

NORTH DAKOTA
CHILDREN'S CABINET
SUBCOMMITTEE

CROSS-SYSTEM
CONVENING

CROSS-SYSTEMS
SOLUTIONS FOR
CHILDREN WITH
SIGNIFICANT
BEHAVIORAL/PSYCHIATRIC
NEEDS (1556)



DESIRED OUTCOMES OF THIS CONVENING

A common definition for youth with unmet, complex needs.

Rough estimates of the numbers of child that fit this definition.

What successful resources are currently used to support youth with unmet, complex needs.

What specific type of resources are not currently available/accessible?

How could various systems collaborate better in a child-centric, family-focused, no wrong-door model?



NORTH DAKOTA CHILDREN'S CABINET VALUES, VISION & MISSION

- **VALUES:**
- **360 COMMUNICATION:** The Children's Cabinet will engage in open, honest and meaningful communication that leads to positive results for all children and families.
- **Optimism:** The Children's Cabinet will be solutions-based, adopting a can-do attitude while avoiding the impulse to admire the problem.
- **Accountability:** The Children's Cabinet accepts clear accountability for leadership and allows all members to know their role and responsibility while sharing a common vision.

A silhouette of a bison standing in a field, facing right. The background is a dark, cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

NORTH DAKOTA CHILDREN'S CABINET VALUES, VISION & MISSION

- **Vision:** The North Dakota Children's Cabinet ensures that all children are prepared and successful, equipped with the skills, knowledge, and resilience to thrive in an ever-changing world.
- **Mission:** The North Dakota Children's Cabinet collaborates to elevate what works and drive towards a seamless network of services and supports that meet the needs of every child and family.

NORTH DAKOTA CHILDREN'S CABINET STRATEGIC GOALS



Goal #1

Strengthen foundational elements of the North Dakota Children's Cabinet through the development and communication of a strategic plan by Fall 2025.

Goal #2

Define, measure and report out on the status of child well-being in North Dakota by June 2026.

Goal #3

Identify and elevate promising practices to advance a seamless network of services and supports throughout North Dakota by August 2026.

1556 CALL TO ACTION

- **SECTION 4. CHILDREN'S CABINET - WORKGROUP - OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT OR TREATMENT OF CHILDREN WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUES - REPORT.**
- 1. During the 2025-26 interim, the children's cabinet *shall establish a workgroup to study the out-of-home placement or treatment of children with serious behavioral health issues.* The study must include consideration of children who also are involved in juvenile court proceedings due to criminal activity.
- 2. The workgroup *shall develop and implement a system of care for children with serious behavioral health issues, who may be involved in juvenile court proceedings due to criminal activity, and who are in need of out-of-home placement or treatment.*

1556 CALL TO ACTION

- **SECTION 4. CHILDREN'S CABINET - WORKGROUP - OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT OR TREATMENT OF CHILDREN WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUES - REPORT.**
- 3. The workgroup must be led by a consultant with expertise in navigating and managing the intersecting systems involved in the out-of-home placement and treatment processes for children with serious behavioral health issues and children involved in juvenile court proceedings due to criminal activity.
- 4. The workgroup shall provide bimonthly reports to the children's cabinet on the assessment of needs, resources, challenges, options, and solutions.

GUIDING VALUES

- Child centered, family-focused
- Trauma-informed, Healing-Focused
- Culturally sensitive
- No wrong doors
- Cross-systems alignment to reduce silos & increase flexibility
- State supported, locally driven, shared responsibility
- Building structures for local problem solving

NEXT STEPS

- Refine and Shorten the definition of youth with complex unmet needs
- Submit notes to various systems leaders on areas that may touch their arenas
- Review information from other related work groups to improve alignment
- Consider possible data sources.
- Regional Meetings
 - Leadership meetings with local regional team leaders on emerging issues
 - Regional meetings to be convened locally and provide feedback to CC
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