

Department of Human Services
Information Technology Committee
Representative Corey Mock, Chairman
September 18, 2018

Chairman Mock, members of the Information Technology Committee, I am Michele Gee, Director of Economic Assistance for the Department of Human Services (DHS). I appear before you to provide a status update on the Eligibility Systems Modernization Project.

The first phase of the modernization project which included the implementation of Medicaid/CHIP eligibility determination for individuals under the Affordable Care Act went live on February 8, 2016. With this implementation, DHS provided a self-service portal for the public to apply for health benefits and an eligibility portal for county workers to determine eligibility, provide notice to applicants, interface with the Federally-Facilitated Marketplace, and transfer authorized clients to the Medicaid Management Information System for enrollment.

The second phase will incorporate the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program into the integrated system. In March 2018, the Department received approval for a nine-month extension of this phase necessary to allow for the implementation of identified change requests to ensure the correct determination of eligibility and benefits for these complex programs. Without the extension, there would have been eligibility determination errors and incorrect benefits due to missing state and federal requirements.

The scheduled release date for this phase is March 2019. The implementation of this phase will streamline the application process for these programs, allow applicants and recipients to check eligibility and report changes online and also combine the eligibility determination for these programs into one system.

The Department will continue its contract with Deloitte Consulting for the maintenance and operation of release one along with the design, development, implementation and maintenance and operation of release 2. Project staff have completed the design of necessary changes identified as part of the extension and are currently preparing for testing while the development of phase 2 is being completed.

Phase three will implement the remaining Medicaid eligibility coverages for individuals who are aged, blind and disabled and is scheduled to start analysis in October 2018 with an completion date of December 2019. A fourth phase will follow to implement the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in 2020. The Department will partner with the ND Information Technology Department to develop and implement phase 3 and 4.

Project Costs

	Phase 1 actuals	Phase 2 & 3 budget	Total
Total costs	\$49,842,739	\$108,469,338	\$158,312,077
Federal	\$38,989,872	\$83,566,782	\$122,556,654
General	\$10,703,713	\$24,902,556	\$35,606,269
Other	\$149,154		\$149,154

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