

Political Subdivision Taxation Interim Committee

January 12, 2016

Chairman Doctor and Political Subdivision Taxation Interim Committee my name is Steven Reiser and I am the director of Dakota Central Social Service and the president of the ND Association of Counties Board. Thank you for giving this opportunity to share a document showing county funded services throughout our state and some history about Dakota Central Social Services District.

You should have a 7 page document that lists the services that are provided by counties and are funded by counties. This should give you an opportunity to see what services are being provided in your legislative districts. I will try to give you a brief explanation of the document and then answer any questions you might have about the document. If you look at the first page, you will see each county is listed on the left and then to right of county name you will see the services offered by that county. For example in Adams County the services they offer are county funded home and community based services, child care appreciation funding and parenting classes.

Some of the services provided are add on services that DHS provides and some services that are not provided by DHS.

One of the services counties provide that is an add on service is county funded home and community based services. These are services that are provided to the aged and disabled clients. There are programs through Medicaid Waivers and SPED that also provide services but the services listed are funded by the county. Medicaid waiver services and SPED services have income eligibility and physical eligibility, measured by the number of daily living skills that one cannot do for themselves. Some clients may not meet both levels or eligibility thus a county may provide a service but not receive any reimbursement from outside sources.

Another item I wish to point out is that a number of counties provide in-kind services. An example of that is on the bottom of page two in Cavalier County. They provide an in kind service to the food pantry. This could be that they provide office space but not any staff or supplies to food pantry.

You will also note that some counties chose not to provide any county funded services. You will also note that some counties are blank. These counties are blank as they did not get their information to me yet.

That is a quick explanation of the county funded services document and I would be willing to answer any questions you might have about this document.

Next I would like to give you a brief history of Dakota Central Social Services District. The four counties of McLean, Mercer, Oliver and Sheridan formed a district in 2007 and have continued to operate as a district. McLean, Mercer and Sheridan have a long history of sharing staff. It started in 1974 when the three counties started sharing a social services director. In 1980 the three started sharing a social worker supervisor and in 1990 an eligibility supervisor. In 2002 Oliver County joined the sharing of supervisors and director. Shortly after that the counties started sharing other staff.

In 2005 the four counties agreed to form a committee to look into the possibility of forming a district. The committee identified the advantages as being the following:

1. Worker specialization

Workers get to know one or two programs very well rather than knowing a little about a

number of programs and clients would receive a better services because their workers would be knowledgeable.

2. Client choice

Clients could choose which office to go to. Many of our clients live closer to the county seat in the neighboring county.

3. Staffing

When filling staff openings there would be the possibility of sharing staff more easily.

4. Administration

One budget to prepare rather than four, one board meeting rather than four and not having to write checks to each other for shared services. In 2006 the four counties wrote check to each other totaling about \$130,000.

The number one goal of the district was and still is providing a better service to our clients and not saving money but when we combined positions we discovered some saving. Below is a chart showing expenses before and after becoming a district. Because about 75% of our budget is salaries and benefits thus whenever we combined positions we have a savings. When our caseloads increased we added staff thus adding expenses.

2004	1,505,758.98
2005	1,519,966.96
2006	1,631,673.60
2007	1,536,046.07
2008	1,508,416.24
2009	1,561,251.14
2010	1,673,244.17
2011	1,716,925.58
2012	1,874,613.16
2013	2,135,493.47
2014	2,319,731.83

Some things we have learned is that change takes time. Even after entering into our 9th year as a district people still ask what Dakota Central is. We do save money on staff but we give some of that savings back because of all the travel we do. Our district is 100 miles by 100 miles. Technology has helped our efficiency. We have all our files stored electronically thus all our staff can access files and we can send information easily by email. The requirement of having at least one county commissioner from each county on the Governing Board helps us stay connected to the county commissioners.

I could give you more history about our district but I think it would be a better use of time if I answered any questions you might have about Dakota Central Social Services District.

Thank you for your time.

County Funded Services

Adams	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County Funded HCBS.2. Child care appreciation funding3. Parenting classes
Barnes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County Funded HCBS.
Benson	None
Billings	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. HCBS – homemaker2. Liaison for APS, VETs, DV, CCOA, housing or other outside the area agency.3. School resource4. Prevent Child Abuse5. Conferences – as board members, committee members,6. Parenting Classes7. Coordinate one time or annual - drop off point for toys or coats8. Public Relations – talks to church groups – teachers – daycare providers – whoever.9. Daycare quarterly meeting.10. Daycare recruitment11. Foster Care Recruitment and Retention
Bottineau	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County Funded HCBS.2. Provide the mailings for Cheer Box Committee (Organization who gathers and delivers Christmas gifts/groceries to eligible participants).3. Provides rooms for outreach workers (Community Options, Voc. Rehab so they are able to meet with their clients within the community.
Bowman/Slope	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County Funded HCBS2. Community assistance. We get called to the hospital to assist with various things that would not necessarily be child welfare related. An example is a couple without children were hospitalized after their house burned down this weekend. I was called up there to help (get them some clothes, find temporary shelter until they can locate new housing, process the trauma, etc.)3. Suicide assessment and safety plans.4. Help families through the committal process if needed5. Provide child welfare training to our local schools6. Provide emotional support to individuals that come in and are overwhelmed, but is not child welfare related7. Help fill in needs of others when they can't get those resources elsewhere, such as buying formula or diapers when the local food pantry does not have them or school supplies8. Manage transient <u>fund</u>s that local churches donate to provide gas money, hotel, or food for individuals passing through the area9. Participate in community organizations, such as one staff person is on the Board for our local Community Cupboard10. Drive individuals to appointments out of the area

Burke	None
Burleigh	1. County Funded HCBS.
Cass	<p>1. County funded HCBS through a private contract</p> <p>2. Crisis Case management - 1 SW III with responsibilities to intensely work with families to prevent the placement outside of the home if the family is willing and capable to addressing immediate risk issues with the help of this case manager. Basically similar to the old Homebuilder's model- Usually assigned 5-8 cases per month for new cases while maintaining another 3-5 old cases on a less intense basis. Works with a family for 30-45 days on specified tasks to accomplish while also connecting them with community resources for longer term impact. Does apply for TCM funds but doesn't really amount to much. Primarily county dollars. Will periodically work with a past family when contacted by them for support. This is usually very task specific and short in length. Although families have re-contacted them periodically over the years, I am only aware of 2 families that we have had another CPS report. This program has been in existence for approximately 10+ years</p> <p>3. Mentorship project- contracted services with the Consortium which is a multi-cultural group within Fargo. They provide support to families that have come to our attention (not CPS referrals) that are struggling with navigating systems, integrating into the community, difficulties in utilizing modern technology or having family conflict due to cultural issues. We also utilize this group to act as a liaison between families with our Child Welfare and HCBS programs- All county Dollars- \$20,000/yr.</p> <p>4. Family Support services- similar to the PATH family Support services although there does not need to be a MH diagnosis and primarily to keep children in their homes with "natural" support systems wrapped around them or with kinship placements to help the transition and providing support/training and education- \$54,000/yr.</p> <p>5. Children's consultation network- contracted service- Behavioral Health screening for children 0-8 within the home or Foster Care home. Does not need to be a CPS case- the primary focus for this service is to first assess if the child may have a MH issue that needs a referral to a formalized assessment team. If this is not the case it is a matter of working with the child and parent/family along with external systems (daycare-school-etc.) to develop skills for the goodness of fit between the child's demand/needs and the environment needs/demands. \$10,000/yr. in county funding- This service can bill when meeting this criteria</p> <p>6. Jefferson Neighborhood project- no additional county dollars although we have committed county employee to participate in these early intervention cases.</p>
Cavalier	<p>1. County Funded HCBS.</p> <p>In Kind</p> <p>1. Food Pantry</p>
Dakota Central	<p>1. County funded HCBS</p> <p>2. County funded child welfare funding for travel, court costs, etc.</p> <p>3. County funded attendant care.</p>

Dickey	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS
Divide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS 2. Safe sitter babysitting classes 3. Parenting classes
Dunn	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County Funded HCBS.
Eddy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County Funded HCBS. 2. Child abuse prevention <p>In Kind</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christmas gift program
Emmons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS 2. Local food pantry funding for a staff person
Foster	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County Funded HCBS.
Golden Valley	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS 2. Supervised visitation contract 3. HCBS – homemaker 4. Salvation Army 5. Liaison for APS, VETs, DV, CCOA, housing or other outside the area agency. 6. School resource 7. Tele-health 8. Prevent Child Abuse 9. I&R for services – Minister brings in individual or family and asks for help. 10. Conferences – as board members, committee members, 11. Courtesy visits 12. Parenting Classes 13. Youth group – social or therapy 14. Coordinate one time or annual - drop off point for toys or coats. 15. Public Relations – talks to church groups – teachers – daycare providers – whoever. 16. Daycare recruitment 17. Foster Care Recruitment and Retention
Grand Forks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS 2. Supervised visitation contract with Community Violence Center. \$81,400 county funds.
Grant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County Funded HCBS.
Griggs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County Funded HCBS. <p>In kind</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food pantry 2. Office space for human service center staff 3. Office space for other counselors

Hettinger	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS 2. Contract with a nurse for medical supervisor for HCBS clients. 3. Contracts and pays for shelter care for youth. 4. Provides funding for regional child care licensing training 5. Transportation for elderly and disabled clients 6. Transportation for child and families for behavioral health services 7. Provide supervision to the nursing home social worker designee.
Kidder	
LaMoure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS
Lakes District	None
Logan	<p>In kind services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food pantry for city of Napoleon 2. Child protection prevention training in area schools 3. Staff provide babysitter training
McHenry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parent Aide funded by the county when the contract runs out.
McKenzie	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County funded HCBS 2. Attendant Care 3. Drug testing. County funds at \$12,000. <p>In kind services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting classes. 2. Food pantry 3. Office space for Community Action
Morton	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transportation for child and families 2. Assistance for clients who travel out of state for medical care 3. Transportation for parents to visit children in foster care 4. Paying the balance for guardianships for children. State will pay up to \$600.
Mountrail	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides County Funded HCBS services. At this time about half our caseload is self- pay (but through the county) or county funded. In addition, Mountrail provides HCBS services (direct care) for residents of Williams County that live in Tioga and approved by Williams. 2. Mountrail Community Food Pantry is located on the main floor above the Social Services. Volunteers run the pantry on the days open. Our administrative Assistant II is the director and oversees the general operations and does the fiscal. We are able to obtain emergency food baskets for clients without calling volunteers as it is just up one floor. 3. Our General Assistance allows for \$1000 per individual/household, per year for emergency needs. This may be rent, utilities, medications, dental, home renovations, etc. 4. Provides \$1500 per year for the Village Family Services, Visitation Center. This helps to make sure the service is available to Mountrail County residents. The services is provided in Minot. 5. Mountrail Social Services via the Food Pantry manages a fund set up by area donors and Churches. This fund is called the Special Needs Fund and is for the purpose of complimenting General Assistance, Safety Perm monies, etc. This

fund is available via the director of the Food Pantry and Director.

6. Partners with Camp of the Cross Ministries in renovating homes on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. To date 40 homes have received major renovations via youth campers, adult volunteers, and leadership from MCSS. The camp takes place every other year.

7. Provides office space for providers. NCHSC is here every Monday and Thursday, Hayes Addiction Services is here every Tuesday and Thursday (MCSS contracts for this provider to be on site and provides the office space), Orvin Lomen (Individual Counselor) is here every Friday (MCSS contracts for this provider to be on site and provides the office space), a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner is on site three times a month via the Rural Mental Health Consortium (MCSS provides the office space).

8. Mountrail County Social Services is just completing the building of a foster care five bedroom house. It will be done by November 1. This is all county funded. The purpose is to provide another option in the continuum of foster care housing.

Nelson	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County funded HCBS In kind contributions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Food pantry baskets2. Mobile food delivery3. Christmas gifts for needy children4. Salvation Army
Pembina	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County Funded HCBS. In Kind <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Food Pantry
Pierce	
Ransom	
Renville	None
Richland	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County funded HCBS2. Visitor reports for guardianship studies In kind contributions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Office space for outreach workers from human service center2. Office space and office supplies to Partnership worker.
Rolette	None
Sargent	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. County funded HCBS2. Child abuse prevention3. Christmas Giving Project
Sioux	None
Stark	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provides funding for attendant care2. Provides funding for foster home recruitment3. Provides funding for child abuse prevention

In kind contributions:

1. Food pantry
2. Salvation Army

Steele

1. County funded HCBS
2. County food bank
3. Holiday food and gift distribution for Thanksgiving and Christmas
4. Coordinates an independent senior meal program with a local restaurant with no federal or state funding.
5. Court visitor reports

In kind contributions:

1. Meeting space for the therapists and outreach worker from the human service center to work at when they are providing service in the community.
2. Meeting space for the public health board meetings and for meetings and activities coordinated by the local NDSU Extension office.
3. A supervised visitation/exchange space for the community.
4. Staff time and resources to support NDCSW.
5. Hold community events and education to prevent child abuse and neglect.
6. Foster parent recruitment and retention activities.
7. Training for community members on various social issues and concerns.
8. Partner in the disaster response team for the county.
9. Assist law enforcement with drug screens and transportation of female inmates.
10. Assist law enforcement with fingerprinting.

Stutsman

1. County funded HCBS through a private contract.

Trail

1. County funded HCBS
2. Youthworks contract for safety beds
3. Traill County Community Giving Project – we are one of 3 lead agencies and serve on the Advisory Board – sponsoring Back to School Project – backpacks and critical school supplies for needy students; Holiday Project – assistance with food items, household items, and holiday gifts for low-income children, families and elderly; Emergency Project – one time assistance to help individuals in crisis.
4. Adaptive Equipment Program – a lending library of adaptive equipment that can be used by citizens (etc. bath benches, walkers, toilet lifts, etc.
5. Transportation support for low income clients
6. Volunteer support for Commodity Supplemental Food Program (assistance with the cost of fuel for the bi-monthly delivery of commodities)
7. Local food pantries – referrals, information, and volunteer notification

Walsh

1. County funded HCBS

Ward

1. County funded HCBS
2. Contribute to a visitation center for supervised visits.

Wells

1. County Funded HCBS.
2. Food pantry
3. Nurtured Heart program

In Kind

1. Child abuse prevention

Williams

1. County funded HCBS.
2. Fiscal agent for the Nurturing Program
3. Supervision for the Parent Education Coordinator and Williams County funds the program.

In kind services:

1. Make copies and do mailings for the PCAND committee