

Presumptive Eligibility & Medicaid Expansion PHP Rates

NORTH DAKOTA



ADDICTION TREATMENT PROVIDERS COALITION

Chairman Dever & Members of the Committee,

On the behalf of non-hospital based providers in North Dakota, we are seeking parity with patient access and financial reimbursement in regards to presumptive eligibility and Medicaid Expansion 2.5/PHP Rates.

First, there are numerous providers throughout the state whom experience unnecessary 3-4 month wait times for enrollment in Medicaid and Medicaid Expansion. For example, providers like Heartview Foundation estimate that if all Medicaid and Medicaid Expansion eligible patients were enrolled immediately upon entering services, they would reduce their utilization of the SUD Voucher by \$650,000 per year. Meanwhile Community Medical Services, the opioid treatment program in Minot and Fargo conservatively estimates they would reduce utilization of the SUD Voucher by \$720,000 per year. By identifying the Opioid Treatment Providers as qualified entities for the process of presumptive eligibility, these entities are then capable of making enrollment determinations based on an individual's household income and other requirements. Presumptive eligibility serves a dual purpose of providing immediate access to needed health care services while putting people on a path to ongoing coverage.

Second, we ask for the Medicaid Expansion Amendment from the 2019 Legislative Session be enforced when it comes to consistent reimbursement rates across SUD providers. This was set to happen in 2019, but at the last minute the Department of Human Services subjectively adjusted the payment methodology and provided community based Partial Hospitalization Program/ASAM 2.5 with a different rate. Given there is no difference between hospital-based and community-based PHP programs in the North Dakota Medicaid Fee Structure, we would ask all community based programs be paid at the same rate as the hospital based programs within Medicaid Expansion.

We understand the Senate Appropriations Committee has many items to discuss, but these two simple changes have the opportunity to make a significant impact throughout the SUD industry.

Thank you for your time,

Ty Hegland
President/CEO, ShareHouse
Volunteer Chair, NDATPC

