

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2016**

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Public comments sought on Medicaid waiver amendments

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is accepting public comments on amendments to its Medicaid 1915c waivers for children’s hospice services, home and community-based services, technology dependent services, and traditional individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities services.

The department is amending the waivers to remove the reference to inflationary increases for providers of waiver services. The increases will not be granted on July 1 as planned, because of the 4.05 percent budget allotment affecting the department and other state agencies that receive state funding.

In addition, the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services and the Traditional Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and Developmental Disabilities waivers are being amended to revise the homemaker rate methodology language and fee-for-service rate.

The changes will affect all service providers funded through the waivers, including qualified service providers.

People can view the draft waiver amendment applications at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/medical.html and www.nd.gov/dhs/services/disabilities/dd.html. Department staff will also provide copies of the draft applications upon request.

The department will accept comments and public input on the proposed waiver amendments from March 1 through March 30, 2016, at 5 p.m., Central Time.

Individuals can submit comments by emailing dhshcbs@nd.gov, calling 800-755-2604 or 701-328-4602, or Relay North Dakota TTY 800-366-6888 or 711, or faxing 701-328-4875.

People can also mail comments to the North Dakota Department of Human Services-Medical Services Division, Attn: HCBS, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, N.D., 58505 -0250.

A waiver is a program authorized by federal law that funds in-home and community-based services for individuals who qualify and meet level of care requirements and other criteria.

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