

August 15, 2025

Dear Tribal Partners:

This letter is regarding the Tribal Consultation between the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services and the North Dakota Indian Tribes. The consultation process was established to ensure Tribal governments are included in the decision-making processes when proposed changes in the Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program(s) will directly impact the North Dakota Tribes and/or their Tribal Members.

Community Health Workers

Effective on October 1, 2025, North Dakota Medicaid will add Community Health Workers (CHWs) as eligible Medicaid providers. Community Health Representatives (CHRs) will be eligible to be certified as CHWs with Public Health and enroll as CHWs with ND Medicaid. The training CHRs receive through Indian Health Services will count for CHW training certification.

Community Paramedics and Community Emergency Medical Technicians

Effective on October 1, 2025, North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting a State Plan Amendment to add Community Paramedics and Community Emergency Medical Technicians as eligible Medicaid providers.

Medicaid Expansion / Alternative Benefit Plans for Members

Effective on or after October 1, 2025, North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting State Plan Amendments to the Alternative Benefit Plans (ABPs) for both the 19–20-year-olds and the 21–64-year-olds to add CHWs, Community Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians as eligible Medicaid providers.

These changes have the potential to increase access to culturally appropriate care, expand provider options within Tribal health programs, and improve health outcomes for Tribal members by supporting trusted community-based care.

Please send comments, questions or concerns about the proposed State Plan Amendments to:

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
Attn: Monique Runnels
Medical Services Division
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325
Bismarck, ND 58505
Fax: 701-328-1544
E-mail: mrunnels@nd.gov

MEDICAL SERVICES

600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 325 | Bismarck ND 58505-0250

Input will be accepted through 12 PM, Central Time, Monday, September 15, 2025.

The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with tribal partners to support health and advance the foundations of well-being for North Dakota Medicaid members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Aker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sarah" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Aker".

Sarah Aker
Executive Director
Medical Services Division
North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services