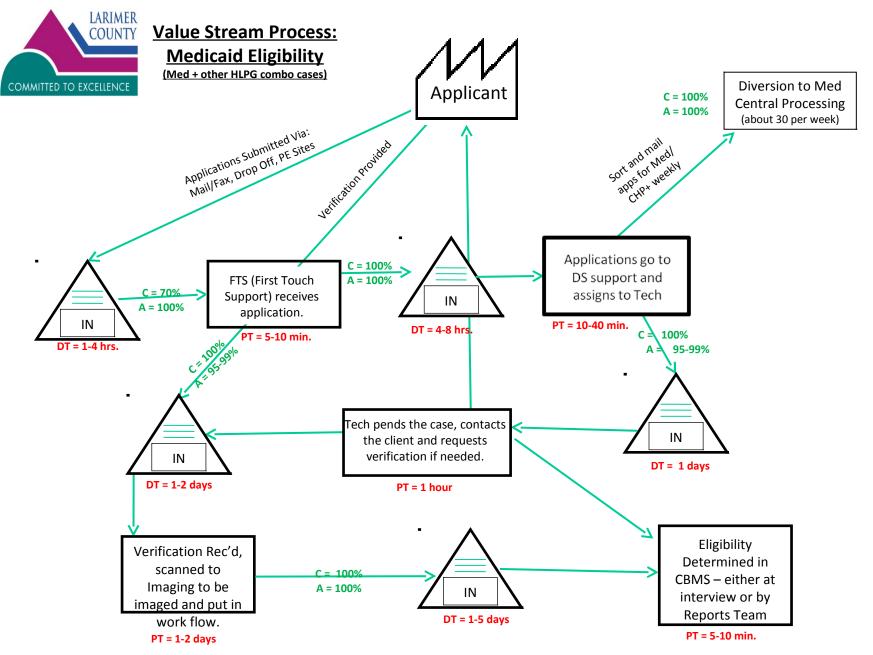


Small Scale Testing - PDSA

- PLAN It is critical to get front-line staff involved here
- DO Only for a few hours, or a few cases, keep it small
- STUDY Data, data, data (probably our toughest step in a "service" environment, we don't make widgets)
- ACT options to reconfigure and retest, to scrap the idea, or to implement permanent change to process
- Have completed nearly 50 PDSA's to date including:
 - Up-front imaging
 - Teleworking for eligibility staff
 - Staff rotation on tasks







<u>Total Maximum Processing Time – PT + DT = 10 days</u>

Moving Beyond Compliance

- Focus on days to serve, not to comply
- Empower staff
- Improve and expand teleworking
- Explore alternative work spaces
- Steal shamelessly from any agency showing emerging best practices