

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the implementation of a community behavioral health program; and to
3 provide an appropriation.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Community behavioral health program.**

8 1. The behavioral health division of the department of human services shall establish and
9 implement a community behavioral health program to provide comprehensive
10 community-based services for individuals who have serious behavioral health
11 conditions.

12 2. In developing the program, the division shall:

13 a. Establish a referral and evaluation process for access to the program.

14 b. Establish eligibility criteria that includes consideration of behavioral health
15 condition severity.

16 c. Establish discharge criteria and processes.

17 d. Develop program oversight and evaluation processes that include outcome and
18 provider reporting metrics.

19 e. Establish a system through which the division:

20 (1) Contracts with and pays behavioral health service providers;

21 (2) Supervises, supports, and monitors referral caseloads and the provision of
22 services by contract behavioral health service providers.

1 (3) Requires contract behavioral health service providers to accept eligible
2 referrals and to provide individualized care delivered through integrated
3 multidisciplinary care teams.

4 (4) Provides payments to contract behavioral health service providers on a per-
5 month per-referral basis based on a pay-for-performance model that
6 includes consideration of identified outcomes and the level of services
7 required.

8 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
9 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$5,250,000, or so much of the
10 sum as may be necessary, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income,
11 the sum of \$1,750,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of
12 human services for the purpose of implementing the community behavioral health program, for
13 the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. The department is authorized
14 six full-time equivalent positions to implement the community behavioral health program.