

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Human Services seeks comments on two Medicaid waivers that serve older adults and adults with physical disabilities and terminally ill children**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Aging Services Division and the Medical Services Division are accepting public comment on two separate home and community-based services Medicaid waivers that serve older adults and adults with physical disabilities and terminally ill children and youth.

The department is seeking comments on a proposed change to add community transition services to the state's home and community-based services Medicaid waiver. These services help eligible people move from nursing homes and other provider-operated living arrangements to communities of their choice. The community transition services include covering one-time moving costs and transition coordination.

Interested individuals can also provide comments on the renewal of the state's Children's Hospice Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid waiver. The waiver serves terminally ill young people ranging in age from infants to age 21 and their families by providing services and other specialized care at home while the individual also receives curative treatment. The renewal will extend the waiver for five years and will continue to provide case management services, respite, skilled nursing, hospice, palliative care, expressive therapy and grief counseling to eligible waiver participants and their families.

Both draft Medicaid waiver amendments are online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/medical.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/medical.html). Copies can also be provided upon request.

Comments will be accepted from Feb. 15, 2018 until 5 p.m. CST, on March 16, 2018.

Send comments to the Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division, Attn: HCBS, at 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250, [dhshcbs@nd.gov](mailto:dhshcbs@nd.gov), 701-328-4850, 800-755-2604, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or by fax 701-328-4875.

Waivers are agreements between the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and a state's Medicaid agency and serve specific groups of people. Waivers specify the number of participants to be served, eligibility criteria, available services, including any limits on services; and procedures for the evaluation and reevaluation of level of care. They give eligible people options if their needs can be met in their homes, and if providing services in a home and community setting is cost neutral compared to institutional services.

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