

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck ND 58505-0250

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department seeks public comment on Medicaid waiver application to provide in-home and community services to medically fragile children

Bismarck, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is submitting a Medicaid waiver application to the federal government to provide home and community-based services to children with special health care needs and their families. If approved, North Dakota will be able to use federal and state Medicaid funds to provide important services to qualifying children. As part of the application process, the department invites the public to review and comment on the application by March 12.

“If the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services approves it, the waiver will help families who need long-term supports and services to care for their medically fragile children at home,” said Maggie Anderson, director of the department’s Medical Services Division.

Up to 15 children in the state could qualify for services if the waiver is approved. North Dakota’s application proposes providing in-home support, respite services, transportation, equipment and supplies, pediatric specialty services, individual and family counseling, nutritional supplements, and environmental modifications. Anderson said that eligible families would be actively involved in selecting and directing the services they receive.

The application is online at <http://www.nd.gov/humanservices/info/pubs/1915c-med-fragile-children-hcbs-waiver-application.html> and can also be obtained by calling 701-328-8935 or e-mailing soperc@nd.gov.

The **public comment period ends March 12, 2007**, at 5 p.m. Central Time. Submit written comments via e-mail to soperc@nd.gov or mail to the North Dakota Department of Human Services - Disability Services Division, Attn: Colette Perkins, 1237 W Divide Ave, Suite 1A, Bismarck, ND 58501.

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