

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

11 2. In developing the program, the department shall:

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

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

15 c. Establish discharge criteria and processes.

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

18 e. Establish a system through which the department:

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

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

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

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

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