During the 64th Legislative Session the Department of Human Services (DHS) was appropriated funding to administer a voucher system to pay for substance use disorder treatment services. The Department’s Behavioral Health Division was assigned the responsibility to develop administrative rules and implement the voucher system.

The SUD Voucher program was established to allow individuals to choose a provider and to address barriers to treatment and increase the ability of people to access treatment and services for substance use disorders.

- **Appropriations**
  - 2015-2017 Biennium: $375,000
  - 2017-2019 Biennium: $4.9 Million
  - 2019-2021 Biennium: $7.9 Million

- **Expenditures**
  - 2015-2017 Biennium: $252,294
  - 2017-2019 Biennium: $8.2 Million
  - Current Biennium: Expenditures through December 11, 2020: $9.6 Million

- **Methadone Maintenance Added as Covered Service**
  - July 2017

- **Provider Access Expanded to Include Public Agencies**
  - July 2019

- **Eligibility Expanded to Include Youth**
  - New Applications Suspended
  - July 2020

- **SUD Program Launches**
  - July 2016
Since its inception, approximately 4,200 individuals have received services through the SUD Voucher. From July 1, 2019 through Sept. 30, 2020, approximately 2,296 individuals have received services.

As of July 1, 2020, new individual & provider applications were suspended due to exhausted appropriations.

**Program Participant Growth and Expenditures**

The number of new applications for the SUD Voucher has increased each State Fiscal Year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year Ending</th>
<th>Number of New Applications</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>$252,293.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>981</td>
<td>$2,418,614.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>1532</td>
<td>$5,869,678.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20*</td>
<td>1,721</td>
<td>$7,007,738.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*New applications closed July 1, 2020.

### Gender Distribution

- **Male**: 56.6%
- **Female**: 43.4%

### Age Distribution

- **18-25**: 44%
- **26-35**: 26%
- **36-45**: 10%
- **46-55**: 5%
- **56-65**: 2%
- **66+**: 13%

### Race Distribution

- **White**: 73%
- **American Indian or Alaska Native**: 19%
- **Black or African American**: 5%
- **Hispanic or Latino**: 3%
- **More than one race reported**: 3%
- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander**: 0%
- **Asian**: 0%
- **Prefer not to answer**: 0%

### Program Participant by Human Service Center Region

- Region 1: 29
- Region 2: 431
- Region 3: 47
- Region 4: 235
- Region 5: 946
- Region 6: 101
- Region 7: 286
- Region 8: 27
- Unknown: 194 (8.4%)
**Total Voucher Reimbursements by Provider**

$9,646,815.76

The data below describes provider reimbursements from July 1, 2019 through December 11, 2020 ($9,866,108.57). Cumulative refunds received during this time totaled $219,292.81 for a net expenditure of $9,646,815.76.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Reimbursements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharehouse</td>
<td>2,417,909.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie St. John LLC</td>
<td>2,096,678.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Medical Services</td>
<td>1,756,979.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growing Together Inc.</td>
<td>1,172,896.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heartview Foundation</td>
<td>1,117,898.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agassiz Associates PLLC</td>
<td>557,889.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Step Recovery (Village Family Service)</td>
<td>307,293.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drake Counseling Services</td>
<td>206,874.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Thomas Counseling Center</td>
<td>105,236.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodman Addiction Services</td>
<td>87,913.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart River Alcohol &amp; Drug</td>
<td>13,602.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faa Addiction Services</td>
<td>12,955.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Road Recovery Center</td>
<td>6,820.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Tree Counseling PLLC</td>
<td>5,159.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenditures by Service Type**

Percentage of expenditures by service type from February 6, 2020 through December 11, 2020.

- **Partial Hospitalization & Residential Group Therapy**: 30.6%
- **Outpatient Group Therapy**: 22.8%
- **Room & Board**: 14.2%
- **Methadone Maintenance**: 13.6%
- **Ancillary Services**: 11.9%
- **Individual & Family Therapy**: 4.9%
- **Screening & Assessments**: 1.7%
- **Recovery Coach / Peer Support**: 0.3%

1. Partial Hospitalization and Residential Group Therapy includes therapy services provided in the ASAM 2.5 and 3.5 levels of care.
2. Outpatient Group Therapy includes therapy services provided in the ASAM 1 and 2.1 levels of care.
3. Ancillary Services includes urinalysis, transportation, and deductible/copayment reimbursements.
OUTCOME MEASURES

Programs utilizing the SUD Voucher are required to assess each individual at the beginning and again when completing services. The outcome measure uses a 5-point rating scale (1 lowest to 5 highest). The outcomes are based on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) identified recovery dimensions.

**PURPOSE**
Identify the extent to which the individual participates in meaningful daily activities (employment, school, volunteering, family caretaking, other activities, etc.).

**Average Outcome Scores Over Time**
- Pre: 1.87
- Post: 2.32

**COMMUNITY**
Identify the extent to which the individual's relationships and social networks provide support, friendship, love, and hope for overall wellbeing.

**Average Outcome Scores Over Time**
- Pre: 2.07
- Post: 2.34

**HEALTH**
Identify how well the individual makes informed healthy choices supporting their physical health and emotional wellbeing (physical activity, attending medical appointments, taking medications as prescribed etc.).

**Average Outcome Scores Over Time**
- Pre: 1.93
- Post: 2.32

**HOME**
Identify the stability and safety of the individual's living environment.

**Average Outcome Scores Over Time**
- Pre: 2.14
- Post: 2.37

Since inception, all four outcomes measures increased following services reimbursed through the SUD Voucher program.

The Division has continued to provide reimbursement for eligible services for individuals already active in the program. As of January 11, 2021, the Voucher is currently serving 456 individuals.

To continue supporting community-based services:

- In October 2020, the North Dakota Emergency Commission and Budget Section approved the Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division request for $1.7 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding for the development of a Community-Based Behavioral Health Program.

- The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division received a federal State Opioid Response (SOR) grant program for October 2018 – September 2020.