

TRANSITION TEAM SUPPORT.

Older adults with age-related issues and adults with disabilities each have their own story. For some, the future involves returning to their homes and communities where they can enjoy the benefits of community living.

Once it is known that a Medicaid-eligible individual living in the nursing home wants to create a plan to move back to the community, they are connected with Adult and Aging Services staff who assign a trained transition coordinator. The team supports and guides individuals through nursing home discharge and transition, ensuring the individual is at the center of the decision-making process.

A transition coordinator assesses the situation, explores barriers and concerns, and evaluates options and services to provide a safe transition from facility to independent living.

The transition team also includes a housing facilitator who identifies affordable, accessible housing options and helps individuals apply for rental assistance if that is a barrier to community living.

What's more, a licensed social worker is integral in determining the level of in-home care required, such as a personal care assistant or help from a nurse educator. The social worker also advocates for the individuals involved to ensure their voice is heard and help ensure the transition process goes smoothly.

The team works collaboratively, listening to an individual's wishes to help shape the future of the person's life story so they can successfully turn the page and feel empowered and in more control of their lives.

PROVIDING SERVICES THAT SUPPORT INDEPENDENT LIVING.

As an outcome of the systems change efforts implemented to meet the requirement of the U.S. Department of Justice settlement agreement, North Dakota continues to expand and raise awareness about services available to older adults and adults with disabilities that significantly impact their ability to live independently in their homes and communities.

The mission is to empower people by providing support options that help them make informed choices that best fit their life situation. North Dakota's in-home and community-based services system for older adults and adults with disability comprises five vital stages, the third of which is transition team support.



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Health & Human Services

HUMAN IMPACT STORY: How Mark Got His Life Back After A Life-Changing Health Scare.

Mark A. Grad ended up in the hospital due to a sudden health issue that greatly impacted his mobility. After his condition stabilized, he was transferred to a care center. The doctor at the facility told Mark he would never walk again, but after working with a caring therapist, Mark's mobility steadily improved.

With assistance from Health and Human Services, Mark moved out of the care facility and into an apartment where he could live independently with support. He got help with financial paperwork, medications, and the transitioning process.



I want to reach out and give people hope. Where there's a will, there's a way. But you can't do it without support.

Mark. A. Grad, North Dakota resident

At first, Mark faced challenges. He needed help getting to the grocery store and appointments. Now, he's recovered enough to get around on his own. He's back to driving and thriving, enjoying his new life in a place he calls home.

This story is just one of many about the positive impact of home and community-based support and how it's helping transform the lives of North Dakotans.



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Health & Human Services

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