

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | August 31, 2020

Human Services hosts public input meeting Sept. 3 for Medicaid providers interested in learning about federal requirements to provide 1915(i) home and community-based respite services

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is hosting a virtual public input meeting on Thursday, Sept. 3 from noon to 1 p.m. CT for Medicaid providers and other individuals interested in learning how federally-required electronic visit verification (EVV) systems will be used for providing home and community-based behavioral health respite services.

The state's Medicaid 1915(i) State Plan amendment, once approved by the federal government, will allow North Dakota Medicaid to pay for home and community-based behavioral health services, including respite services to support children and young adults up to the age of 21 with mental health conditions, substance use disorders and/or brain injuries. Providers will use the EVV systems to electronically verify that respite services were provided to qualifying individuals in order to receive reimbursement from North Dakota Medicaid.

"We encourage all providers to attend the public input meeting to learn more about the federal requirements involved in providing respite services through the Medicaid 1915(i) State Plan amendment," said Caprice Knapp, Medical Services Division director. "The EVV systems will electronically verify, by a phone or computer-based system, that respite care is provided. It also records the actual time a provider begins and ends a service."

Individuals interested in participating in the virtual public input meeting should register online at www.behavioralhealth.nd.gov/1915i/upcoming-events. People needing accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact Nicole Berman at 701-328-8949, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or nberman@nd.gov.

Individuals can also submit comments online at www.behavioralhealth.nd.gov/1915i/upcoming-events or by mail to the North Dakota Department of Human Services, Behavioral Health Division, Attn: Nicole Berman, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0325. Comments will also be accepted by emailing nberman@nd.gov, or calling toll-free 800-755-2719, 701-328-8958 or 711 (TTY), or by fax at 701-328-8979. The deadline to comment is Oct. 5, 2020, at 5 p.m. CT.

For more information on EVV systems, visit www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/evv.html.

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