

ND System of Care Grant

September 30, 2022 - September 30, 2026

Overview

The North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services' Behavioral Health Division was one of six states to be awarded **\$3 million** per year for 4 years by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration as part of the System of Care Expansion and Sustainability Grant (SOC). The SOC grant funding is designed to enhance mental health outcomes for children and youth, birth through age 21.

SOC Grant Purpose

BHD will utilize funding to build and expand a comprehensive set of community-based behavioral health services and supports for children and youth with serious emotional disturbances and their families.

These services and supports include: outpatient services, 24-hour crisis emergency services, intensive home-based outreach and case management, intensive day treatment, respite care, recovery support services, and transition from the child/youth services to the adult delivery system.

BHD Goals

The BHD has identified two goals for the System of Care grant.

1) Develop a sustainable infrastructure to support the System of Care approach for North Dakota children with SED and their families.

To accomplish goal #1, the following objectives were identified:

- Establish a local steering committee in each of the two implementation regions;
- Complete a needs assessment addressing gaps in service delivery for the children/youth to be served;
- Create a training plan and calendar for service providers;
- Develop and implement a sustainability plan.

2) To increase access of high-quality and culturally appropriate services and supports available to children with SED and their families in the identified regions.

To accomplish goal #2, the following objectives were identified:

- BHD will enter into agreement with the two regional, publicly-funded behavioral health clinics within the implementation regions to build upon current service delivery for children and youth with SED and their families;
- BHD will enter into agreements with private agencies in the two regions in order to begin new service delivery to build a comprehensive system of care in each geographic catchment area.

An estimated 1,100 children and their families will be served in total beginning with 200 unduplicated individuals in year one and increasing gradually each year.

Geographical Catchment Areas

BHD will partner with both public and private providers in 10 counties served by the **West Central Human Service Center in Bismarck** and six counties served by the **Lake Region Human Service Center in Devils Lake**. These counties include Benson, Burleigh, Cavalier, Eddy, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Ramsey, Rolette, Sheridan, Sioux and Towner counties and four tribal nations: The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Spirit Lake Nation, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Nation.

Grant Award Timeline

August 2022	Notice of Award received
September 30, 2022	Project & Funding start date
December 2022	Enter into contract with Evaluator
December 2022	Local Steering Committees Identified
January 2023	Hire Key Personnel (Clinical Administrator, Project Director & Lead Family Administrator)
January 2023	Complete Needs Assessment

Note: This work aligns with the Human Services Research Institute's report to enhance and streamline the system of care for children and youth. The HHS behavioral health grants administrator position approved by the 2021 North Dakota Legislature was instrumental in North Dakota receiving this opportunity.