

Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force State Plan 2014

GOALS OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER STATE PLAN

1. Infrastructure – Build or Strengthen the System	2. Interventions - Provide the Services	3. Establish Outcomes and Measure the Results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening and Evaluation • Early Intervention • Education • Health Care • Employment • Qualified Providers • Informational Resources • Service Systems and Protocols • Family Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-service Training • In-service Training • Parent Training • Effective practices used • Services consistent across the state • Resources available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data-base on number of people with ASD living in North Dakota • Longitudinal data on progress • Data informs service delivery

1. Infrastructure – Build the System

Screening and Evaluation

Vision: All individuals in ND with suspected ASD will have access to screening and evaluation services.

Goal: Assure that individuals with suspected ASD receive an appropriate diagnosis as soon as possible.

Objectives:

1. One or more multidisciplinary diagnostic clinics will be available in each human service region.
2. All clinics will follow a diagnostic protocol established by CDC and the criteria stated in the DSM-5.
3. All screening and evaluation data from these clinics on the # of people with ASD will be consistently submitted to the ASD data base.
4. Sufficient funding to support development and ongoing operations of multidisciplinary clinics will be available.

Action Steps

1.1 Task Force will create a map, identifying the clinics currently available in each region based on- the information that is available.

1.2 The Task Force will send a letter to applicable clinics and practitioners asking them to provide the data needed to measure Objective 1.3.

1.3 The Task Force will identify a method to compile and report the data obtained from the clinics.

1.4 The Task Force will review the number of people referred, evaluations completed and the number of people waiting for diagnosis in each region.

2.1 The Task Force will solicit information in the letters from 1.2 as to tools clinics are using to make diagnoses, the composition of the clinic's multidisciplinary teams and further training desired by the clinic.

2.2 The Task Force will make recommendation to the Comprehensive Training Group to address needs addressed in 2.1.

3.1 The Task Force will review the data from the Autism database.

4.1 The Task Force will make recommendations to the legislature and Governor as to the funding levels needed to achieve objectives.

4.2 The Task Force will investigate how clinics are currently funded and other possible funding sources.

4.3 The Task Force will investigate the average cost of running a multidisciplinary clinic and the number of individuals in the database to develop a proposal for a funding projection t for baseline funding from the legislature.

Information Resources

Vision: All North Dakotans will have access to current autism service and support information

Goals: The Task Force will create a centralized location for information on ASD.

The Task Force will provide a consistent message and information on ASD

Objectives:

1. The Task Force will receive analytics from DHS on website usage.
2. The Task Force will monitor the timeliness of the information on the website.

Action Steps:

1.1 The Task Force will develop a funding request to continue and expand the conference and website, if needed.

1.2 The Task Force will support and disseminate information from a centralized source-DHS website.

2. Interventions-Provide the Services

Training, Education, and Support Services

Vision: All North Dakota families affected by ASD and will have access to training, education, and supportive services and to personnel trained to meet the needs of individuals will be available throughout the state.

Goals: To establish a model for training and provision of support services that meet the needs of diverse stakeholders.

Objectives: By the end of the biennium the task force will:

1. Identify training needs among stakeholders (parents, educators, health care providers, first responders, child care providers) for planning purposes.
2. Share the results with agencies and families statewide.
3. Identify existing training models for stakeholders that can be widely replicated throughout the state.
4. Determine if training gaps exist and encourage development of resources to address those gaps.
5. Identify methods to provide needed training incentives for non typical personnel working with individuals with ASD.
6. Identify supports that are important to families of children with ASD that help with parenting children and youth with ASD and identify the extent that these supports are available.

Action Steps:

1.1 Review current data and work with the research community to design and conduct surveys of diverse stakeholders to identify training needs.

1.2 Share the results of the surveys on the comprehensive autism website.

1.3 Request and receive a report on the status of the development by CTE for a post-secondary program for individuals with ASD that was funded through the 2013 Legislature.

- 1.4 Disseminate information on training models for stakeholders.
- 1.5 The Task Force will consider different systems for recognizing the training needs and contributions of stakeholders in supporting people with ASD.
- 1.6 Develop a working state definition of family supports for families impacted by ASD by bringing various support groups together and build a consensus towards a common definition.
- 1.7 Review data from the annual conference to identify additional training needs.

INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

Vision: Interventions and supports for people with ASD and their families are comprehensive, seamless and available in every region of the state.

Goal: People with ASD and their families and providers report being satisfied that interventions and supports are available and useful, relevant and of high quality.

Objectives: The Task Force will:

1. Identify the scope and types of services that may be available to diverse stakeholders.
2. Review and work with the research community to develop tools and surveys that will be used to measure stakeholder satisfaction with current training and services.
3. Disseminate the results statewide through the ASD website.
4. Analyze and determine strengths and gaps in services for each region in ND for planning purposes.
5. Develop and recommend new strategies that stakeholders can implement to enhance satisfaction based on the survey results.
6. Keep the legislature, Governor, and general public aware of plans and results as well as unmet needs in ND.
7. Bring diverse stakeholders together to consider satisfaction, strategies and options (distance technology).

Action Steps:

- 1.1 Create/update a list of stakeholder groups with content information.
- 2.1 Contract with agencies to design and format surveys in multiple formats.
- 2.2 Disseminate surveys with target groups throughout the state.
- 3.1 Put together media stories and personal emails to legislators and new media.
- 3.2 Analyze and compile survey results and review with constituents.

7.1 Make sure that culturally diverse groups are involved and have access to the results.

7.2 Obtain recommendations from task force members and partners that are likely to improve satisfaction.

Appropriate and Effective Practices

Vision: Evidence-based intervention services will be readily and consistently available for all ND's with ASD regardless of age, culture, socio-economic status or location within the state using a person-centered process.

Goal: Families and providers will know and implement evidence-based strategies as a matter of practice in teaching and caring for people with ASD as well as other individually-designed strategies.

Objectives:

1. Agree on a definition of evidence-based practices that provide a solid empirical basis on which to design programs and services for individuals with ASD with associated talking points.
2. Review relevant standards and guidelines used by families, educators, and providers.
3. Encourage educators, families and providers to undertake an approach that is aligned to evidence-base standards in meeting the needs of individuals with ASD.
4. Review development and implementation of autism services and supports.

Action Steps

- 1.1 Review documents and resources indicating what practices are currently used in ND.
- 1.2 Place the results of the review process by the Task Force on the ASD website and in the statewide resource booklet.
- 1.3 Review and disseminate survey data from stakeholders regarding training needs related to the use of evidence-based interventions and support.
- 1.4 Provide feedback and suggestions for updating the ASD resource booklet on an ongoing basis.
- 2.1 Receive updates on service implementation presented by departments and make comments and recommendations.
- 2.2 Receive data and information on services for people with ASD from stakeholders and make comments and recommendations.
- 2.3 Present an annual report with findings to legislators and the governor's office.
- 3.1 Support attendance at the ASD pre-conference by state legislators.

- 4.1 Receive autism waiver reports and updates.
- 4.2 Provide feedback and suggestions regarding services and waiver slots.
- 4.3 Make recommendations to the legislature and Governor's office on needed waiver funding.

3. Establish Outcomes and measure results

Vision: Autism services and supports will result in maximized potential of the whole family system using a variety of scientifically based methodologies

Goal: Assure that data is available and used to guide the services system

Objectives:

- 1. The task force will receive reports regarding the waiver, voucher, training and data base.
- 2. Task force will use the data to make recommendations for North Dakota autism services.

Action Steps:

- 1.1 Receive reports on the development and implementation of the autism data base
- 1.2 Provide feedback and suggestions on the autism data base
- 1.3 Disseminate information on longitudinal data when available
- 1.4 Utilize North Dakota data from the waiver, voucher, training, and data base to make recommendation to agencies, Legislative Assembly, and Governor's Office.