

# North Dakota Behavioral Health System Study

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM STUDY TIMELINE

Behavioral Health Division in contract with HSRI to conduct an in-depth review of North Dakota's behavioral health system.

Final report released April 2018

**1/1/2017 TO  
6/30/2018**



Behavioral Health Division in contract with HSRI to initiate and facilitate the implementation of a strategic plan based off the recommendations from the comprehensive study of ND's behavioral health system published April 2018.

**8/1/2018 TO  
6/30/2019**



**APRIL**

### 2018 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM STUDY

*Served as a component of interim legislative committee studies during the 65<sup>th</sup> Legislative Interim.*

This report presents the findings from the North Dakota Comprehensive Behavioral Health Systems Analysis, conducted by the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) for the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division.

The 250-page report provides more than 65 recommendations in 13 categories. This set of recommendations is intentionally broad and far-reaching; it is not expected, nor suggested, that stakeholders in North Dakota endeavor to implement all these recommendations at once.

- 1. Develop a comprehensive implementation 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**
- 5. Enhance and streamline system of care for children and youth**
- 6. Continue to implement/refine criminal justice strategy**
- 7. Engage in targeted efforts to recruit/retain competent behavioral health workforce**
- 8. Expand the use of tele-behavioral health**
- 9. Ensure the system reflects its values of person-centeredness, cultural competence, trauma-informed approaches**
- 10. Encourage and support the efforts of communities to promote high-quality services**
- 11. Partner with tribal nations to increase health equity**
- 12. Diversify and enhance funding for behavioral health**
- 13. Conduct ongoing, system-side data-driven monitoring of needs and access**

## IMPLEMENTATION

HSRI is continuing to support the North Dakota Behavioral Health Division (in contract through June 2019) and the North Dakota Behavioral Health Planning Council to engage in coordinated, data-driven system transformation activities based on the recommendations from the 2018 Behavioral Health System Study.

Working with stakeholders - including service users and families, advocates, providers, administrators, and other North Dakotans – HSRI is helping the state set its course for ongoing system monitoring, planning, and improvements in the long term.



Based on the original 13 recommendations, HSRI has drafted a list of 140 strategic goals to enhance and improve all aspects of the state’s behavioral health system in the years to come. The division and HSRI are working closely with the North Dakota Behavioral Health Planning Council to support system transformation based on the study’s recommendations.

[www.hsri.org/NDvision-2020](http://www.hsri.org/NDvision-2020)

— NORTH DAKOTA —  
**BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH**

North Dakota Department of Human Services  
[www.behavioralhealth.nd.gov](http://www.behavioralhealth.nd.gov)

The Human Services Research Institute ([www.hsri.org](http://www.hsri.org)) is an independent, nonprofit research institute that helps public agencies develop effective, sustainable systems to deliver high-quality health and human services and supports in local communities. In the behavioral health space, our goal is to deliver actionable, viable, and culturally relevant strategies that empower service users and promote wellness and recovery.