ABSTRACT.

Priorities. The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) proposes an attainable plan for the Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) Grant CFDA 84.371C that will lead to measurable literacy improvements for ND's learners of all ages through a greater coordination and collaboration between Early Childhood programs and public-school districts. This agenda builds on the state's progress in literacy to date and emphasizes alignment to the ND PK-12 Strategic Vision initiatives. This plan fully illustrates its commitment to achieve the goals of statewide implementation of ND's Comprehensive Literacy Instruction Plan (ND CLIP) and improvement of literacy outcomes for disadvantaged children from birth through Grade 12. In line with this commitment, this proposal meets both competitive priorities: 1) To promote literacy through evidence-based family engagement strategies, and 2) Consider innovative projects that offer choice literacy activities outside the traditional school model.

Proposed Objectives and Activities. To create the utmost impact on student achievement, ND is proposing five specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely objectives to achieve its two overall goals for the CLSD program. To support literacy development for children who have previously been underserved, the NDDPI has designed a thorough implementation and coaching support model to address structural changes in comprehensive literacy instruction that will have lasting, sustainable impact on educators.

Proposed Project Outcomes. NDDPI assures its goals and objectives will lead to sustainability, system building, and literacy gains. The quality of the project design will contribute to the ND PK-12 Strategic Vision outcomes to increase the number of students who do the following: 1) enter kindergarten prepared to learn; 2) demonstrate reading proficiency; 3) meet expected learning gains each year; 4) engage in learning; 5) graduate choice ready, and 6) achieve regardless of background or economic level (see Appendix D).