

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 East Boulevard Avenue – Department 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 15, 2006

Contact: Sheryl Pfliger, Aging Services Division, 701-328-4645, or Heather Steffl, Public Information Officer, 701-328-4933

Agency holds public hearings on home and community-based services

Bismarck, N.D. — The North Dakota Department of Human Services Aging Services Division and Medical Services Division are holding 13 public hearings in April to gather information from older individuals and people with physical disabilities about services they want and need to remain living independently in their homes and communities. Providers and advocates are also invited to attend.

“Every four years we seek out public comments to update North Dakota’s State Plan on Aging. This plan will guide the delivery of Older Americans Act Services such as home delivered meals, senior center meals, transportation, outreach, family caregiver support, ombudsman, and vulnerable adult protective services for federal fiscal years 2007-2010,” said Linda Wright, Aging Services Division Director.

Public Hearing Schedule:

- April 3 – **Dickinson**, Gate City Bank Community Room, 11 a.m. (MT)
- April 4 – **New Town**, Northern Lights Building, 10 a.m.
- April 6 – **Trenton**, Trenton Senior Center, 2 p.m.
- April 7 – **Tioga**, Tioga Senior Center, 10 a.m.
- April 10 – **Fort Yates**, Prairie Knights Casino, 10 a.m.
- April 18 – **Minot**, North Central Human Service Center, 1 p.m.
- April 19 – **Jamestown**, James River Community Center, 10:30 a.m.
- April 20 – **Grafton**, Grafton Senior Center, 10 a.m.
- April 21 – **Embden**, Embden Senior Center, 10:15 a.m.
- April 24 – **St. Michael**, Spirit Lake Casino & Resort, 10:45 a.m.
- April 25 – **Belcourt**, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Retirement Home, 10:30 a.m.
- April 26 – **Rolla**, Rolla Senior Center, 10:30 a.m.
- April 27 – **Bismarck**, Bismarck Senior Center, 1 p.m.

Public comment will also help shape the delivery of Medicaid-funded home and community-based services such as help with bathing, dressing, housework, laundry, administering medications, and other related services. The department is seeking urban and rural perspectives.

Public hearing sites are accessible to people with disabilities. Anyone who needs auxiliary aids or services to participate should call 1-800-451-8693 or (TTY) 701-328-3480 at least one week before the hearing. Written comments can be submitted until April 28, 2006, and should be sent to the N.D. Department of Human Services - Aging Services Division, 600 East Boulevard, Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250.

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