

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Agency Seeking Input on Children's Health Insurance Program Quality Strategy

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is seeking public comment on its draft 2011-2014 Quality Strategy for Healthy Steps, the state's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

The Quality Strategy will guide the department and the Healthy Steps vendor, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota, in their efforts to ensure safe, effective, efficient, patient-centered, timely and equitable health care coverage for children enrolled in CHIP.

"This is an opportunity for families, advocates, stakeholders and others to comment on how the program can better serve children and families," said Jodi Hulm, the department's CHIP administrator.

The draft Quality Strategy is online at <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/docs/medicaid/nd-healthy-steps-quality-strategy-2011.pdf>. It can also be obtained by calling 701-328-2323 or by e-mailing jmhulm@nd.gov.

Comments will be accepted until 4 p.m. on June 30, 2011. They can be sent to Jodi Hulm, CHIP Administrator, N.D. Department of Human Services, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250 or jmhulm@nd.gov.

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