

TRANSFORM HUMAN SERVICES

It is clear that the human services system in Minnesota needs foundational change. The decentralization of duties across multiple entities has occurred over multiple decades, while the complexity and growth of the programs have grown significantly over time. To ensure the best possible delivery of services, we need to look at new ways to administer all human services programs.

Eliminate the use of Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) in the Medicaid program

This proposal will result in all Minnesotans receiving Medicaid having access to the same network, provider rates, and billing rules, irrespective of where they live in the state, and it ensures a seamless and effective method for controls over the program.

45% of Medicaid spending and 80% of basic care are administered through eight MCOs.

This proposal transitions the Medicaid program to a single statewide Administrative Service Organization (ASO) model where the ASO is responsible for administrative duties, while all policy decisions and controls are administered by DHS.

Shift Medicaid Eligibility Determinations to DHS for healthcare and long-term services and support

This proposal will allow us to streamline complex eligibility processes for our Medicaid program and ease significant workforce burdens at the local level.

The state would assume eligibility processing for manual determinations and special MA programs by July 1, 2028.

The state would take over some MnChoices eligibility assessments (long-term care, disability, and older adult services) in the short-term, while working together with counties and Tribes on a long-term strategy for state-administered MnChoices assessments.

Funds a study for all Medicaid eligibility processing to be transferred to the State by 2032.

Reform waiver case management provided to people with disabilities and older adults

This proposal will provide short and long-term solutions to improving waiver case management, a critical role in the human services system that ensures a person receives support that meet their needs.

Phases out the use of contracted case management by 2031.

Fund a study to better define the role and financing of waiver case management.

Dedicate funding for a study to provide future recommendations on roles and responsibilities in administering human services programs across all levels of government

This proposal will provide a long-term, comprehensive roadmap for how the administration of the human services system should be structured into the future across all programs.

Funds a study that will:

Assess the administration of Medicaid, MinnesotaCare, behavioral health, housing, economic assistance, licensing and oversight functions, child support, and childcare programs.

Identify and assess the current roles and responsibilities held by counties and Tribal Nations

Assess the challenges and benefits of these roles through the lens of people accessing services, families, advocates, counties, Tribes, providers, and state staff

Assess how other states administer their human services programs, focusing on the roles and responsibilities of the local governments versus the state agency

Identify recommendations for what the ideal delegation of duties should be with the goal of having a transparent, accessible, efficient, and effective system for all parties

Estimate the costs and financing models in shifting recommended functions to the state.

