



930 North Third Street * Grand Forks, ND 58203-2408

Good Afternoon Charmain Hogan and Members of the Interim Human Services Committee:

I am Debra Johnson, CEO of Prairie Harvest Mental Health in Grand Forks (930 N 3rd St).

Prairie Harvest Mental Health is a private non-profit agency providing permanent supportive housing, work opportunities and a variety of services designed to help people with serious mental illness succeed on their mental health wellness and recovery journey.

Since our inception in 1991 Prairie Harvest has worked in a public/private partnership with Northeast Human Services Center. This structure has allowed us to focus services on our strengths. Northeast Human Services Center provides the treatment services and in a team approach with the consumer and case manager, Prairie Harvest Mental Health provides the services component.

Over the years Prairie Harvest has successfully raised over to \$3.6 million in grants to build 42 units of permanent supported housing all at varying levels of support (see attached Exhibit A). These properties are owned with zero debt. Northeast Human Service Center refers consumers to the housing based on their unique needs. Prairie Harvest has units that are staffed 24/7 as well as little as 4 hours per day. In addition there are 2 peer run lodges (that are run in a family like setting).

One home, a 1 bedroom dwelling was purchased in 1998 with funds from the State Hospital and suits 1 or 2 individuals.

Our partnership has allowed consumers to remain in the community which is, of course healthier as well as cost effective. Our data indicates for example that 1 young man prior to receiving Prairie Harvest services experienced 193 days in institutional care. He lived in Prairie Harvest housing beginning in 2004. The Prairie Harvest supportive housing enabled him to work on his recovery, resulting in his hospitalization days decreasing to 46 in 2009, 2 in 2010

and he has not been in the hospital since. He currently lives and works in the community with minimal staff contact (just brief medication monitoring assistance.).

In addition to the housing Prairie Harvest Mental Health provides:

- Supported Residential Program (27 clients)
- Extended Services Program (1 clients)
- Representative Payee (73 clients)
- Medical (67 clients)
- Life Skills/Job Development (63 clients)

Also included in Exhibit A are the costs associated with institutional care as well as the supportive services provided by Prairie Harvest Mental Health.

Working with consumers on a daily basis has given us insight of their on-going needs.

With the condition of the state economic future our concern is that any cuts to services will negatively impact the progress behavioral health services have made in recent years. The public/private model we have created in Grand Forks is a model that could be duplicated in the State.

In closing I would like to respond to Senator Hogan's challenge in answering if we had \$5 million to spend on services what would we do:







- 1) Establish a training center to train consumers in finding jobs at a livable wage as well as providing Recovery Skills training.
- 2) Increase a variety of permanent supportive housing (to include single family dwellings).
- 3) Increase peer support in the system (paying a sustainable wage).
- 4) Enhance integrated behavioral health services.
- 5) Adequately staff the agency with well-trained qualified professionals.

Thank you for your dedication in this area. As a family member, friend and advocate I appreciate any and all attention paid to this long underserved population.



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Prairie Harvest Mental Health Permanent Supportive Housing

	Harvest Homes 12 apartments 24 hour support	Prairie Lodge 6 bedrooms Peer support	
	Harvest Lodge 6 bedrooms Peer support	Single Family Residence Limited staff support	
	Siewert Plains 8 bedrooms 24 hour support	Stern Place 9 apartments 4 hour support staff	

Total asset value: \$3,668,441
 Debt: \$0

Operating Funding – 2016

Northeast Human Service Center	\$1,332,500
Rents	\$ 227,000
Grants	\$ 35,000
Work Contracts	\$ 35,000
Donations/Fundraising	\$ 30,000
Thrift Store Sales	\$ 195,000
Client Service Fees	\$ 34,000
Federal	\$ 113,500

Mental Health Daily Rates Comparison

Local Hospital Psychiatric Ward	\$1,042
Local Private Psychiatric Hospital	\$ 912
State Hospital	\$ 586
Crisis Beds	\$ 142
Transitional Housing – State Run	\$ 137

Prairie Harvest Mental Health

24 Hour Group Living	\$ 207
24 Hour Apartment Complex	\$ 74
Peer Lodge	\$ 38
4 Hour Supported 9 Plex	\$ 25