

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | January 27, 2021

Department of Human Services seeks comments on five-year renewal of state's Medicaid waiver for medically fragile children

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division is seeking public comment on a renewal of its Medicaid 1915(c) waiver for medically fragile children.

The waiver allows Medicaid to pay for services for children between the ages of three to 18 who are medically fragile. The goal of this waiver is to assist families in keeping their children home instead of having to place them in a nursing home or hospital to receive needed care.

A key change to this renewal involves adding a description of the state's new Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) system that verifies when in-home support services are provided to qualifying children. All other services remain the same.

The draft waiver can be reviewed at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/waivers.html. Copies are also available upon request.

The department will accept public comments until Feb. 25, 2021 at 5 p.m. Central Time.

Individuals can submit comments by emailing kbarchenger@nd.gov or calling 1-800-755-2604 or 711 (TTY). Comments can also be sent to the North Dakota Department of Human Services – Medical Services Division, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, N.D. 58505.

The department will submit the draft waiver to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for approval with a proposed effective date of June 1, 2021.

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

LuWanna Lawrence | 701-328-1892 | lklawrence@nd.gov
Heather Steffl | 701-328-4933 | hsteffl@nd.gov