

2024 Listening Sessions and ND DOJ Stakeholder Meetings Input Summary

Information Shared:

- KPI Report
- Reasonable Modification
- HCBS Update
- APRA 9817 10% Plan Extension
- DOJ SA End of Year 3 summary
- ND DOJ Dashboard
- QSP Incentive Grant update
- MFP Supplemental services
- HCBS Quality Measure Set
- Outreaching facilities lacking Transition Referrals
- MFP In-Person Stakeholder meetings
- Peer Support Listening Sessions
- Connect to Care
- QSP Portal
- Nursing Facility Presentations
- Housing Mainstream Voucher
- Transition and Diversion Services Pilot Project (TDPP) update
- Housing Initiative
- Draft Implementation Plan Year 5
- NCI-AD Survey Results
- QSP Survey
- Legislative Update

ND Stakeholder Listening Sessions

- Gaps in services and virtual service options
- On-going service needs
- Areas of focus based on QSP Survey and NCI-AD information shared
- Underutilized community resources to assist individuals with disabilities
- Under addressed barriers to community living
- QSP Survey and NCI-AD information

Community Concerns/Comments:

- The gap in services in the age group from 21 to 45 for Home and Community Based Services is from the diversion standpoint and preventing that age group from having the same population nursing home level of care and preventing them from that being institutionalized. It seems that there's a gap in self-direction in providing self-directed services for those individuals to stay in their homes.
- There is a tax break for homeowners who require the use of a wheelchair.
- A 1915(i) assistive technology amendment to the state plan would be very helpful.

- There are many barriers to services for our tribal nations and members living back home on the reservation such as; access to affordable housing, insufficient QSP services, and transportation. Many of the issues that other areas of the state are facing, we're facing probably even more so within Indian country.
- Contact local City Council, let them know what you're looking for, and ask if they will search Grant Finder to see if there's a grant that would meet your needs.
- One challenge is basic care bed holds only being 30 days. There are often residents who come to SNF for rehab and need longer time. Once the bed hold expires it becomes a long waitlist to return or have to find a new facility which is hard on them. The 30 days doesn't feel like enough and leads to longer time in a SNF.

Q & A from Stakeholder meetings:

Q: Is there any data about the transitions out of the nursing home if it keeps pace with the ones being admitted. I represent the age group of 21 to 45. Are there any numbers that you're capturing about that population, or any population, with the amount of admissions that are happening into long term care?

A: This is not captured on the dashboard however; it is possible that data could be obtained.

Q: Regarding the remaining incentive, grants that have not yet been awarded, Is there an estimated timeline as to when the awardees will be notified?

A: We are working on the contract language and will send the notifications out soon.

Q: Will there be other opportunities to apply for QSP grants?

A: We have some ideas about what we could do that would not take such a long turnaround time. If we targeted the grants toward a certain thing and that wouldn't be something that takes so long, we might be able to do something different.

Q: When there is a mandate of a two person assist instead of us doing a one to one, do we request for the modification from the state?

A: If a situation exists where normally it would be a one to one and the QSP and the provider feel the transfer can't safely be done. A modification may be requested however, the answer may not be yes. A request for modification is always very specific to the individual. However, we have approved two person assist requests in the past, so it is not an unreasonable request.

Q: We've actually served an individual now that's under the pilot program, which is a great thing that we have those funds available. What is the turnaround time for payment for the pilot program?

- A: It usually takes about a month from receipt, sometimes it takes longer if additional information is needed like verification or receipts because we're in contract with the individuals providing those services for us. The expense must be paid prior to reimbursement.
- Q: Some of the challenges of serving individuals at their end of life is that there's no clear cut policies on Hospice services concerning QSPs. What policies can be put in place or what type of training can be given to QSP for Hospice with the nurse education tasks and QSPs.
- A: That may be an opportunity for education that needs to happen, and a conversation with the Hospice agencies and QSPs to hear both sides. That's something that we can take back and maybe start a home health work group.
- Q: Are there any thoughts on how to get the cost of construction materials down?
- A: Unfortunately, that is outside the purview of something anyone in North Dakota can do. It was in the news that lumber prices went up so much I know that for a lot of the builders it's not so much lumber anymore as other things like copper, etc. Other building materials have also gone up in price and you know that's a national market that gets pretty tough. There is also a shortage of labor employers paying their people more to keep people working on their crews so that that factors in also.
- Q: There is a big need for homes for individuals with intensive medical needs that hasn't been or isn't being addressed.
- A: Agency adult foster care is already a model that allows shared living of no more than 4 people who live in a home in a residential area that they lease from the owner and receive necessary care including tasks of a medical nature.
- Q: How would someone access Opening Doors?
- A: Jennifer Henderson is the best contact. jhenderson@nd.gov. Here is info on some programs, rehab accessibility is on this link. <https://www.ndhfa.org/index.php/development/>
- Q: Is Opening Doors available to people who are not on Medicaid?
- A: Since this is the Member impact fund with no ties to federal dollars it is open to people who are not on Medicaid.

Q: Is there any focus on a short term rental assistance funding that might be committed through HIF or other avenues for rent until folks get on a voucher.

A: We can do that through the North Dakota homeless grant, this could get funded in the Governor Burgum's budget, or proposed in the financial coaching stabilization preservation so that that could potentially take over after any rapid rehousing dollars through the homeless grant was used.