## ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION COMMISSION SENATOR JOEL HEITCAMP, CHAIRMAN April 21, 2008

## TESTIMONY OF RICHARD M. HOEKSTRA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION, DIVISION OF ADULT SERVICES

<u>Strategy</u> – Collaboration

Access to services in North Dakota (public and private).

**Capacity** for services in North Dakota (public and private).

**Eligibility** for services with defined criteria targeting the risk and need of the individual, is essential to providing public safety.

Efforts toward collaboration in the past 10 years have demonstrated great successes. We will continue our collaborative work to implement practices and develop programming that will lead toward alternatives to imprisonment. A few of these efforts we will acknowledge today.

## **Highlighted Areas of Collaboration:**

Tompkins Rehabilitation and Corrections Center: In 1999 the Department of Corrections, with the State Hospital, implemented at the Stustman County Correction Center the addiction treatment program you will be visiting today. This effort grew from a 30 bed treatment program to the 90 bed facility and program we have today on the campus of the ND State Hospital.

Drug Courts: In 2001, DOCR with West Central Human Services, the Court, and Burleigh County States Attorney, implemented the first Adult Drug Court. In 2003 the initiative was introduced and developed in Cass County with a private provider. In 2008 we will be implementing Adult Drug Courts in Grand Forks and Minot.

Prison Release and Integration: Currently the DOCR and DHS are collaborating on a project to implement practices and close gaps for at risk individuals discharged from prison. We are initially targeting the Seriously Mentally Ill. We are also looking at improved practices through our systems to collaborate on best managing our resources and following evidence based practices.

DOCR/DHS Mutual Client Assessment: Electronic Information Systems Cross Analysis will assist in our agencies in our strategies and resource management. We will continue our efforts with program development and continuum of services as we prepare to move forward.