

North Dakota Department of Human Services  
Olmstead Plan Accomplishments  
Report to the Olmstead Commission – November 2, 2007

**Money Follows the Person Grant**

In May 2007, the Department of Human Services was awarded a Money Follows the Person Demonstration Grant. This funding will allow the Department to develop a “system of transition” and is estimated to assist 110 individuals in transitioning from institutions to home or community-based settings. *See Olmstead Plan Goal Tasks 1.d., 1.e., and 3.c.*

**Technology-Dependant Waiver**

In August, the Department of Human Services received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a new, technology-dependant waiver. This waiver allows individuals who are ventilator-dependant twenty or more hours per day to receive attendant care and nurse management services in their home. *See Olmstead Plan Goal Task 1.a.3.*

**New Services Added to Home and Community-Based Waiver**

The 2007 Legislature adopted several changes to the Home and Community-Based Waiver. These changes are: the addition of home delivered meals for disabled adults under 60 years of age; an additional payment to Adult Family Foster Care providers who provide services to more than one individual; and the addition of Family Home Care for Spouses and Nurse Management Services. The waiver changes have been drafted and are expected to be implemented in early 2008. *See Olmstead Plan Goal Tasks 1.a.3. and 1.b.*

### **Qualified Service Provider (QSP) Rate Increases**

The 2007 Legislature funded a specific increase for the QSPs, in addition to the inflationary increases authorized for other providers. The increases allowed the Department to establish a fee schedule for all QSPs. As of July 1, 2007, the reimbursement rate for individual QSPs is \$3.29 and for agency QSPs is \$4.50, each per 15 minutes. *See Olmstead Plan Goal Tasks 1.b.1., and 1.b.1.a.*

### **State Funds to Providers**

Funding for services provided by Older Americans Act contract entities was increased during the 60th Legislative Assembly as part of the Department of Human Services base budget. The increased funding will support the provision of congregate and home delivered meals, outreach, health maintenance, senior companion, legal aid and other services to older persons at the local level. *See Olmstead Plan Goal Task 1.b.6.*

### **Transportation Services**

The funding of transportation services provided by Older Americans Act contract entities, which was previously co-funded by the Aging Services Division and the Department of Transportation (DOT) has been changed to be exclusively funded by the Department of Transportation. This was made possible through a cooperative agreement with DOT and the increased federal funding available to their agency. This agreement allows the Older Americans Act funds, which have not significantly increased for many years, to be dedicated to other services. *See Olmstead Plan Goal Task 2.g.*

### **Guardianship Services for Vulnerable Adults**

Guardianship services for vulnerable adults not eligible for Developmental Disabilities corporate guardianship has been implemented by the Department of Human Services, Aging Services Division. Due to the limited funds available for this service, payment is available only for the legal fees to establish a guardianship. The service is targeted to those individuals who are mentally ill, traumatic brain injured, or elderly. See *Olmstead Plan Goal Tasks 1.b.4. and 1.b.4.a.*

### **Additional Services for Tribal Members**

Title III Older Americans Act funds are now being accessed by the four Indian Reservations and the Trenton Indian Service Area. In 2007, Three Affiliated Tribes requested funds to provide congregate and home delivered meals in four communities on the Fort Berthold Reservation. The elderly in those communities had been without meals service due to a lack of tribal funds. Meals are currently being provided through a contract with the Department of Human Services, Aging Services Division. See *Olmstead Plan Goal Task 1.b.2.*

### **Information and Education**

The Senior Info-Line is in the process of enhancement and expansion, including a change in title. The web-based and telephone line service will now be called the Aging and Disability Resource Link. New brochures and posters have been developed, through the cooperative effort of the Real Choice Systems Change Rebalancing Initiative grant. A public information and media campaign is in the development stage, and additions to the database are in process. An effort to add the Qualified Service Providers to the database is in the exploration stages. See *Olmstead Plan Goal Tasks 2.b. and 2.c.*

### **Single Point of Entry**

The Department of Human Services submitted an unsolicited grant request to the Administration on Aging to establish an Aging and Disability Resource Center. Funding was not available in the federal fiscal year which ended on September 30, 2007. However, the Administration on Aging has indicated that if sufficient funding is allocated by Congress in the current fiscal year, North Dakota's application would receive top consideration. The 2006 amendments to the Older Americans Act require the Assistant Secretary for Aging to establish Aging and Disability Resource Center's in all states. *See Olmstead Plan Goal Task 2.a.*