

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts: LuWanna Lawrence, Assistant Public Information Officer, 701-328-1892

PATH ND Awarded Contract to Coordinate Chafee Independent Living Program for Foster Youth

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services Children and Family Services Division has recently awarded a contract to PATH ND to coordinate the Chafee Independent Living Program, which provides services and support to foster care youth who are transitioning out of foster care into independence.

Chafee Independent Living coordinators from PATH ND will assist eligible foster youth and foster care alumni ages 16 to 21 to build personal skills in crisis management, meal preparation, and money management. They will also help youth set goals towards education and employment, while locating housing and other resources. PATH ND has hired seven Chafee Independent Living coordinators to meet the needs of foster youth across the state.

“We are pleased to be working with PATH ND who share the same goals of providing quality services and support to meet the needs of young people in foster care, so they can successfully transition to living independently,” said Tara Muhlhauser, the department’s Children and Family Services Division director.

PATH ND was awarded the contract through a formal request for proposal process. They have provided personalized treatment of foster care and family-based services for children and families throughout the state since 1994.

For more information on program eligibility for the Chafee Independent Living Program, go online to www.nd.gov/dhs/services/childfamily/fostercare/chafee.html, or call 701-328-2316, or ND Relay TTY 1-800-366-6888.

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