



HIV TREATMENT

HIV treatment is a life long and complicated process, and often bears an extremely high economic burden. However, the resources listed below provide crucial information and access to services, often on a plan that accommodates the economic and logistical needs of HIV positive patients to whatever extent possible.

When a new case of HIV is reported to the state, their response follows a standardized process that ensures that the needs of each patient and their partner(s) are met quickly and completely:

1. A DIS Officer (SD) or Field Epidemiologist (ND) is dispatched to contact the individual and set up a time to meet with them to collect contact and other information and to provide them with materials and information regarding next steps and available options
 - a. These case workers generally assist with partner notification and other crucial steps as well
2. Individuals are referred to a Ryan White case manager in their area, who will be able to submit an application for Ryan White services and assist the individual with establishing a plan to cover their HIV treatment and other ongoing care
3. If an individual is deemed eligible for Ryan White (which is described in detail below), the program assists with transportation, care, counseling, case management, and referral to other resources as necessary

As is clear from the above, DIS Officers in South Dakota and Field Epidemiologists in North Dakota are often the first and most important contact to ensure that individuals affected by HIV/AIDS obtain the treatment and other services that they need. Contact information for these individuals has been provided above, and it is strongly recommended that this information be shared with Tribal health workers and those newly diagnosed with HIV to ensure this crucial first connection.

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT, PART B - CASE MANAGEMENT

Part B of the Ryan White Care Act (also known as the North Dakota Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Emergency Services, or ND CARES, in that state) provides low-income residents of North Dakota and South Dakota who are HIV positive with access to support and services to assist with managing their disease.

Enrollment is facilitated through contact with and referral from the Indian Health Service or state Disease Investigation Specialists/Field Epidemiologists. Eligibility is limited to those who maintain residence within their respective state, who lives below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level, and who have been confirmed HIV positive. (It is worth noting that this confirmation need not be conducted independently by the state.) Once enrolled, patients are required to re-enroll every six months, to maintain adherence to antiretroviral (ART) therapy, and to participate in ongoing health assessments. *It is worth noting that it is imperative to maintain a 95% adherence in order to prevent the development of drug resistance.*³⁵

As a payer of last resort, the Ryan White Care Act will cover most expenses remaining *after* the application of IHS, Medicaid, or other insurance benefits. Applicants to the program are often be encouraged to investigate and pursue other insurance and payment options, with the help of case managers, prior to the application of Ryan White benefits. However, in some cases Ryan White benefits may be used to assist with the payment of premiums for additional insurance. Eligibility for reimbursement may be limited in some cases.³⁶

³⁵ Taylor, 2014.

³⁶ Adapted from North Dakota Department of Health, 2009.



NORTH DAKOTA

In North Dakota, all of the details regarding the Ryan White Care Act stated above apply, with some additional considerations. First, HIV services covered under the Ryan White Care Act can be obtained anywhere and reimbursed, though the program also reimburses patients for most or all travel costs incurred for the sake of adherence to treatment and to obtain services. Ryan White case managers in North Dakota are more than willing to conduct their business over the phone, by email, or otherwise as need be for those for whom transportation is a challenge.

For more information about the Ryan White Care Act/ND CARES program in North Dakota or for assistance in contacting a Ryan White case manager near you, contact **Gordana Cokrljic** at **701-328-2379** or via email at gcokrljic@nd.gov.

CASE MANAGEMENT SITES**Bismarck- Burleigh Public Health**

- Address: 500 East Front Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58504
- Phone: 701-355-1540

Lake Region District Health Unit

- Address: 524 4th Avenue Northeast
Devils Lake, ND 58301
- Phone: 701-662-7035

Southwestern District Health Unit

- Address: 2869 3rd Avenue West
Dickinson, ND 58601
- Phone: 701-483-0171
- Website: www.swdhu.org

Upper Missouri District Health Unit

- Address: 300 Main Street North
Crosby, ND 58730
- Phone: 701-965-6813

Fargo Cass Public Health

- Address: 401 3rd Avenue North
Fargo, ND 58201
- Phone: 701-298-6918

Southeastern North Dakota Community Action

- Address: 3233 South University Avenue
Fargo, ND 58104
- Phone: 701-662-7035 or 1-800-726-7960

Grand Forks Public Health Department

- Address: 151 South 4th Street
Great Forks, ND 58201
- Phone: 701-662-7035

Central Valley Health Unit

- Address: 122 2nd Street Northwest
Jamestown, ND 58401
- Phone: 701-252-8130

Custer District Health Unit

- Address: 210 2nd Avenue Northwest
Mandan, ND 58544
- Phone: 701-667-3370

First District Health Unit

- Address: 801 11th Avenue Southwest
Minot, ND 58701
- Phone: 701-852-1376
- Website: www.fdh.u.org

Community Action Opportunities

- Address: 2020 8th Avenue Southwest
Minot, ND 58701
- Phone: 701-839-7221 or 1-800-726-8645

Upper Missouri District Health Unit

- 182nd Avenue Southeast
Stanley, ND 58784
- Phone: 701-628-2951



- Website: www.caoregion2.org

Richland County Health Department

- Address: 413 3rd Avenue North
Wahpeton, ND 58075
- Phone: 701-662-7035
- Website: www.richlandcountyhealth.org

Upper Missouri District Health Unit

- Address: 109 West 5th Street
Watford City, ND 58854
- Phone: 701-444-3449
- Website: www.umdhu.org

Upper Missouri District Health Unit

- Address: 110 West Broadway
Williston, ND 58801
- Phone: 701-577-6400
- Website: www.umdhu.org

SOUTH DAKOTA

All of the above also applies in South Dakota, though again with one caveat. South Dakota Ryan White case managers are similarly flexible regarding case management, and are willing to conduct sessions with patients over the phone or email if need be. However, they recommend that at least one visit, generally the first, be conducted in person to collect contact and other information and to ensure that the patient gets the best and most appropriate case management possible.

For more information about the Ryan White Care Act in South Dakota, contact **Christine Olson** at **605-773-3523** or via email at christine.olson@state.sd.us. Information and an application can also be obtained at <https://doh.sd.gov/diseases/infectious/ryanwhite/>.

CASE MANAGEMENT SITES

Ryan White Part B – Sioux Falls

- Address: 6709 South Minnesota
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
- Phone: 605-322-7258
- Website: www.doh.sd.gov
- Details: Financial assistance for prescriptions, health care, health insurance and medical and social support for those who are HIV positive.

Ryan White Part B – Rapid City

- Address: 24 East New York
Rapid City, SD 57701
- Phone: 605-341-8336
- Website: www.voa-dakotas.org
- Details: Financial assistance for prescriptions, health care, health insurance and medical and social support for those who are HIV positive.