



# Aging Services Division

PROGRAMS FOR OLDER ADULTS  
AND INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

NORTH  
**Dakota** | Human Services  
Be Legendary.™

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The North Dakota Department of Human Services (NDDHS), Aging Services Division, administers programs and services to enhance the ability of individuals to maintain independence and remain in their own homes and communities.

For information on Aging Services Division, go to [www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging).

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**Older Americans Act Targeting:** Priority for services must be given to older individuals residing in rural areas; with greatest economic need (particular attention to low-income minority individuals and individuals residing in rural areas); with greatest social need (particular attention to low-income minority individuals and individuals residing in rural areas); with severe disabilities; with limited English proficiency; with Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction (and caretakers of such individuals); and at risk for institutional placement.



# Aging & Disability Resource LINK

The Aging & Disability Resource LINK (ADRL) provides current information on opportunities and services available statewide and nationwide, and connects individuals to services to help them maintain or improve quality of life. Contact the ADRL through the toll-free phone numbers, by email, and online as follows:

- Call the North Dakota ADRL toll-free at 1-855-462-5465
- Call the Relay North Dakota TTY at 1-800-366-6888 or 711
- Email at [carechoice@nd.gov](mailto:carechoice@nd.gov)
- Search online at [carechoice.nd.assistguide.net](http://carechoice.nd.assistguide.net)

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

Individuals of all ages, income, and disabilities; family members, and caregivers.

## *What services are provided?*

- Information & referral assistance

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

The service is provided by NDDHS, Aging Services Division staff.



For information on home and community-based services in your area, contact North Dakota ADRL toll-free at 1-855-462-5465, visit [carechoice.nd.assistguide.net](http://carechoice.nd.assistguide.net), or email [carechoice@nd.gov](mailto:carechoice@nd.gov).

# Assistive Safety Devices Distribution Service

The Assistive Safety Devices Distribution Service provides adaptive and preventive health devices to assist individuals to remain in their homes and assist them in their activities of safe daily living.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals age 60 and older.
- Older Americans Act targeting applies.

## *What services are provided?*

- Assessment to determine the need for safety devices
- Purchase, delivery and installation (if needed) of assistive safety devices (grab bars, magnifiers, reachers, medication dispensers, seat lifts, etc.)

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services; however, individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by a provider under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.

# Dementia Care Service

The Dementia Care Service addresses caregivers' unique and individual needs that arise throughout the various stages of dementia. This service also delivers dementia education to medical professionals, law enforcement, caregivers, and the public. Dementia means the condition of an individual involving loss of memory and impairment of cognitive functions severe enough to interfere with the individual's daily life.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

Individuals with dementia or who are suspecting dementia and their caregivers.

## *What services are provided?*

- Care consultation services to individuals with dementia and their caregivers including assessment of needs
- Education and training for care providers to manage and provide care for individuals with dementia
- Facilitation of referrals for individuals with dementia and their caregivers to appropriate care and support services
- Information to medical professionals, law enforcement, caregivers and the public regarding dementia symptoms, benefits of early detection and treatment, and services available to individuals with dementia and their caregivers

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by a provider under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.



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# Family Caregiver Support Program

The Family Caregiver Support Program provides support and services to individuals who provide care to older individuals as well as grandparents or older relative caregivers who care for children.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Caregivers age 18 and older caring for an individual age 60 and older.
- Caregivers age 18 and older caring for an individual with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia regardless of age of the person with dementia.
- Grandparents or older relative caregivers age 55 and older caring for a child age 18 or younger.
- Grandparents or older relative caregivers age 55 and older providing care for an adult child with a disability between ages 19 to 59.

Priority must be given to caregivers who provide care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction; to caregivers who are older individuals with greatest social need, and older individuals with greatest economic need (with particular attention to low-income older individuals); and to older relative caregivers of children with severe disabilities, or individuals with disabilities who have severe disabilities.



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## Family Caregiver Support Program (continued)

### *What services are provided?*

- Information about local services and supports in the community
- Assistance to help caregivers assess needs and access support services
- Individual and family counseling
- Organization of support groups
- Training to assist the caregiver in making decisions, solving problems relating to their caregiving roles, and improving caregiver skills
- Respite care to give caregivers a break from their caregiving responsibilities
- Supplemental services, such as safety devices or incontinence supplies, to complement the care provided by caregivers

### *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services; however, individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

### *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by NDDHS, Aging Services Division staff; as well as by qualified family members, qualified respite care providers, and individuals and agencies that meet standards set by the NDDHS. Providers are chosen by the caregiver from a list of eligible providers.



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# Guardianship Establishment Program

The Guardianship Establishment Program provides financial assistance in petitioning for guardianship for individuals.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals 18 and older, who meet the definition of incapacitated;
  - Incapacitated Person - any adult person who is impaired by reason of mental illness, mental deficiency, physical illness or disability, or chemical dependency to the extent that the person lacks capacity to make or communicate responsible decisions concerning that person's matters of residence, education, medical treatment, legal affairs, vocation, finance, or other matters, or which incapacity endangers the person's health or safety.  
NDCC § 30.1-26-01
- With income at or below 100% of federal poverty level or are Medicaid eligible; and
- Must not be eligible for Developmental Disabilities Case Management.

## *What services are provided?*

- Payments to petitioning attorney, guardian ad litem, and court visitor up to maximum amount

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

The service is provided by NDDHS, Aging Services Division staff.



# Health Maintenance Services Program

The Health Maintenance Services Program provides a combination of services to assess and maintain the health and well-being of older individuals.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals age 60 and older.
- Older Americans Act targeting applies.

## *What services are provided?*

- Blood pressure/pulse/rapid inspection
- Foot care
- Home visits
- Medication set-up

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services; however, individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by providers under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.



For information on home and community-based services in your area, contact North Dakota ADRL toll-free at 1-855-462-5465, visit [carechoice.nd.assistguide.net](http://carechoice.nd.assistguide.net), or email [carechoice@nd.gov](mailto:carechoice@nd.gov).

# Legal Assistance Service

The Legal Assistance Service provides legal advice and representation by an attorney to older individuals with economic or social needs.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals age 60 and older.
- Older Americans Act targeting applies.

## *What services are provided?*

- Legal casework within required categories of:
  - Abuse
  - Age discrimination
  - Guardianship defense
  - Health care
  - Housing
  - Income
  - Long-term care
  - Neglect
  - Nutrition
  - Protective services
  - Utilities
- Toll-free legal hotline (1-866-621-9886)

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services; however, individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by a provider under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.

# Local Contact Agency Service

The Local Contact Agency (LCA) Service assists in providing resources and referrals to residents residing in long-term care facilities who wish to transition back into community living.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

Individuals residing in a long-term care facility who request information on available services and supports to assist them in returning to their homes and communities.

## *What services are provided?*

Assist long-term care facility residents in discharge planning goals by:

- Providing information on services available in their desired community
- Promoting information exchange between long-term care facilities, LCAs, and community-based long-term care providers

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by NDDHS, Aging Services Division staff.



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# Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program identifies, investigates and resolves complaints made by or on behalf of residents of long-term care facilities and tenants of assisted living facilities, and works to protect their health, safety, welfare and rights.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

Residents of nursing facilities, basic care facilities, hospital swing beds, sub-acute and transitional settings, and assisted living facilities.



## *What services are provided?*

- Receive and investigate complaints made by or on behalf of residents
- Complaint resolution
- Advocacy for residents
- Information and consultation on long-term care issues

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by local long-term care ombudsmen. Volunteer ombudsmen who are age 18 and older, who pass screening, and who complete initial and ongoing training assist in providing an ongoing presence in assigned facilities.

# Nutrition Services Program

The Nutrition Services Program provides meals and related nutrition services in congregate (group) and home-delivered meal settings. The purposes are:

- To reduce hunger and food insecurity;
- To promote socialization of older individuals; and
- To promote the health and well-being of older individuals.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals age 60 and older and their spouse, regardless of age.
- Volunteers under age 60 providing meal services during meal hours.
- Individuals with a disability under age 60 residing in a housing facility primarily occupied by older individuals if the facility has a congregate meal site funded through the Older Americans Act (OAA).
- Individuals with a disability under age 60 residing with an individual age 60 and older
- Older Americans Act targeting applies.

## *What services are provided?*

- Congregate meals
- Home-delivered meals
- Nutrition education
- Nutrition counseling
- Nutrition screening

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services; however, individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by providers under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.



For information on home and community-based services in your area, contact North Dakota ADRL toll-free at 1-855-462-5465, visit [carechoice.nd.assistguide.net](http://carechoice.nd.assistguide.net), or email [carechoice@nd.gov](mailto:carechoice@nd.gov).

# Options Counseling Service

The Options Counseling Service assists older individuals, adults with physical disabilities, and family members to find available services in the community. Aging Services staff complete a home visit, assess needs, and make referrals to community services and resources.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals age 60 and older.
- Adults with physical disabilities.
- Family members.
- Older Americans Act targeting applies.

## *What services are provided?*

- Home visits to assess and determine needs
- Information on available resources and referrals to available services
- Follow-up contact to determine if needs were addressed

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services; however, individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by NDDHS, Aging Services Division staff.



# Preventative Health Program

The Preventative Health Program provides programs and services that are based on evidence to be effective in improving the health of older individuals and in reducing the need for more costly medical interventions.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

Individuals age 60 and older.

Priority for services must be given to older individuals living in medically underserved areas of the state and those who are of greatest economic need.

## *What services are provided?*

- Falls Prevention – Strength and balance exercise programs
- Powerful Tools for Caregiving – Helps caregivers take better care of themselves while caring for a family member or friend

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services; however, individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by providers under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.



# Senior Community Service Employment Program

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) promotes part-time training opportunities in work-based assignments with the goal of obtaining unsubsidized employment.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals 55 years of age and older;
- Have an income of no more than 125 percent of the federal poverty level;
- Are unemployed and not job-ready; and
- Reside in North Dakota.

## *What services are provided?*

- Training opportunities
- Part-time employment
- Supportive services

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by a provider under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.



# Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Service

The Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Service provides specialized telecommunications equipment to communications impaired individuals.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

- Individuals who have difficulty using the telephone because of a severe hearing loss, speech impairment or physical disability;
- Meet income limits (based on the estimated median income for North Dakota); and
- Are deaf, hearing impaired, speech impaired, or mobility impaired resulting in the ability to use a communication device.

## *What services are provided?*

- Assessment to determine the individual's specialized telecommunications need
- Specialized telecommunications devices that enable or assist a person who is communications-impaired to communicate with another person (captioned phones, ring signalers, large button phones with talking keys, photo dialing options, etc.)

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by a provider under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.



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# Vulnerable Adult Protective Services Program

The Vulnerable Adult Protective Services Program (VAPS) addresses the safety of vulnerable adults who are at-risk of harm due to the presence or threat of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

## *Who is eligible to receive services?*

Individuals age 18 and older or a minor emancipated by marriage who have a substantial mental or functional impairment that compromises health, safety or independence.

## *What services are provided?*

- Assessment and evaluation of alleged abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation
- Home visits to assess needs
- Assistance to help individuals gain access to services by providing information and referral to appropriate services
- Public education

## *Is there a charge for the services?*

There is no charge for the services.

## *Who provides the services?*

Services are provided statewide by NDDHS, Aging Services Division staff; and by providers under contract with the NDDHS, Aging Services Division.





# Aging Services At A Glance



## AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE LINK SERVICES

- Information & referral assistance.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals of all ages, income, and disabilities; family members, and caregivers.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.

## ASSISTIVE SAFETY DEVICES DISTRIBUTION SERVICE

### SERVICES

- Assessment to determine need for safety devices.
- Assistive safety devices (grab bars, magnifiers, reachers, medication dispensers, seat lifts, etc.).

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals age 60 and older.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.\*

## DEMENTIA CARE SERVICE

### SERVICES

- Care consultations services.
- Education and training for care providers.
- Facilitation of referrals.
- Information for professionals, caregivers, and public on services available to individuals with dementia and their caregivers.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals with dementia or suspecting dementia and their caregivers.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.



For information on home and community-based services in your area, contact North Dakota ADRL toll-free at 1-855-462-5465, visit [carechoice.nd.assistguide.net](http://carechoice.nd.assistguide.net), or email [carechoice@nd.gov](mailto:carechoice@nd.gov).

## FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

### SERVICES

- Information about local services.
- Assistance to caregivers in assessing needs and access to services.
- Individual and family counseling.
- Organization of support groups.
- Training.
- Respite care to give caregivers a break.
- Supplemental services to complement the care provided by caregivers.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Caregivers age 18 and older caring for an individual age 60 and older.
- Caregivers age 18 and older caring for an individual with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia, regardless of age of the person with dementia.
- Grandparents or older relative caregivers age 55 and older caring for a child age 18 or younger.
- Grandparents or older relative caregivers age 55 and older providing care for adult child with a disability between ages 19 and 59.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.\*

## GUARDIANSHIP ESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM

### SERVICES

- Funding to cover petitioning costs for guardianships of eligible adults.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals (18 and older) who:
  - ♦ Meet the definition of incapacitated (NDCC § 30.1-26-01);
  - ♦ With income at or below 100% of federal poverty level or are Medicaid eligible; and
  - ♦ Are not eligible for Developmental Disabilities Case Management.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.

## HEALTH MAINTENANCE SERVICES PROGRAM

### SERVICES

- Blood pressure/pulse/rapid inspection.
- Foot care.
- Home visits.
- Medication set-up.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals age 60 and older.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.\*



## LEGAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE

### SERVICES

- Legal casework within required categories of:
  - ♦ Abuse
  - ♦ Age discrimination
  - ♦ Guardianship defense
  - ♦ Health care
  - ♦ Housing
  - ♦ Income
  - ♦ Long-term care
  - ♦ Neglect
  - ♦ Nutrition
  - ♦ Protective services
  - ♦ Utilities
- Toll-free legal hotline:  
1-866-621-9886.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals age 60 and older.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.\*

## LOCAL CONTACT AGENCY (LCA) SERVICE

### SERVICES

- Assists in providing resources and referrals to residents residing in long-term care facilities who wish to transition back into community living.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Nursing facility residents who may require medical and supportive services to return to the community.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.

## LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

### SERVICES

- Receive and investigate complaints made by or on behalf of residents.
- Complaint resolution.
- Ongoing presence of local long-term care ombudsmen and volunteer ombudsmen in assigned facilities.
- Advocacy for resident.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Residents of nursing facilities, basic care facilities, hospital swing beds, sub-acute and transitional settings, and assisted living facilities.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.



## NUTRITION SERVICES PROGRAM

### SERVICES

- Congregate meals
- Home-delivered meals
- Nutrition screening
- Nutrition education
- Nutrition counseling

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals age 60 and older and spouse, regardless of age.
- Volunteers under age 60 providing meal services during meal hours.
- Individuals with a disability under age 60 in a housing facility primarily occupied by older individuals may receive nutrition services if the facility has an OAA congregate meal site.
- Individuals with a disability under age 60 who reside with an individual age 60 and older.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.\*

## OPTIONS COUNSELING SERVICE

### SERVICES

- Home visits to assess needs
- Resources and referrals
- Follow-up

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals age 60 and older.
- Adults with physical disabilities.
- Family members.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.\*

## PREVENTATIVE HEALTH PROGRAM

### SERVICES

- Falls Prevention—strength and balance exercise programs
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers—training for caregivers

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals age 60 and older.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.\*

## SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SCSEP)

### SERVICES

- Training opportunities
- Part-time employment
- Supportive services

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals who:
  - ♦ Are 55 years of age and older;
  - ♦ Have an income of no more than 125 percent of the federal poverty level;
  - ♦ Are unemployed and not job-ready; and
  - ♦ Reside in North Dakota.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.



For information on home and community-based services in your area, contact North Dakota ADRL toll-free at 1-855-462-5465, visit [carechoice.nd.assistguide.net](http://carechoice.nd.assistguide.net), or email [carechoice@nd.gov](mailto:carechoice@nd.gov).

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION SERVICE

### SERVICES

- Specialized telecommunications equipment

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals who:
  - ◆ Have difficulty using the telephone because of a severe hearing loss, speech impairment, or physical disability;
  - ◆ Meet income limits based on the estimated median income for North Dakota; and
  - ◆ Are deaf, hearing impaired, speech impaired, or mobility impaired resulting in ability to use a communication device.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.

## VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM (VAPS)

### SERVICES

- Assessment and evaluation of alleged abuse, neglect, self-neglect or exploitation
- Referral or arrangement for provision of services if the vulnerable adult accepts/consents to services and follow-up
- Public education

### ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals age 18 and older or a minor emancipated by marriage who have a substantial mental or functional impairment that compromises health, safety, or independence.

### SERVICE CHARGE

- There is no charge for the services.

\* Individuals must be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service. No one can be denied service due to the inability or unwillingness to contribute. Contributions received are used to provide additional services.

In accordance with Federal and state law, it is the policy of the Department of Human Services (DHS), Aging Services Division, to prohibit discrimination against individuals in the delivery of programs and services, and to make all programs and activities accessible. For information on the DHS Nondiscrimination Policy go to: <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/misc/nondiscrimination.html> or request a written copy of the policy from any DHS office. Updated 1/2019

For more information, please contact:

**Aging Services Division**  
**Aging & Disability Resource LINK**  
**1-855-462-5465**

Relay ND TTY at 1-800-366-6888 or 711

Website: [carechoice.nd.assistguide.net](http://carechoice.nd.assistguide.net)

Email: [carechoice@nd.gov](mailto:carechoice@nd.gov)



1237 West Divide Avenue Suite 6 • Bismarck, ND 58501  
1-855-462-5465 • [www.nd.gov/dhs](http://www.nd.gov/dhs)

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