

North Dakota Behavioral Health Plan

*with North Dakota Behavioral Health Planning Council
& Human Services Research Institute*



Partners & Purpose

Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) supports the North Dakota Behavioral Health Planning Council (BHPC) and works with service users and families, advocates, providers, administrators, and other North Dakotans to **engage in ongoing system monitoring, planning, and improvements.**



Vision of the Behavioral Health Planning Council

We aspire to a North Dakota where behavioral health is recognized as essential to well-being across the entire lifespan. From childhood through older adulthood, every person is valued and supported through a full continuum of care—delivered at the right time, in the right place, in the right way, and by the right people. Through these services, North Dakotans can thrive—living meaningful, productive, and healthy lives, free from stigma or shame, and sustained by caring, resilient communities.



Behavioral Health System Study

HSRI and the North Dakota Department of Human Services Behavioral Health Division conducted an analysis of the state's behavioral health system, including service use and expenses. The [final report](#) details the findings and provides recommendations.



Plan

Building on the study recommendations, we identify priority goals within each of 13 aims and establish implementation strategies to enhance the comprehensiveness, integration, cost-effectiveness, and recovery orientation of the behavioral health system to meet the community's needs.

Aims

- 1 Develop and implement a comprehensive strategic plan
- 2 Invest in prevention and early intervention
- 3 Ensure all North Dakotans have timely access to behavioral health services
- 4 Expand outpatient and community-based service array for adults
- 5 Expand and enhance the outpatient and community-based service array for children, youth, and families
- 6 Strengthen diversion and reentry practices through cross-system collaboration
- 7 Engage in targeted efforts to recruit and retain a qualified and competent behavioral health workforce
- 8 Increase access and improve outcomes for rural populations
- 9 Ensure the system reflects its values through person-centered and trauma-informed practices and ensuring access for all
- 10 Encourage and support communities to share responsibility with the state for promoting high-quality services
- 11 Partner with Tribal nations to increase access and improve outcomes for American Indian populations
- 12 Diversify and enhance funding for behavioral health
- 13 Conduct ongoing, system-wide, data-driven monitoring of need and access



www.hsri.org/nd-plan