

**Department of Human Services  
Information Technology Committee  
Representative Mark Owens, Chairman  
September 9, 2015**

Chairman Owens, members of the Information Technology Committee, I am Jenny Witham, Director of Information Technology Services for the Department of Human Services (DHS). I appear before you to provide an update on the status of the Medicaid Systems Project and the Eligibility Systems Modernization Project.

**Medicaid Systems Project**

The scope of this project is to replace three Medicaid information systems, i.e. the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), the Pharmacy Point of Sale system, and the Decision Support System. The new system is called ND Health Enterprise MMIS. The implementation date is scheduled for October 5, 2015 and the project team is executing the final cutover activities (see [Attachment A](#)).

Over the past four months DHS and Xerox have conducted a series of provider training sessions. In May we held live training sessions in Minot, Bismarck and Fargo. Throughout May and June providers could participate in weekly provider webinars, and in August DHS conducted targeted provider training sessions based on provider type and specialty.

In addition to the provider training, DHS has executed extensive provider communication and outreach through the DHS website, direct mailings, and participation in provider workgroups and association meetings. Attached are a few of the [fact sheets](#) from the DHS website and the [August Health Enterprise Bulletin](#).

The federal compliance date for ICD-10 is October 1, 2015. All providers and payers will need to be able to submit and accept ICD-10 compliant transactions. The ND Health Enterprise MMIS is fully compliant and DHS will be processing claims with an October 1, 2015 or later date of service under the new ICD-10 code set.

### **Eligibility Systems Modernization Project**

DHS currently determines eligibility for medical assistance, children's health insurance program, cash assistance, supplemental nutrition, child care assistance and heating assistance in five separate information systems. The objective of the eligibility systems modernization project is to replace the current eligibility systems with a single integrated eligibility determination system that will meet the requirements of the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (ACA) as well as streamline the application process for program recipients and county workers.

The full project is scheduled to complete in 2017. For large project oversight reporting purposes, the project schedule and budget will be baselined into five phases, each phase representing the completion of one of the program areas identified above. Although the project will be reported in this fashion, DHS will implement the system in two major releases.

On August 18, 2015 the project Executive Steering Committee approved the baseline schedule for the first phase. This phase includes the ACA related components of the system with a projected implementation date of December 7, 2015. We have completed analysis and design and are in the process of system integration testing. User acceptance testing is

scheduled to begin in mid-October. Internal staff training will be conducted in late October and county eligibility worker training is scheduled for November.

If you have any questions, I would be happy to address them at this time.