

CATEGORIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED TO THE INTERIM HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS STUDY

POLICY ISSUES

The following schedule summarizes recommendations provided to the committee for the behavioral health needs study that require statutory or other policy changes. New recommendations added since the May 2016 committee meeting are identified with an "*" in the subcategory column.

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Provide diversion of more youth and adults from the correctional system	
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to the reduction of criminalization of individuals with substance use disorders	Avoid lengthy incarceration of lifetime consequences for felony offense first-time, low-level, and nonviolent drug offenders or those with nonviolent offenses influenced by drug use by completing treatment and displaying prosocial behaviors	
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to the reduction of criminalization of individuals with substance use disorders	Allow prosecution deferred upon condition of successful completion of treatment and a period of crime-free conduct for first-time drug offenders	
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to the reduction of criminalization of individuals with substance use disorders	Allow offenders with low-level drug crimes or nonviolent crimes due to substance abuse have their convictions reduced to a misdemeanor or removed from their record upon successful completion of treatment and a period of successful probation	
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to the reduction of criminalization of individuals with substance use disorders	Allow the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) flexibility to release certain offenders convicted of drug crimes to probation upon successful completion of DOCR treatment, similar to the authority DOCR has with felony driving under the influence offenders	
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to behavioral health services	Ensure individuals can maintain psychotropic medications while incarcerated	
Case Management	Relating to improving care coordination and case management for children's behavioral health services	Consider use of private case management options	
Community-Based Care	Relating to school-based mental health programming	Provide oversight by the Department of Public Instruction, State Department of Health, and Department of Human Services	
Community-Based Care	Relating to school-based mental health programming	Develop and refine a shared services model that can be replicated and scaled up in both rural and urban school districts throughout the state	X
Community-Based Care*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Support a school-based mental health system with funding and policy	X
Definition	Relating to behavioral health services	Develop a definition regarding who is served under behavioral health services	
Definition	Relating to insurance coverage of substance abuse	Review defining partial hospitalization as outpatient	
Definition		Add tobacco and nicotine to the addiction counseling services definition in North Dakota Century Code Section 43-45-01	
Definition*	Relating to emergency care for children and adolescents	Work with the Department of Human Services and the insurance companies to define emergency care	

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Evaluation	Relating to early childhood screening, assessment, and treatment	Allow child care providers to be trained to provide early childhood screenings	X
Evaluation	Relating to special needs and child care behavioral health issues	Require child care providers to be included in the development of individualized education plans (IEP) to help address challenging behaviors	
Evaluation	Relating to commitment issues and options	Consider reviewing Section 25-03.1-04 to allow for individuals to be screened via interactive television	
Evaluation	Relating to commitment issues and options	Consider reviewing Section 25-03.1-04 to establish a statewide screening system that would allow any regional human service provider to provide prescreening services, rather than limiting prescreening to only the local regional human service center	
Evaluation	Relating to commitment issues and options	Consider reviewing Section 25-03.1-04 to allow a qualified medical professional to conduct a screening for admission to the State Hospital	
Evaluation*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Support suicide prevention, including supporting mental health questions on health screenings	
Involuntary Commitment	Relating to access of 24-hour emergency services for adult behavioral health services	Increase the involuntary emergency holding period from 24 hours to 72 hours	
Involuntary Commitment	Relating to the behavioral health needs study	Extend the state's holding period for emergency involuntary commitments from 24 hours to 72 hours	
Involuntary Commitment	Relating to adult mental health challenges from the perspective of local law enforcement and jails	Allow the hospital conducting a mental health commitment evaluation to have jurisdiction	
Involuntary Commitment	Relating to commitment issues and options	Impose financial penalties on noncriminal traffic offenses, including speeding offenses, to generate funds that would provide additional grants through the Department of Human Services to provide more beds for involuntary commitments	
Involuntary Commitment*	Relating to emergency care for children and adolescents	Allow an individual to be placed into a treatment center during the emergency review process	
Licensing	Relating to public and private services available in the state	Authorize the Board of Addiction Counseling Examiners, or a related board, to include assessments of persons for use or abuse of gambling as part of a licensee's scope of practice	
Licensing	Relating to behavioral health services	Allow licensed associate professional counselors to be considered a licensed mental health professional	
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to behavioral health services	Change policy that requires an individual to expend \$15,000 before Medicaid coverage is provided for family focused services	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Encourage support for continuing Medicaid Expansion and of the federal Affordable Care Act	
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Mandate insurance companies to offer coverage for treatment services that are covered in neighboring states	

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Mandate insurance companies to cover codependency and family treatment services provided by licensed addiction counselors	
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to insurance coverage of substance abuse	Review what actions other states have taken	
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to insurance coverage of substance abuse	Review the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008	
Training	Relating to mental health training requirements pursuant to Section 2 of 2015 Senate Bill No. 2048	Allow an individual's training to focus on specific mental health training areas	
Training	Relating to mental health training requirements pursuant to Section 2 of 2015 Senate Bill No. 2048	Allow acceptable mental health training areas to include behavioral disorders; social and emotional needs of students; suicide prevention; behavioral and mental health; bullying; other categorical issues including depression, eating disorders, drug abuse, stress, and trauma; and other proven evidence-based strategies that reduce risk factors for students	
Training	Relating to mental health training requirements pursuant to Section 2 of 2015 Senate Bill No. 2048	Allow training programs to be more specialized to address specific needs of a school or district	
Training	Relating to behavioral health services	Require all teachers, law enforcement, social service providers, and foster parents to receive trauma-informed care training	
Training	Relating to expanding behavioral health training for all systems for children's behavioral health services	Require training for teachers, day care, law enforcement, and health care providers	
Transportation	Relating to adult mental health challenges from the perspective of local law enforcement and jails	Consider changes to reduce the need for transporting individuals to other communities for hospitalization and subsequently to the original community for a hearing	

PROGRAM EXPANSION WITH COSTS

The following schedule summarizes recommendations provided to the committee for the behavioral health needs study that require program expansion including additional costs.

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to commitment issues and options	Add more juvenile and adult drug courts	X
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to commitment issues and options	Add additional funding for existing drug courts to help address the needs of individuals with a dual diagnosis	X
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to improving access to services	Add more pretrial services that provide timely evaluations that consider criminogenic risk factors and behavioral health needs to assist the judicial system in determining alternatives to felony convictions and incarceration	X
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Expand use of "drug courts" in major cities in the state	X
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Divert individuals that are incarcerated because of an addiction into a long-term treatment program	X
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Expand the use of electronic monitoring for individuals to reduce overcrowding in prison facilities	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to access to community-based services for adult behavioral health services	Review use of home- and community-based services waivers	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to ensuring the state invests in effective programs that produce desired outcomes	Include aftercare programs for outpatients as part of the comprehensive treatment plan	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs		Provide more partial outpatient treatment services	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Add funding for a formal one-on-one peer support program	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Add funding to provide peer-to-peer and family-to-family support	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to behavioral health services	Expand use of peer support programs	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to enhanced behavioral health recovery model and chronic disease management for adult behavioral health services	Address recovery supports including housing, social, and peer supports	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs		Add funding to provide one-on-one peer support programs	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Increase peer support services	X

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Behavioral Health Services/Programs*	Relating to mental health care	Increase funding for community mental health services	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Provide adequate funding for both public and private services	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide additional funding for mental health services	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to mental health issues	Add more funding to provide additional services for mental health-related issues	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Provide incentives for medication-assisted treatment	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to commitment issues and options	Add additional services in Grand Forks, Minot, Bismarck, Dickinson, and Williston similar to the Robinson Recovery Center program in Fargo	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide additional services and options for long-term placement of individuals with severe mental illness	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Expand funding for statewide social detoxification programs	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Provide funding to ensure social detoxification services are sufficient and available in all regions of the state	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to adult mental health services needs and issues	Address the limited funding and resources available for chemical dependency patients	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to improving access to services	Address significant gaps in detoxification and intoxication management to reduce placements in jail for detoxification	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to service shortages of substance abuse	Increase substance abuse services including detoxification	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide funding to each of the major cities for operating their own detoxification centers	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to service shortages of substance abuse	Increase use of peer support specialists	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to insurance coverage of substance abuse	Provide reimbursements for recovery coaching	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Develop inpatient adolescent treatment programs in local facilities or the State Hospital	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide financial assistance for individuals participating in long-term aftercare at existing facilities	X

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Enhance reimbursements for certain services and levels of care	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide funding to establish and maintain adolescent treatment programs around the state	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Standardize and provide reimbursements for services provided by telemedicine	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to funding for children's behavioral health services	Provide incentives for telemedicine	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Mandate a standard minor in possession education course similar to the Prime for Life Driving Under the Influence program	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Create incentives and provide statewide efforts to educate physicians about medication-assisted treatment	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to insurance coverage of substance abuse	Increase use of vouchers to cover gaps in recovery supports	X
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Ensure ease of access for the voucher program that will become available in 2016	X
Case Management	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide funding for case management	X
Case Management	Relating to adult mental health services needs and issues	Address the lack of available case management services at human service centers	X
Case Management	Relating to enhanced behavioral health recovery model and chronic disease management for adult behavioral health services	Address comprehensive case management for individuals including persons with serious emotional disability, homelessness, or incarcerated	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to special needs and child care behavioral health issues	Increase funding for child care inclusion services	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to special needs and child care behavioral health issues	Adjust child care assistance rates for providers that care for a child with special needs	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to behavioral health challenges involving elementary school students	Support efforts to reduce toxic stress	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to behavioral health challenges involving elementary school students	Build executive function and self-regulation	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to behavioral health challenges involving elementary school students	Create active skill building, including coaching and training	X

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to behavioral health challenges involving elementary school students	Develop human capital to improve outcomes	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to improving care coordination and case management for children's behavioral health services	Integrate behavioral health in schools	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to behavioral health challenges of secondary school students	Improve access to mental health experts in schools for both the students and staff	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to challenges for special education for children with behavioral health issues	Address the need in schools for mental health assistance that includes a long-term teaching approach for students and families	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to children's behavioral health issues	Support the full continuum of behavioral health services for youth	X
Children's Behavioral Health*	Relating to addressing student behavioral health needs in North Dakota schools	Create pilot project grants to create partnerships between school districts and state agencies to develop and coordinate resources in communities to allow students and families to receive needed support	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to improving care coordination and case management for children's behavioral health services	Increase peer support services	X
Children's Behavioral Health*	Relating to challenges of transitional youth and young adults 16 to 26 years old	Provide funding for a permanent supportive housing program for youth-at-risk of homelessness, human trafficking, suicide, or incarceration	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to behavioral health challenges of secondary school students	Provide more programs for students with behavioral health issues, including appropriate staffing levels for the programs	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to school-based behavioral health services	Provide teachers with more professional resources to work with behaviorally challenging students in their classroom	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to access to community-based services for adult behavioral health services	Provide a full continuum of care that is well-defined and integrated	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to enhanced behavioral health recovery model and chronic disease management for adult behavioral health services	Develop a person-centered care model similar to the model developed at Washington State University	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to school-based mental health programming	Implement an evidence-based model that will provide educational programming to students; provide professional development and capacity-building to staff; establish protocols and relationships with community care providers to facilitate acquisition of time sensitive and appropriate interventions and treatment; provide early intervention, assessment and referrals to support students before crisis occurs, including referrals and persistent facilitation with mental health care providers; and provide intervention, support, and followthrough for students and families	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to strengthen commitment to prevention and early intervention for children's behavioral health services	Provide funding to implement evidence-based practices to reduce risks	X

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Community-Based Care	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Provide incentives for providers to add services where gaps exist	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Increase reimbursements in areas with the greatest needs	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to behavioral health services	Develop short-term community-based crisis beds that specialize in providing behavioral and psychiatric services	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to behavioral health services	Increase the number of inpatient psychiatric beds at community hospitals or the State Hospital	X
Community-Based Care	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide additional community-based supports for mental health needs	X
Community-Based Care*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Establish a training center to assist individuals with finding a job and recovery skills training	X
Database	Relating to data collection and research for substance abuse	Expand use of 2-1-1 services or develop a central call center for data collection and research for substance abuse	X
Database	Relating to referral, suicide, and resources	Assist with a marketing campaign for the 2-1-1 hotline similar to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline campaign currently being sponsored by the State Department of Health	X
Database	Relating to referral, suicide, and resources	Provide state funding to assist FirstLink with the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline service	X
Database	Relating to referral, suicide, and resources	Add for-profit mental health and human service providers to the database by increasing funding received from the Department of Human Services from 31 percent of FirstLink's budget to 50 percent, which would increase current funding from \$275,000 to \$440,000 per year	X
Database	Relating to exchange of information for adult behavioral health services	Develop and maintain statewide behavioral health database	X
Emergency Services	Relating to behavioral health services	Develop community-based crisis teams that are available to respond immediately to a behavioral or psychiatric crisis	X
Emergency Services	Relating to mobile crisis response for children's behavioral health services	Increase access to quicker assessment and care through mobile crisis teams	X
Emergency Services	Relating to behavioral health-related issues and concerns from the perspective of first responders	Provide additional financial and nonfinancial support for behavioral-related care, including training, equipment, and legal services for emergency medical services providers, including local emergency medical responders, volunteer and professional emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and community paramedics	X
Evaluation	Relating to the behavioral health needs study	Maintain doctor-patient relationships by providing for an independent examiner to assess a patient, collect required data, and represent a county during hearings	
Evaluation	Relating to early childhood screening, assessment, and treatment	Provide a system of reimbursement for the extensive and comprehensive assessments	X
Evaluation	Relating to special needs and child care behavioral health issues	Include the use of child care facilities to provide mental health screenings for early identification and treatment of mental health issues	

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Housing	Relating to adult shelters and supportive housing challenges	Continue the North Dakota housing incentive fund	X
Housing	Relating to adult shelters and supportive housing challenges	Continue the North Dakota Homeless Grant	X
Housing	Relating to adult shelters and supportive housing challenges	Authorize one-time funding for development of a regional coalition relating to homelessness, hunger, and poverty	X
Housing	Relating to adult shelters and supportive housing challenges	Authorize a homeless prevention program	X
Housing	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide funding to implement a mental health group home model in the state	X
Housing	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Add more transitional and residential facilities	X
Housing	Relating to service shortages of substance abuse	Increase substance abuse services including halfway houses, transitional housing, and peer support advocates	X
Housing	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Create or fund halfway houses for individuals diverted from the prison or probation system	X
Housing	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Increase halfway houses and probation staff	X
Housing	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide funding for establishing and maintaining halfway houses in each region of the state that can provide onsite support and structure for individuals, which includes additional funding for case managers and onsite house managers	X
Housing	Relating to adult shelters and supportive housing challenges	Authorize a one-time contribution to a landlord risk mitigation fund to provide an incentive for landlords to rent to households struggling with challenges that include poor credit, criminal history, and eviction history	X
Housing*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Expand funding for permanent supportive housing	X
Housing*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Increase permanent supportive housing units	X
Housing*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Provide permanent housing services throughout the state similar to the services provided by the Cooper House in Fargo	X
Housing*	Relating to correlation between homelessness and mental health for transitional youth 18 to 21 years old	Increase access to mental health and other related services that improve educational outcomes for transitional youth, including implementation of services that identify and connect with transitional youth, increase awareness of local resources, and connect transitional youth to services and supports	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to referral, suicide, and resources	Establish a minimum wage for individuals answering suicide calls in the state	

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Licensing	Relating to improving access to services	Improve the reciprocity process for licensed addiction counselors, add funding for internship hours, and engage other master's- and doctoral-level practitioners with specific experience in the diagnoses and treatment of substance use disorders	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide reimbursement of recovery coaching	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to behavioral health services	Consider music therapy as a reimbursable service	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to behavioral health services	Allow Medicaid coverage of mental health crisis intervention and stabilization services	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Require the Department of Human Services to seek a Medicaid waiver for behavioral health services	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Consider requesting waivers through the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for permanent supportive housing services, including the 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver, the 1915(i) state plan option, and the 1115 waiver through demonstration projects provided by Medicaid	X
Patient Transitions	Relating to adult shelters and supportive housing challenges	Continue addressing youth issues, including foster care transitional living situations and youth runaways	X
Patient Transitions	Relating to school-based behavioral health services	Support families with a child that has a challenging behavior to ensure the continuity of supports between the child's school and home	X
Patient Transitions	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Add incentives for physicians to work with treatment providers to expand medication-assisted treatments	X
Patient Transitions	Relating to the adult mental health continuum of services	Add additional services for individuals transitioning from the sex offender treatment program to the community	X
Patient Transitions	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Support individuals transitioning from treatment facilities back into the community	X
Prevention	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide additional funding for preventative care	X
Prevention	Relating to education for adult behavioral health services	Develop public awareness and education campaign for the general public regarding behavioral health needs	X
Prevention	Relating to mental health issues	Add more resources for educating individuals on the importance of mental health-related issues	X
Training	Relating to early childhood screening, assessment, and treatment	Address the issue of a lack of providers in the state that receive specialized training or have knowledge with children from birth to age 5	X
Training	Relating to school-based mental health programming	Deliver statewide professional development to school district staff regarding mental health issues, including mental health first aid	X
Training	Relating to school-based mental health programming	Provide a total of \$3 million, including \$1 million to rural school districts, \$1 million to urban school districts, and \$1 million to regional education associations for school-based mental health programming	X

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Training	Relating to the roles and challenges of inpatient treatment services for adolescents	Support education and training programs that address trauma-focused care and treatment that includes all disciplines and placement settings	X
Transportation	Relating to behavioral health services	Provide funding for more access services to transportation	X
Transportation	Relating to commitment issues and options	Reimburse counties for the costs of transporting an individual outside of a county	X
Transportation	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide funding and assistance with transportation and other costs to allow family members to participate in programs not in their area	X

WORKFORCE ISSUES

The following schedule summarizes recommendations provided to the committee for the behavioral health needs study to address workforce-related issues.

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Labor Shortage	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Support professional development of workers	
Labor Shortage	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Add loan forgiveness incentives	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Partner with colleges and universities to align curriculum with tribal and national efforts, which includes tribal addiction workers, peer support specialists, and behavioral health technicians	
Labor Shortage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide loan forgiveness or stipends for counselors and students training to become addiction counselors	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Create a media campaign for recruiting addiction counselors as a career choice	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Support treatment providers that are willing to train new addiction counselors through the consortium system	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide financial incentives for licensed addiction counselors, including loan repayments or forgiveness	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to behavioral health services	Create efforts to recruit psychiatrists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and behavioral health professionals throughout the state	
Labor Shortage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Expands the workforce	
Labor Shortage	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Create dual licensure with other professions with agreements from other behavioral health-related boards. Relating to addiction counselor workforce shortage and treatment provider services	
Labor Shortage	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Provide incentives for training spots offered by agencies	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to the roles and challenges of inpatient treatment services for adolescents	Establish a plan for supporting and training nursing staff by providing incentives to work in the behavioral health field	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide incentives for clinical supervisors training new trainees	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide a loan forgiveness program for new clinicians working in the state, including underserved areas of the state or areas of the state not currently being served	X

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Labor Shortage	Relating to service shortages of substance abuse	Increase use of telemedicine by expanding type of professionals using telemedicine, including counselors	
Licensing	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Reform the licensure process	
Licensing	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Adopt the National Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors uniform licensing recommendations for all 50 states	
Licensing	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Review reciprocity requirements and create "portability" contracts with surrounding states	
Training	Relating to education for adult behavioral health services	Expand training opportunities and internship slots for providers and prescribers	
Training	Relating to early childhood screening, assessment, and treatment	Address the lack of providers with specialized training in mental health issues for youth	X
Training	Relating to early childhood screening, assessment, and treatment	Address the issue of a lack of specialized training provided throughout the state in evidence-based models of therapy, including training specifically developed for children from birth to age 5 that are experiencing mental health concerns	
Training	Relating to unmet needs of substance abuse services from the consumer and family perspective	Provide funding for specialized training of adolescent and young adult substance abuse and mental health professionals	X
Training	Relating to education for adult behavioral health services	Assure training for primary care providers in evidence-based models	
Training	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Expand training opportunities	X
Training	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Review the current level of training hour requirements prior to licensure and allow for training to occur while an individual is employed	

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following schedule summarizes recommendations provided to the committee for the behavioral health needs study that require the Department of Human Services to consider changes to its roles or responsibilities.

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Create a zero-reject model	
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to funding for children's behavioral health services	Review children's waiver options	
Community-Based Care	Relating to the study of behavioral health needs	Support a continuum of care for mental health-related services that would be similar to those of the state's developmental disability system	
Database	Relating to data collection and research for substance abuse	Require the Department of Human Services or other entity to collect and prepare data	X
Definition	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Define core services	
Evaluation	Relating to exchange of information for adult behavioral health services	Develop stronger link for intake and assessment	
Evaluation	Relating to access of 24-hour emergency services for adult behavioral health services	Standardize screening and assessments	
Evaluation*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Require human service centers to provide temporary onsite services to accommodate the needs of individuals in permanent supportive housing	X
Labor Shortage	Relating to adult mental health services needs and issues	Address the shortage of workers at human service centers, including psychiatry, therapy, and case management services	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to funding for children's behavioral health services	Review Medicaid rehabilitation service options	
Prevention	Relating to mobile crisis response for children's behavioral health services	Increase efforts for public awareness of crisis services	
State Hospital	Relating to adult mental health services needs and issues	Address the delay of transferring patients to the State Hospital after they are approved for admission	
State Hospital Training*	Relating to commitment issues and options	Provide for the State Hospital to designate more beds for involuntary commitment patients	
	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Provide adequate staffing levels and quality training for employees of the Department of Human Services	X

ADMINISTRATIVE AND COORDINATION

The following schedule summarizes recommendations provided to the committee for the behavioral health needs study that require administrative policy changes or coordination of activities.

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to robust community-based behavioral health and criminal justice transition and diversion for adult behavioral health services	Address structure for local and state alternatives to incarceration	
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to mental health commitment issues	Expand the use of Rule 32.2 of the North Dakota Rules of Criminal Procedures, relating to pretrial diversion, to help address mental health commitment issues	
Alternatives to Incarceration	Relating to mental health commitment issues	Provide additional awareness of pretrial diversion services	
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to ensuring the state invests in effective programs that produce desired outcomes	Determine whether programs are effective in achieving desired outcomes and prioritize funding for the programs that are working	
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to improved communications for substance abuse	Collaborate with the Behavioral Health Planning Council for advocacy	
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to access to community-based services for adult behavioral health services	Expand use of telehealth	
Behavioral Health Services/Programs	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Allow more consumer choices for services through a voucher system	X
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to behavioral health challenges of secondary school students	Improve behavioral health-related discussions in schools	
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to early childhood behavioral health challenges	Address the lack of collaboration among supports and providers, including preschool special education and child care	
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to school-based mental health programming	Create a network that meets quarterly to discuss scope of project, share best practices, and review of outcomes and program evaluation	
Children's Behavioral Health	Relating to assessment network for children's behavioral health services	Establish children's assessment networks to identify prevalence and service needs	
Community-Based Care	Relating to robust community-based behavioral health and criminal justice transition and diversion for adult behavioral health services	Address public health approach to management	
Community-Based Care	Relating to school-based behavioral health services	Improve collaboration among other special education professionals, social service offices, and local agencies	
Community-Based Care	Relating to adult behavioral health services	Provide an adequate grievance and appeals process	
Community-Based Care	Relating to behavioral health services	Address concerns regarding lack of community psychiatric facilities, improper use of medical transportation, and uses of resources	
Community-Based Care	Relating to service shortages of substance abuse	Increase use of critical access hospitals	

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Community-Based Care*	Relating to communitywide needs and opportunities for behavioral health services	Enhance integrated behavioral health services	
Database	Relating to referral, suicide, and resources	Require organizations to provide updated information to FirstLink when an organization changes its information	
Database	Relating to children's behavioral health issues	Create a directory of behavioral health providers and specialties	
Database	Relating to strengthening commitment to prevention and early intervention for children's behavioral health services	Develop measures of effectiveness and cost savings and review data over a period of time	
Database	Relating to school-based mental health programming	Collect data to determine the success and efficacy of the program to determine if it can reasonably be replicated	
Database	Relating to improved communications for substance abuse	Develop online treatment locator that will include availability, waiting time, and service type	X
Database	Relating to service shortages of substance abuse	Develop a bed management system	
Emergency Services	Relating to access of 24-hour emergency services for adult behavioral health services	Ensure universal access across the whole system for all levels of crisis services, including assessment, inpatient, short-term housing, and in-home crisis response	
Evaluation	Relating to early childhood screening, assessment, and treatment	Require providers to use the same screening tools to ensure accuracy of results, increase ease of communication between provider agencies, and to promote the ability to measure change and a child's progress	
Evaluation	Relating to funding for children's behavioral health services	Address underutilization of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment services as an entry point for services and source of payments	
Housing	Relating to adult shelters and supportive housing challenges	Review residency laws relating to vulnerable adults	
Labor Shortage	Relating to public and private services available in the state	Consider workforce challenges, data gaps, limited advocacy and protection for substance use disorder populations, community-based options, and collaboration with 24/7 programs and community-based corrections as part of the study of behavioral health needs	
Licensing	Relating to behavioral health services	Allow Minnesota social workers to practice in North Dakota without a license for the purpose of providing services to Minnesota clients	
Licensing	Relating to behavioral health services	Allow reciprocity of mental health licensures	
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to the roles and challenges of inpatient treatment services for adolescents	Maximize the use of federal funds that are available for behavioral health services, including the federal Medicaid Emergency Psychiatric Demonstration program	X
Medicaid/Insurance Coverage	Relating to the addiction counselor workforce shortage	Add reimbursement requirements by third-party payers for telehealth, which currently exists for physicians	
Patient Transitions	Relating to children's behavioral health issues	Provide for coordination and communication between behavioral health services and primary care	
Patient Transitions	Relating to access to community-based services for adult behavioral health services	Address patient transitions from specialization, primary care, and peer support	

Subcategory	Topic	Recommendation	Potential to Require Additional Funding
Patient Transitions	Relating to exchange of information for adult behavioral health services	Increase utilization of health information network and health information exchange	
Patient Transitions	Relating to improving care coordination and case management for children's behavioral health services	Improve care through record sharing	
Training	Relating to expand behavioral health training for all systems for children's behavioral health services	Implement common curriculum for consistency of training	