

July 21, 2026

Dear Community Partners,

The North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Behavioral Health Division is notifying community partners that, effective immediately, HHS has implemented a moratorium on the enrollment of new providers for the Community Connect and Free Through Recovery (FTR) programs in regions five and seven.

Following an evaluation, HHS has determined that the existing provider networks in these regions have sufficient capacity to meet current program needs. We will not accept or approve new provider enrollment applications for Community Connect or Free Through Recovery in regions five and seven while this moratorium is in effect.

This decision is intended to:

- Promote the sustainability of the existing provider network
- Ensure responsible stewardship of public resources
- Allow HHS to focus on provider quality, technical assistance, and program oversight

This moratorium applies only to the enrollment of **new providers** in regions five and seven. Current contracted providers will continue delivering services under their existing agreements.

The Behavioral Health Division will periodically review provider capacity, referral activity, participant access, and service demand. Should future conditions indicate a need for additional provider capacity, HHS may lift or modify this moratorium.

We recognize and appreciate the continued interest from organizations seeking to provide Community Connect and Free Through Recovery services. Organizations interested in serving these programs in other regions of the state can contact the Behavioral Health Division at 701-328-8920.

Questions regarding this moratorium may also be directed to the Behavioral Health Division at 701-328-8920.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to supporting North Dakotans.

Sincerely,

North Dakota Health and Human Services
Behavioral Health Division

Behavioral Health Division
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