

North Dakota Legislative Management

Administrative Rules Committee

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Testimony presented by:

Nate Medhus

President/CEO

ShareHouse, Inc.

Chairman Devlin and members of the Administrative Rules Committee, my name is Nate Medhus, President and CEO of ShareHouse, Inc., a treatment provider for Substance Use Disorder. ShareHouse provides both residential and outpatient services to the citizens of North Dakota and neighboring states. I also serve as the President of the North Dakota Addiction Treatment Providers Coalition. I am here today to provide testimony on behalf of The North Dakota Addiction Treatment Providers Coalition regarding the proposed ND Admin. Code Chapter 75-09.1-11, aka Substance Use Disorder Treatment Voucher System.

I would like to voice my support for the rules as they currently are structured. I believe that as they have been presented, they will meet the two overarching goals of this program; those goals being to increase access to services, and to give clients a choice as to which provider they want to utilize for their required services.

I do need to state that I would strongly encourage you to review the rate structure which has been proposed. In a meeting last week between providers and DHS representatives, providers were told that rates for the SUD Voucher would follow in line with those of ND Medicaid. There were many providers who stated that they would not participate in the Voucher program if the rates were set this low. Providers feel that rates should match those of private insurance, to encourage providers to participate, not to subsidize the state or discourage participation.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the ND Substance Use Disorder Treatment Voucher. I believe we have taken a first step in creating a system which, when properly funded at the aggregate level as well as the rate per service provided, will begin to address the growing needs of the citizens of this state.