

4 NORTH DAKOTA DIVERSION EFFORTS

North Dakota created a five-stage system that assists older adults and adults with disabilities by helping them make informed choices that enhance their ability to live independently in their homes and communities.

STAGE #4 ~ DIVERSION EFFORTS:

- Provides support and services to divert individuals already living in the community away from nursing home care toward remaining in the community with the supports they need.
- The first step for individuals and family caregivers is to reach out to the Aging and Disability Resource Link information hub and intake hotline for guidance.
- The process involves gathering information and helping individuals understand what's possible while making sure they have access to the right resources that support their desire to live in the community.
- Diversion support provides the resources to pay eligible in-home providers to help with personal hygiene tasks, housework, meal preparation and more.
- In-home services can be provided by an individual, family or agency-qualified service providers who enroll with the state to provide the care.
- There are also programs that can help family caregivers find respite or receive compensation for caring for eligible family members.

DIVERSION EFFORTS ARE INTENDED FOR:

- Older adults with age-related issues
- Adults with disabilities
- Caregivers (i.e. family, friends, neighbors, community members, etc.)

NORTH DAKOTA'S DIVERSION EFFORTS ARE A MODEL OF SUCCESS :

The success of North Dakota's diversion efforts has led to greater personal empowerment, independence, and community inclusion. Since the start of the settlement agreement in December 2020, Health & Human Services has diverted 1,214 individuals away from a skilled nursing facility.

PROVIDING SERVICES CLOSER TO HOME.

The State of North Dakota and the U.S. Department of Justice reached a settlement agreement intended to expand access to home and community-based care services and enable individuals with physical disabilities to live in less restrictive home and community-based settings.

SYSTEM CHANGE BENEFITS:

- Expand and raise awareness about community-based care options available to adults with physical disabilities on Medicaid.
- Allow individuals to make informed choices about how they want to receive services that help them live as independently as possible.
- Build upon the legislative investments made and our shared goal of improving services to citizens.