

Jack Dalrymple, Governor
Maggie D. Anderson, Executive Director

August 11, 2016

Mr. Scott Davis
ND Indian Affairs Commission
600 E Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck ND 58505

Dear Mr. Davis:

This letter is regarding the Tribal Consultation between the North Dakota Department of Human Services and the North Dakota Indian Tribes. The consultation process was established to ensure Tribal governments are included in the decision making processes when proposed changes in the Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program(s) will directly impact the North Dakota Tribes and/or their Tribal members.

Medicaid Access Monitoring Plan

The North Dakota Department of Human Services is accepting public comments on its draft Medicaid Access Monitoring Plan. The access plan will measure and track access to health care providers and services for traditional Medicaid beneficiaries, including children who participate in Health Tracks, a no-cost preventive health program for children age birth to 21 who qualify for Medicaid.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule in November 2015 requiring state Medicaid agencies to create an access plan that will review five core service categories to identify any gaps in access to care. These areas include primary care services, physician specialist services, behavioral health services, pre and post-natal childbirth services including labor and delivery, and home health services. The access plan must be submitted to CMS by October 1, 2016.

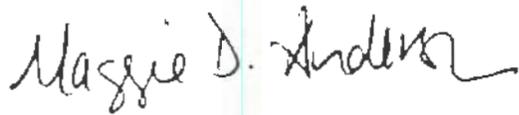
The draft Medicaid Access Monitoring Plan is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/medical.html. The department will accept comments on the draft access plan until 5 p.m., Central Time, on Friday, September 9, 2016.

Following the completion of the public comment period, a final draft of the Medicaid Access Monitoring Plan will be completed in late September and then submitted to CMS.

Please send comments, questions or concerns about the Medicaid Access Monitoring plan to Doug Boknecht at 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325, Bismarck, ND 58505. You may also send information via e-mail to Doug at dboknecht@nd.gov

The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with you to achieve the Department's mission, which is: "To provide quality, efficient, and effective human services, which improve the lives of people."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maggie D. Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Maggie D. Anderson, Executive Director
ND Department of Human Services