



## Rural Healthcare Peer Exchange and Professional Development Program for Critical Access Hospitals

### *Rural Healthcare Peer Exchange and Professional Development Program Applications Available –*

The North Dakota Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program offers this program to provide opportunities for staff serving critical access hospitals (CAHs) of North Dakota to learn from their peers. The Rural Healthcare Exchange Program provides travel support for individuals or small groups to meet with similar entities from other areas of the state and share information, ideas, and successful approaches to improving quality and access to healthcare services.

**Who is eligible?** The program is open to staff and board members serving North Dakota CAHs, rural non-profit EMS agencies, and network representatives serving rural health organizations. The program does **not** include visits with consultants, conference travel, or training events. Funding is allocated on a “first-come, first-served” basis for applicants meeting the criteria. The mentoring program ends when available funds are exhausted.

**How does it work?** Applications must be submitted via the online application link to the North Dakota Flex Program; applicants will receive confirmation and approval or denial of the proposed exchange within seven business days of receipt of the application. All travel must be completed by August 15th of each calendar year. Reimbursement is made to the facility in which the person is employed.

**What happens after receiving the approval?** Applicants proceed with their proposed exchange based on the approved application. Following the exchange visit, the applicant submits an invoice on their facility letterhead, receipts if applicable, and a completed outcome report via the online link to the North Dakota Flex Program for reimbursement.

**Questions?** For additional questions or information, please contact:

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