

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
600 E. Boulevard Ave. - Dept. 325, Bismarck N.D. 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Agency seeks input on Children's Health Insurance Program Quality Strategy Plan**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is seeking public comment on its draft 2017 Quality Strategy plan for Healthy Steps Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

The Quality Strategy plan will guide the department and the Healthy Steps vendors, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota and Delta Dental of Minnesota, 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 plan is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/medical.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/medical.html). It can also be obtained by calling 701-328-2323, toll-free 800-755-2604, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888, or by e-mailing [jmhulm@nd.gov](mailto:jmhulm@nd.gov).

Comments will be accepted until noon (CST) on Jan. 3, 2017. They can be sent to the North Dakota Department of Human Services, Medical Services Division, Attn: Jodi Hulm, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250 or [jmhulm@nd.gov](mailto:jmhulm@nd.gov).

Following the completion of the public comment period, a final draft of the Quality Strategy plan will be submitted to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for approval.

CHIP provides health, dental and vision coverage to eligible North Dakota children 18 and younger who are uninsured. In State Fiscal Year 2016, the program served an average of about 2,280 children per month.

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