



North Dakota Legislative Council

Prepared for the Human Services Committee
 LC# 23.9165.01000
 October 2021

INFORMATION REGARDING THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL AND PROPOSAL RESPONSES - STUDY OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES AND AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER PROGRAMS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Senate Bill No. 2256 (2021) provides for a study of developmental disabilities services and autism spectrum disorder programs. Specific areas the study is to address include:

1. The state's existing programs to identify potential pathways for individuals who have a developmental disability and individuals who have an autism spectrum disorder but do not meet the eligibility criteria for existing programs;
2. The identification of gaps in services with programmatic recommendations identifying potential strategies to address the gaps, and potential federal and state funding sources, including the federal Medicaid 1915(i) state plan amendment;
3. Efforts and services offered by other states, including the planning and implementation process for any new or modified programs;
4. The impact of implementation and expansion of programs to address service gaps, including the number of individuals impacted, cost, and timeline for implementation; and
5. The elimination of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force, including contracting with a private, nonprofit entity that does not provide autism spectrum disorder services to facilitate and provide support services to the Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

On August 13, 2021, the Legislative Council issued a request for proposal (RFP) for consultant services for the study of developmental disabilities services and autism spectrum disorder programs. The RFP provides for the consultant to review and provide recommendations regarding the specific areas identified for the study. The consultant is to provide periodic reports to the Human Services Committee and provide a final written report with detailed recommendations by June 1, 2022. Proposals were due to the Legislative Council office by September 24, 2021. One proposal was received.

SUMMARY OF RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Category	Alvarez & Marsal Holdings, LLC
Consultant profile	Alvarez & Marsal Holdings, LLC, was founded in 1983
Key personnel	Wanda Seiler, Managing Director Erin Leveton, Director Health and Human Services Jillian Salmon, Senior Consultant
Expertise and experience	The following are examples of projects completed by Alvarez and Marsal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services - Conducted a study of assessment tools and criteria for adult and child intermediate care facility level of care determinations. • New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services - Conducted a study of the developmental disabilities waiver program and recommended solutions to improve the developmental disabilities services delivery system. • Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration - Conducted a study of options to implement a Medicaid Appendix K waiver.

Category	Alvarez & Marsal Holdings, LLC
Project plan	<p>A summary of the proposed project plan is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information from key individuals within the Department of Human Services, including staff responsible for the administration of developmental disabilities programs and staff responsible for key functions in the programs. • Gather information from other key stakeholders, including legislators, representatives of organizations that advocate for developmental disabilities services, members of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force, members of other task forces and councils that relate to developmental disabilities, and self-advocates and families of individuals receiving developmental disability or autism spectrum disorder services. • Gather and analyze data from the Department of Human Services regarding waiver applications, budget information, needs assessments, program and service access, assessment tools, eligibility determinations, and program utilization. • Research other states to compare program services in peer states and to review planning and implementation approaches in other states.
Contract amount	\$148,000