

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | October 21, 2021

Human Services seeks recovery home providers for new program to support individuals in recovery from substance use disorders

Bismarck, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division is seeking recovery home providers to participate in a new recovery housing program that aims to support individuals who want to begin or sustain their recovery from substance use disorder in a safe and stable living environment. This housing is temporary and is meant to give individuals the resources they need to achieve long-term recovery once they transition to independent living.

"Access to safe and supportive housing is essential for individuals navigating their recovery journey," said division director Pamela Sagness.

Sagness said the division is focused now on partnering with recovery home providers in both rural and urban areas of North Dakota to build a robust program that increases access to supportive living opportunities for people in recovery.

To qualify as an eligible provider, interested recovery homes will sign a provider agreement and provide evidence-based best practices in recovery housing support as outlined in the agreement. Approved providers will be reimbursed directly for up to 12 weeks of rent for each eligible individual approved to participate in the program.

The 67th Legislative Assembly supported recovery housing funding in the department's budget.

Commenting on this investment, Senate Majority Leader Rich Wardner said, "When individuals complete a treatment program for addiction, they often seek to live in an environment that supports a lifestyle that does not include addictive substances. Recovery housing maximizes the impact of resources invested in treatment or other services."

For details on becoming a participating recovery home provider, visit www.behavioralhealth.nd.gov/recovery-housing or contact the division at 701-328-8920, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or RecoveryHousing@nd.gov.

The new recovery housing program is part of an effort to enhance the state's behavioral health system. It supports recommendations included in a North Dakota Behavioral Health Study to invest in evidence-based, culturally responsive supportive housing in rural areas. Recovery is a process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live self-directed lives, and strive to reach their full potential.

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