

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For more information, contact: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892.

Public comment sought on transition from homelessness grant

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services is finalizing the annual application for the Projects for the Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) grant and invites the public to comment on the draft document.

The grant will provide \$300,000 in federal funds, and the state provides matching funds to support services for people who have a serious mental illness. Funding helps pay for 7.5 PATH coordinator positions at the department's eight regional human service centers and also helps provide one-time rent assistance, housing security deposits, and representative payee services for people who have a serious mental illness or both a serious mental illness and substance use disorder, who are homeless or at high risk of becoming homeless.

Department PATH coordinators do street outreach, provide case management services, and work closely with community partners to coordinate services and connect homeless individuals with shelter, services, and supports. They also participate in the N.D. Coalition for Homeless People and local community coalitions. In 2013, PATH coordinators provided outreach services to 1,021 homeless individuals in North Dakota.

People can view the grant application at <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/Info/pubs/docs/mhsa/path-grant.pdf>. Comments are welcome at any time and can be sent to Mr. Lauren J. Sauer, program administrator, NDDHS - Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, 1237 West Divide Ave., Ste. 1C, Bismarck, ND 58501, or lsauer@nd.gov.

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