

Mission:

To provide quality, efficient and effective human services, which improve the lives of people.

Department's Role:

- Provides services that help vulnerable North Dakotans of all ages to maintain or enhance their quality of life, which may be threatened by lack of financial resources, emotional crises, disabling conditions, or an inability to protect themselves.
- Supports the provision of services and care as close to home as possible to maximize each person's independence while preserving the dignity of all individuals and respecting their constitutional and civil rights.

2001-2003 Biennium Quick Facts:

- The department employs about 2,000 employees located throughout the state.
- Eighty-four percent of the department's employees work at the human service centers, the State Hospital, or the Developmental Center.
- The department is the state's largest agency with a biennial budget of \$1.4 billion.
- Ninety-two percent of the department's current budget is for direct client services and assistance.
 - 21.0% of budget = Medicaid payments to nursing homes to care for an average of 3,721 people per month who need skilled nursing care
 - 20.0% of budget = Medicaid payments to other health care providers (doctors, hospitals, clinics, dentists, therapists, pharmacists, etc.) to serve an average of 37,718 people per month
 - 18.5% of the budget = Assistance payments including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food Stamps, heating assistance, child care assistance and other programs
 - 14.0% of the budget = Direct services provided through the eight regional human service centers, the State Hospital, and the Developmental Center
 - 12.0% of the budget = Payments to providers of services for people with developmental disabilities
 - Almost 4% of the budget = Loans, grants, bed-buyouts and other long-term care related expenditures
 - 2.5% of the budget = Home and community-based services for seniors and people with disabilities
- Eight percent of the current budget is dedicated to central office administration, rent, contract payments for client and client-related services, and supportive services such as technology.

Structure:

The department is an umbrella agency headed by an Executive Director appointed by the Governor. The department is organized into three major subdivisions consisting of Program and Policy Management, Field Services, and Managerial Support.

Field Services:

Field Services is comprised of eight human service centers located in the state's eight largest communities, the State Hospital in Jamestown, and the Developmental Center in Grafton. The State Hospital provides specialized mental health and substance abuse treatment services for individuals

Field Services continued...

whose needs exceed local resources. The Developmental Center provides specialized services for people with developmental disabilities. The human service centers provide a comprehensive array of community-based services either directly or through contracts with other service providers.

Outpatient clinical and community services include vocational rehabilitation, mental health services, developmental disability services, addiction treatment services, vulnerable adult protective services, crisis and outreach services, and other services. Human service center employees also provide direction and oversight for services offered through county social service offices and other providers.

Program and Policy Management:

Program and Policy Management is comprised of seven major programs:

- **Aging Services** (Includes information and assistance, long-term care ombudsman program, national family caregivers program, vulnerable adult protective services, and home and community-based services paid for under SPED and Expanded-SPED, and Older Americans Act services such as meals, transportation, and health screenings)
- **Child Support Enforcement** (Includes advanced parent locate services, State Disbursement Unit, New Hire Reporting, and state level enforcement activities such as tax refund intercept and other tools)
- **Children and Family Services** (Includes adoption, child protection, early childhood services, family preservation services, foster care, Head Start, and refugee assistance)
- **Disability Services** (Includes case management, family support, and other developmental disability services, vision services, and vocational rehabilitation services for clients and businesses)
- **Economic Assistance Policy** (Includes Basic Care Assistance eligibility, Child Care Assistance, Food Stamps, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Medicaid Eligibility, Quality Control, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
- **Medical Services** (Includes Basic Care Assistance, Children's Special Health Services, Healthy Steps Children's Health Insurance Program, Health Tracks and Medicaid)
- **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services** (Includes licensing, planning and research, education, and the Prevention Resource Center)

State Supervised and County Administered:

Delivering human services involves a partnership between the department, counties, and private service providers. The department is responsible for receiving and distributing funds furnished by the North Dakota Legislature and Congress. Funds are sent directly to providers, or to people who the counties determine are eligible. The department provides direction and technical assistance, sets standards, conducts training, manages the computer-based eligibility system, and provides supervision so that county employees can accurately determine eligibility and benefits.

Managerial Support Services:

The management support divisions provide supportive services so that the field and program and policy areas of the department can manage their programs and achieve program results.

- Fiscal Administration
- Human Resources
- Legal Advisory Unit
- Division of Information Technology
- Research and Statistics
- Tribal Liaison
- Public Information Specialist

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